

**C. Give Short Answers for the following.**

1. We need to study the past in order to understand the present.
2. People have used the numerous passes in the Himalayas to travel from one place to another. Their ideas, customs, and habits have enriched our history and culture.
3. Just as a detective solves a mystery with the help of clues, archaeologists and historians also look at historical clues to solve the mystery of the past.

**D. Give Long Answers for the following**

1. People first settled near river valleys because the river provided sufficient water for their various needs. The land on the river banks was very fertile and people could grow crops there. The rivers also served as a means of transport.
2. Inscriptions are written records engraved on cave walls, metal pillars, walls of temples, copper and clay tablets, and rocks. Quite often, kings and emperors such as Ashoka got important events and their achievements inscribed. Thus, our knowledge about kings, queens, and many important events of their reigns is largely through these inscriptions.
3. Coins are a valuable source of information about ancient India. They tell us about the reigning periods of kings, economy of the kingdom, extent of the empires and trading relations between empires. Coins also tell us about the art and religion of earlier times.
4. Secular literature comprises writings which are not religious. They include poems, stories, biographies, accounts of foreign travellers, plays, and books on science and politics. Examples of this kind of literature are the Arthashastra by Kautilya, Indika by Megasthenes, the Sangam literature, and accounts of Faxian and Xuanzang.
5. Rulers in ancient times recorded their victories on hard surfaces such as rocks and pillars. This is because they wanted to impress others with their power and position, and the future generations to know about their victories.
6. Pottery is one of the most common finds on an excavation site because it was used extensively by a large section of people for storing grains.