

TEXTBOOK QUESTIONS

Lesson 1: Resources

Q1. What can make what is today a renewable resource non-renewable tomorrow? Describe some actions that can prevent this from happening.

- **Point 1:** Overusing renewable resources faster than nature can renew them turns them non-renewable.
- **Point 2:** For example, cutting down forests or pumping out groundwater too quickly depletes them.
- **Point 3:** We can prevent this by using resources carefully, recycling, and planting new trees.

- Q2. Name five ecosystem functions that serve humans.

- **Point 1:** Purifying the air we breathe and filtering our drinking water.
- **Point 2:** Pollinating crops to help grow food and maintaining fertile soil.
- **Point 3:** Regulating the climate and providing habitats for wildlife.

- Q3. What are renewable resources? How are they different from non-renewable ones? What can people do to ensure that renewable resources continue to be available for our use and that of future generations? Give two examples.

- **Point 1:** Renewable resources refill naturally, whereas non-renewable resources exist in limited amounts and can run out.
- **Point 2:** People can ensure their availability by not wasting them and avoiding overexploitation.
- **Point 3:** Two examples of renewable resources are solar energy and wind energy.

- Q4. Identify cultural practices in your home and neighbourhood that point to mindfulness in the use of natural resources.

- **Point 1:** Turning off lights and fans when leaving a room to save electricity.
- **Point 2:** Reusing leftover water for watering plants or cleaning.
- **Point 3:** Using cloth bags instead of single-use plastic bags for shopping.

- Q5. What are some considerations to keep in mind in the production of goods for our current use.

- **Point 1:** Using eco-friendly and sustainable raw materials.
- **Point 2:** Minimizing waste and pollution during manufacturing processes.
- **Point 3:** Ensuring goods are durable so they do not need constant replacement.

Lesson 2:

Q1. Compare the political strategies of the Delhi Sultanate and the Mughals. What similarities and differences existed between them?

- **Point 1:** Both expanded their empires through military conquest and centralized administration.
 - **Point 2:** The Delhi Sultanate relied heavily on military commanders called *Iqtadars*.
 - **Point 3:** The Mughals used a flexible administrative system like the *Mansabdari* system and formed alliances with local rulers.
- Q2. Why did kingdoms like the Vijayanagara Empire and the Ahom Kingdom manage to resist conquest for a longer time compared to others? What geographical, military, and social factors contributed to their success?
 - **Point 1:** Their geographical locations (like dense forests, hills, or rivers) made it difficult for enemies to attack.
 - **Point 2:** They maintained strong, well-trained military forces and modern defense strategies.
 - **Point 3:** They built strong social unity and efficient local governance among their people.
 - Q3. Imagine you are a scholar in the court of Akbar or Krishnadevaraya. Write a letter to a friend describing the politics, trade, culture, and society you are witnessing.
 - **Point 1:** The royal court supports great scholars, artists, poets, and religious discussions.
 - **Point 2:** Trade is booming with merchants selling fine textiles, spices, and precious gems.
 - **Point 3:** Society is vibrant, peaceful, and values cultural diversity and architecture.
 - Q4. How come Akbar, a ruthless conqueror in his young days, grew tolerant and benevolent after some years? What could have led to such a change?
 - **Point 1:** Interacting with wise scholars and spiritual leaders broadened his worldview.
 - **Point 2:** He realized that ruling a diverse population required peace and religious tolerance rather than force.
 - **Point 3:** Establishing matrimonial alliances with local rulers helped him understand different cultures.
 - Q5. What might have happened if the Vijayanagara Empire had won the Battle of Talikota? Imagine and describe how it could have changed the political and cultural history of south India.
 - **Point 1:** South India would have remained under a single powerful, prosperous Hindu empire.

