

Very Short Answer Questions

Q. 1. What is vernacular?

Ans. Vernacular is a term generally used to refer to a local language or dialect as distinct from what is seen as the standard language.

Q. 2. Who were Orientalists?

Ans. Those with a scholarly knowledge of the language and culture of Asia were known as Orientalists.

Q. 3. Which task was assigned to the government pandits by the company?

Ans. The government pandits were assigned by the company to visit the pathshalas and try and improve the standard of teaching.

Q. 4. What were the views of Mahatma Gandhi regarding education?

Ans. According to Mahatma Gandhi, education ought to develop a person's mind and soul. People had to work with their hands, learn craft and know how to operate different things. This would develop their mind and their capacity to understand.

Short Answer Questions

Q. 1. What do you mean by Madrasa? Name one.

Ans. (i) Madrasa is an Arabic word for a place of learning or any type of school or college.

(ii) In Calcutta, a madrasa was set up in 1781 to promote the study of Arabic, Persian and Islamic law.

Q. 2. Why was Hindu College established?

Ans. Hindu College was established in Benaras in 1791 to encourage the study of ancient Sanskrit texts that would be useful for the administration of the country.

Q. 3. Who set up Calcutta Madrasa?

Ans. Warren Hastings set up the Calcutta Madrasa and believed that the ancient customs of the country and Oriental learning ought to be the basis of British rule in India.

Q. 4. What does 'Grave errors of the East' refer to?

Ans. (i) 'Grave Errors of the East' means that the knowledge of the East was full of errors and unscientific thought according to British officials who began to criticise the orientalist version of learning.

(ii) They said Eastern literature was non-serious and light-hearted.

Q. 5. According to James Mill what should be the aim of education?

Ans. (i) According to James Mill, the aim of education ought to be to teach what was useful and practical.

(ii) So, Indians should be made familiar with the scientific and technical advances of the West.

Q. 6. Thomas Macaulay urged the British government to promote western education in India. Give reason.

Ans. Thomas Macaulay urged the British government in India to follow western education pillars in India and to stop wasting people's money in promoting oriental learning for it had no practical use.

Q. 7. What measures did the company undertake to improve pathshalas?

Ans. The measures were:

(i) Each guru was asked to submit periodic reports and regular time table was allotted.

(ii) Teaching was now based on textbooks.

(iii) Annual examinations were introduced.

Q. 8. What were Tagore's ideas of education?

Ans. (i) Tagore's ideas of education shaped from the experience of his school days in Calcutta.

(ii) As he grew up, he wanted to set up a school where children were happy, free and creative and where they were able to explore their own thoughts and desires.

Long Answer Questions

Q. 1. What did William Jones and Colebrooke discover in Indian culture?

Ans. (i) William Jones and Colebrooke discovered the ancient texts, understanding their meaning, translating them and making their findings known to others.

(ii) This project helped them to learn about Indian culture as well as also help Indians rediscover their own heritage and understand the lost glorious past.

Q. 2. What was the condition of pathshalas where William Adam toured?

Ans. The conditions of the Pathshalas were:

(i) The system of education was flexible in them.

(ii) There was no proper system of fixed fee, printed books, benches, chairs, blackboards and roll-registers.

(iii) They had no system of separate classes and school buildings.

(iv) There was no procedure of annual examinations and regular timetable.

(v) Classes were conducted under the banyan tree or in the corner of a shop or temples or guru's home.

(vi) Teaching process was oral with no fixed topic. The guru decided what to teach, in accordance with the needs of the students.

Hots (Higher Order Thinking Skills)

Q. 1. “Literacy in itself is not education”—Justify the statement.

Ans. (i) By this statement, Mahatma Gandhi meant that only learning to read and write is not education.

(ii) Stressing on practical knowledge in the form of crafts and learning how things operated would develop their minds and capacity to understand.

(iii) Literacy is neither the beginning nor the end of education.

(iv) It is rather one of the means of education whereby man and woman can be educated.