



ST. LAWRENCE HIGH SCHOOL

A JESUIT CHRISTIAN MINORITY INSTITUTION

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KOLKATA – 700 019

Class: IV

First Term



Social Study

Answer Worksheet - 7

Date: 28.07.2020

Topic: Literary Sources and Preserving the Sources

Answer the following questions

1. What is manuscript?

The word manuscript comes from the Latin word manu scriptus. Manu means 'hand' and scriptus means 'to write'. It refers to old documents actually written by hand before books were made. Manuscripts were written on dried palm leaves, the bark of trees or on dried skin of sheep and goat. Manuscript contained all kind of subjects such as religious belief, lives of king, medicine, poems, epics and plays. These were written in Sanskrit, Prakrit and Tamil.

2. What are inscriptions?

Inscriptions are works or images that pass on a message. These messages are inscribed on stones, metals, rocks, and pillars. These inscriptions are important historical sources and valuable historical evidence of the activities of early kings and empires. Inscriptions help historians and archaeologists to obtain correct and scientific knowledge of ancient times. The study of inscriptions is known as epigraphy.

3. Write a short note on Megasthenes

Megasthenes was an ancient Greek historian. He was born in Asia Minor. Megasthenes was sent by King Selucus I during the 4th Century BC in Chandragupta Maurya's court. He stayed there as an ambassador for five years. Megasthenes wrote about India in his book Indica.

4. Why is it important to preserve the sources of history ? How do we protect the sources of history?

We should know our past as it is important for shaping our future. Artefacts, Monuments, Inscriptions and Manuscripts are part of our national heritage. So, we have to preserve it.

We protect the sources of history in the following ways:

- a) Archaeological Survey of India protects monuments, caves and inscriptions.
- b) Coins and seals are preserved in the museum.
- c) Non- religious texts are preserved in the National Archives of India.

Sharmistha sen