- **Point 2:** Art, temple architecture, and classical literature would have flourished further.
- **Point 3:** The balance of power in the Deccan region would have stayed in favor of Vijayanagara.
- Q6. Many values promoted by early Sikhism, including equality, seva, and justice, remain relevant today. Select one of these values and discuss how it remains relevant in contemporary society.
 - **Point 1:** The value of *seva* (selfless service) encourages helping the needy without discrimination.
 - **Point 2:** It remains relevant today through community food kitchens and disaster relief work.
 - **Point 3:** It inspires citizens to care for society and build a compassionate community.
- Q7. Imagine you are a trader in a port city (Surat, Calicut or Hooghly). Describe the scenes you see as regards goods, people you trade with, movement of ships, etc.
 - **Point 1:** The harbor is crowded with large merchant ships coming from different countries.
 - **Point 2:** Traders are busy buying and selling spices, cotton fabrics, and handicrafts.
 - **Point 3:** People of various nationalities, languages, and cultures can be seen interacting at the port.

Lesson 3:

Q1. Analyse how geography (particularly mountains and coastlines) guided Maratha military strategy and state formation.

- **Point 1:** Rugged mountains and hills provided natural protection and made it hard for enemies to attack.
- **Point 2:** Marathas used guerrilla warfare tactics, hiding in hills and surprising opponents.
- **Point 3:** Coastlines helped them build strong navies and engage in maritime trade.
- Q2. Imagine you are creating a short biography of a Maratha leader for younger students. Choose one personality (Kanhoji Angre, Bajirao I, Mahadji Shinde, Ahilyabai Holkar or Tarabai) and write 3-4 paragraphs highlighting what makes them inspirational. Include at least one challenge they overcame.
 - **Point 1:** Ahilyabai Holkar was a wise and just queen who worked hard for the welfare of her people.
 - **Point 2:** She rebuilt many temples, roads, and rest houses across India to promote trade and travel.

- **Point 3:** She successfully overcame personal tragedies and political threats to rule her kingdom peacefully.
- Q3. If you could visit one Maratha fort today (such as Raigad, Sindhudurg, Gingee, or Pratapgad), which would you choose and why? Research its history, architecture, and strategic importance. Present your findings as a digital presentation or a poster in class.
 - **Point 1:** Raigad Fort would be a great choice because it was the capital of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.
 - **Point 2:** Its high stone walls and cliffside location made it almost impossible to conquer.
 - **Point 3:** It holds immense historical importance as the site of Shivaji's coronation.
- Q4. The chapter states, "The British took India from the Marathas more than from the Mughals or any other power." What do you think this means? What evidence from the chapter supports this idea?
 - **Point 1:** It means the Marathas were the strongest military power ruling vast parts of India before the British.
 - **Point 2:** The British had to fight multiple intense wars against the Maratha confederacy to gain control.
 - **Point 3:** Defeating the Marathas broke the final major native resistance against British expansion.
- Q5. Compare how Shivaji and later Marathas treated religious places and people of different faiths. What evidence from the chapter shows their approach to religious diversity?
 - **Point 1:** Both Shivaji and later Maratha leaders respected all religions and places of worship.
 - **Point 2:** They employed people of different faiths in their military and administration based on merit.
 - **Point 3:** Historical records show they gave grants and protection to mosques and saints of other faiths.
- Q6. The chapter describes how forts were 'the core of the state' for Marathas. Why were they so important? How did they help the Marathas survive against larger enemies?
 - **Point 1:** Forts served as safe shelters, military bases, and storehouses for food and weapons.
 - **Point 2:** They allowed small Maratha armies to defend themselves easily against huge invading forces.
 - **Point 3:** Controlling multiple forts gave them dominance over important regional trade routes.
- Q7. You have been appointed as the chief designer for Maratha coins. Design a coin that represents Maratha achievements and values. Explain the symbols you chose.

- **Point 1:** The coin will feature a royal sword symbol representing bravery and protection of the realm.
 - **Point 2:** It will include an inscribed sun or lotus symbol signifying prosperity, knowledge, and justice.
 - **Point 3:** Traditional Devnagari script will be used to reflect local culture and heritage.
- Q8. After this introduction to the Maratha period, what do you think was their most important contribution to Indian history? Write a paragraph supporting your opinion with examples from the chapter. Then share and discuss your ideas with classmates.
 - **Point 1:** Their most important contribution was establishing an independent, strong regional rule against foreign powers.
 - **Point 2:** They promoted efficient administration, naval defense, and religious tolerance.
 - **Point 3:** Their resistance shaped the political landscape of India before the British colonial era.

Lesson 4: The Colonial Era in India

Q1. What is colonialism? Give three different definitions based on the chapter or your knowledge.

- **Point 1:** Control by one powerful country over another dependent area or nation.
 - **Point 2:** Exploitation of a region's resources and wealth for the benefit of the ruling country.
 - **Point 3:** Imposing foreign laws, culture, and administration on local populations.
- Q2. Colonial rulers often claimed that their mission was to 'civilise' the people they ruled. Based on the evidence in this chapter, do you think this was true in the case of India?
 - **Point 1:** No, their primary goal was economic profit and political control, not genuine civilization.
 - **Point 2:** Their ruthless taxation policies and destruction of local industries caused massive poverty and famines.
 - **Point 3:** They introduced education and laws mainly to serve their own administrative needs.
 - Q3. How was the British approach to colonising India different from earlier European powers like the Portuguese or the French?
 - **Point 1:** The British focused on deep territorial conquest and political control of the whole subcontinent.
 - **Point 2:** They built extensive administrative, legal, and railway systems to govern effectively.
 - **Point 3:** Earlier powers like the Portuguese focused more on maritime trade posts and religious conversions.

- Q4. "Indians funded their own subjugation." What does this mean in the context of British infrastructure projects in India like the railway and telegraph networks?
 - **Point 1:** The British used taxes collected from Indian citizens to build these networks.
 - **Point 2:** These systems were actually designed to transport British goods and troops quickly.
 - **Point 3:** Indians paid for the very tools the British used to control them.
- Q5. What does the phrase 'divide and rule' mean? Give examples of how this was used by the British in India.
 - **Point 1:** It means creating conflict between different social or religious groups to weaken unity.
 - **Point 2:** The British favored one community over another to create jealousy and mistrust.
 - **Point 3:** This strategy prevented Indians from uniting together to fight colonial rule.
- Q6. Choose one area of Indian life, such as agriculture, education, trade, or village life. How was it affected by colonial rule? Can you find any signs of those changes still with us today? Express your ideas through a short essay, a poem, a drawing, or a painting.
 - **Point 1:** Traditional agriculture suffered because farmers were forced to grow cash crops instead of food.
 - **Point 2:** British trade policies destroyed local handloom and manufacturing industries.
 - **Point 3:** Modern legal and educational frameworks today still show influences of the British system.
- Q7. Imagine you are a reporter in 1857. Write a brief news report on Rani Lakshmibai's resistance at Jhansi. Include a timeline or storyboard showing how the rebellion began, spread, and ended, highlighting key events and leaders.
 - **Point 1:** Rani Lakshmibai bravely fought against the British doctrine of lapse to protect her kingdom.
 - **Point 2:** She gathered troops and formed alliances with other rebel leaders like Tantia Tope.
 - **Point 3:** Her courageous defense at Jhansi became a massive inspiration for the entire freedom struggle.
- Q8. Imagine an alternate history where India was never colonised by European powers. Write a short story of about 300 words exploring how India might have developed on its own path.
 - **Point 1:** India would have continued to grow as a major hub for global trade and handicrafts.

- **Point 2:** Technological and scientific advancements would have happened naturally from local roots.
- **Point 3:** Society would have progressed peacefully while maintaining rich indigenous cultural traditions.
- Q9. Role-play: Enact a historical discussion between a British official and an Indian personality like Dadabhai Naoroji on the British colonial rule in India.
 - **Point 1:** The British official claims that colonial rule brought modern law, order, and railways.
 - **Point 2:** Dadabhai Naoroji points out the "drain of wealth" theory, showing how India was being impoverished.
 - **Point 3:** The discussion highlights the heavy economic loss and unfair treatment suffered by Indians.
- Q10. Explore a local resistance movement (tribal, peasant, or princely) from your state or region during the colonial period. Prepare a report or poster describing: Who led the movement? What were their demands? How did the British respond? How is this event remembered today (e.g., local festivals, songs, monuments)?
 - **Point 1:** Local tribal and peasant leaders organized uprisings against unfair taxes and land grabbing.
 - **Point 2:** Their main demand was the protection of their lands, forests, and traditional rights.
 - **Point 3:** The British responded with brutal force, but local folklore and memorials still honor these heroes.

Lesson 5:

- Q1. Why is universal adult franchise important for a healthy democracy?
 - **Point 1:** It ensures that every adult citizen has the right to vote without discrimination.
 - **Point 2:** It promotes the core democratic principle of political equality.
 - **Point 3:** It allows all sections of society to choose their representatives.
- Q2. What is the meaning of 'secret ballot'? Why is this important in a democracy?
 - **Point 1:** A secret ballot means a voter's choice remains completely private and anonymous.
 - **Point 2:** It prevents intimidation, pressure, or threats from powerful people.
 - **Point 3:** It allows citizens to vote freely and honestly according to their own choice.
- Q3. Give examples of direct and indirect elections?

- **Point 1:** In a direct election, citizens vote directly for their representatives (e.g., electing Lok Sabha MPs).
- **Point 2:** In an indirect election, citizens elect representatives who then vote for higher officials (e.g., electing the President of India).
- **Point 3:** Direct elections are common at local and state levels, while indirect ones occur for higher constitutional posts.
- Q4. How is the election of members to the Lok Sabha different from that to the Rajya Sabha?
 - **Point 1:** Lok Sabha members are directly elected by the general public.
 - **Point 2:** Rajya Sabha members are indirectly elected by the members of State Legislative Assemblies.
 - **Point 3:** Lok Sabha represents the people directly, while Rajya Sabha represents the states of India.
- Q5. What, in your view, are the advantages of the EVM over paper ballots?
 - **Point 1:** EVMs make the voting process much faster and easier.
 - **Point 2:** They eliminate the chances of invalid votes that happened with paper ballots.
 - **Point 3:** Counting votes on EVMs is quicker and reduces paper wastage.
- Q6. Voter turnout has been declining in some urban areas of India. What could be the reasons for this trend, and what steps can be taken to encourage more people to vote?
 - **Point 1:** Urban voters often feel disconnected or busy with personal work on election day.
 - **Point 2:** Awareness campaigns and making voting days mandatory holidays can help.
 - **Point 3:** Setting up easy polling booths in neighborhoods can encourage higher turnout.
- Q7. Why do you think a proportion of seats in the Lok Sabha is reserved for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes? Write a short note.
 - **Point 1:** It ensures fair representation for backward and marginalized communities in parliament.
 - **Point 2:** It gives them a strong voice in policy-making and governance.
 - **Point 3:** This supports social equality and protects the rights of vulnerable groups.
- Q8. Social media is changing the way we experience elections—from catchy campaign reels and live speeches to political debates on Instagram and Twitter. But is this strengthening democracy or confusing it? Discuss in pairs: What are the benefits, what are the challenges, and what might the future of elections be in a digital age?
 - **Point 1:** Social media quickly shares information and reaches young voters easily.

- **Point 2:** However, it also spreads fake news and creates political polarization.
- **Point 3:** Future elections will need strict rules to ensure fair and truthful digital campaigning.
- Q9. Visit the website <https://www.indiavotes.com>, and choose a parliamentary constituency election from any year and explore its results. Do the same for an assembly election in your state.
 - **Point 1:** Online databases provide detailed past results of winning candidates and vote shares.
 - **Point 2:** It helps students understand political trends in different regions over time.
 - **Point 3:** Analyzing data improves our understanding of local and national voting patterns.

Lesson 6:

- Q1. Find out how many representatives from your state are in each House of the Parliament.
 - **Point 1:** Each state is allocated a specific number of seats based on its population size.
 - **Point 2:** Larger states have more representatives in both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
 - **Point 3:** You can check current lists from official government parliamentary websites.
- Q2. What makes the Indian Parliament the "voice of the people"? How does it ensure that different opinions are heard?
 - **Point 1:** Members are chosen directly by citizens from diverse backgrounds across the country.
 - **Point 2:** It provides an open platform for debates, discussions, and raising public issues.
 - **Point 3:** Both majority and minority views are discussed before passing any law.
- Q3. Why do you think the Constitution made the Executive responsible to the Legislature?
 - **Point 1:** It ensures accountability and prevents the government from misusing its power.
 - **Point 2:** Ministers must answer questions asked by lawmakers in Parliament.
 - **Point 3:** It upholds the core democratic principle that rulers answer to the people's elected representatives.
- Q4. Why do you think we have chosen the system of bicameral legislature at the Union level?
 - **Point 1:** It allows double-checking of laws for better quality and depth.

- **Point 2:** The Lok Sabha represents the public, while the Rajya Sabha represents the states.
- **Point 3:** It prevents hasty decision-making by a single house.
- Q5. Try to track the journey of a recent bill passed by the Parliament. Identify in which House it was introduced. Were there any major debates or disagreements? How long did it take for the bill to become a law? Use newspaper archives, government websites, and Lok Sabha debates, or ask your teacher for help.
 - **Point 1:** Bills are introduced in either the Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha for discussion.
 - **Point 2:** Members debate thoroughly and suggest changes before voting on it.
 - **Point 3:** Once both houses pass it and the President signs it, the bill becomes an official law.
- Q6. Choose a recent law passed by the Parliament. Divide into teams to role-play different parts of the process—MPs debating in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, ministers answering questions, and the President giving assent. Present a short skit showing how a bill becomes a law; enact a 'model Parliament'.
 - **Point 1:** Students act out drafting a bill and presenting it for discussion.
 - **Point 2:** Role-playing helps understand how ministers defend bills and answer opposition questions.
 - **Point 3:** It gives a practical experience of how the legislative process works in real life.
- Q7. The Women's Reservation Bill, 2023, was passed with wide support. Why might it have taken over 25 years for this bill to be passed, despite being discussed for so long?
 - **Point 1:** Reaching a political consensus among diverse parties took a long time.
 - **Point 2:** Debates on quotas and seat allocations required careful negotiations.
 - **Point 3:** Prioritizing legislative agendas also delayed its final approval.
- Q8. Sometimes the Parliament is disrupted and does not function for the number of days it is supposed to. What impact do you think this has on the quality of laws and the trust people place in their representatives?
 - **Point 1:** Disruptions delay important discussions on public welfare and national issues.
 - **Point 2:** It can lead to hurried passing of laws without proper debate.
 - **Point 3:** It reduces public trust and confidence in elected leaders.
- Q9. Can you create 'interest' groups among students and list questions related to any policy that you may want to ask your MP and / or your MLA? How would these questions be different if it is to the MP instead of the MLA, and vice versa?
 - **Point 1:** Students can form groups to discuss local school or community problems.

- **Point 2:** Questions for an MLA focus on state matters like local roads, water supply, and schools.
- **Point 3:** Questions for an MP focus on national policies like railways, defense, and national taxation.
- Q10. What is the role that the judiciary plays in Indian democracy? What could happen if we didn't have an independent judiciary?
 - **Point 1:** The judiciary interprets laws, protects citizen rights, and resolves legal disputes.
 - **Point 2:** An independent judiciary ensures fair trials without political pressure.
 - **Point 3:** Without it, citizens would have no protection against unfair laws or misuse of government power.

Lesson 7: Factors of Production

Q1. How are the factors of production different from each other? What are the difficulties you faced in classifying the factors of production in the exercise given in-text?

- **Point 1:** The four main factors are land, labour, capital, and entrepreneurship.
- **Point 2:** Each factor has a different role; for example, land is natural, while capital is man-made.
- **Point 3:** Classification can be tricky because some modern resources overlap between capital and technology.
- Q2. How does human capital differ from physical capital?
 - **Point 1:** Physical capital refers to tools, machinery, and buildings used in production.
 - **Point 2:** Human capital refers to the skills, education, and health of workers.
 - **Point 3:** Physical capital can wear out, while human capital grows with training and experience.
- Q3. How do you think technology is changing how people develop their skills and knowledge?
 - **Point 1:** Online courses and digital platforms make learning accessible to everyone.
 - **Point 2:** People can learn new technical skills from anywhere in the world.
 - **Point 3:** Technology updates faster, requiring continuous learning and skill upgrades.
- Q4. A skill is something you learn and practice to get better. It helps you do things well, like playing a sport, creative writing, solving math problems, cooking, or even communicating well with people. If you could learn one skill today, what would it be and why?
 - **Point 1:** Learning coding or digital skills helps solve modern problems efficiently.
 - **Point 2:** Good communication skills build better teamwork and career opportunities.

- **Point 3:** Learning a new skill boosts personal confidence and creativity.
- Q5. Do you think entrepreneurship is the 'driving force' of production? Why or why not?
 - **Point 1:** Yes, because entrepreneurs combine land, labor, and capital to create businesses.
 - **Point 2:** They take financial risks and bring innovative ideas to the market.
 - **Point 3:** Without them, other factors of production would remain idle and unutilized.
- Q6. Can technology replace other factors like labour? Is this good or bad? Support your answer with the help of an example?
 - **Point 1:** Technology can replace manual labor in repetitive tasks, like automated factory assembly lines.
 - **Point 2:** This is good because it increases speed, precision, and safety.
 - **Point 3:** However, it can be bad if it leads to unemployment for unskilled workers.
- Q7. How do education and skill training affect human capital? Can they substitute for each other, or do they complement each other?
 - **Point 1:** Education provides basic knowledge, while skill training provides job-specific abilities.
 - **Point 2:** They do not substitute each other; instead, they strongly complement one another.
 - **Point 3:** Together, they make a worker much more productive and valuable.
- Q8. Imagine you want to start a business that produces steel water bottles. What kind of inputs are needed? How would you obtain them? Suppose one of the factors is missing; what happens to your business operations?
 - **Point 1:** Inputs needed include raw steel, factory machinery, electricity, and skilled workers.
 - **Point 2:** They are obtained by purchasing raw materials, hiring labor, and arranging funds.
 - **Point 3:** If any factor (like capital or labor) is missing, production stops or cannot begin.
- Q9. Interview an entrepreneur or founder to understand their motivation to start a business and the opportunities and challenges they saw. You can work in pairs to create a questionnaire to collect the information and share what you have learned in a report?
 - **Point 1:** Entrepreneurs are motivated by a desire to solve problems and create useful products.
 - **Point 2:** They face challenges like managing finances, competition, and market risks.

- **Point 3:** Conducting interviews helps students understand real-world business experiences.
- Q10. Think like an economist. Let's explore what happens when things change. If you were Ratna, what would you do in the following situations? Discuss with your classmates. I. Suppose the rent for your space suddenly doubles. II. Imagine one of your helpers quits suddenly. III. You receive a small loan to invest in better technology for your restaurant. IV. Suppose another restaurant opens in the neighbourhood. V. What government laws or rules should be changed to improve the ease of doing business?
 - **Point 1:** Higher rent or loss of workers forces a business to find cost-effective alternatives quickly.
 - **Point 2:** Investing in better technology improves food quality and speeds up service.
 - **Point 3:** Competition from new restaurants requires improving customer service and lowering prices.