

CBSE • CLASS 9 • SOCIAL SCIENCE

SOCIAL SCIENCE

CHAPTER 04

Early Humans and Beginning of Civilisation



NCERT SOLUTIONS



DID FARMING MAKE LIFE EASIER?

Q1. Do you think life became easier or more challenging after humans started farming? Give two reasons for your answer.

Sample answer:

Farming made some parts of life easier.

1. People could grow crops and raise animals instead of depending only on wild food. Grain could be stored for later use.
2. Farming encouraged permanent villages. People did not need to move as often to search for food, and could develop pottery and other crafts.

However, farming was not effortless. Crops still needed regular care and suitable water and weather.



Food production



Stored grain



Permanent villages

ENVIRONMENT: HELP & CHALLENGES

Q2. The environment offers human societies both opportunities as well as challenges. Explain with reference to early farming communities and river-valley civilisations.

Opportunities:

- Warmer conditions and knowledge of seasons helped people begin growing crops and raising animals.



- River valleys offered water and fertile soil. These supported farming, villages and later cities.



People responded by building canals, dams and reservoirs. This required cooperation and encouraged organised administration.

Challenges:

- Crops depended on enough water and suitable seasons. Poor conditions could reduce food production.



- Rivers could flood fields and settlements. Water also had to be carried and stored for farming.

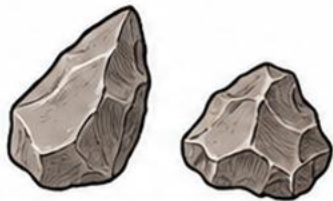


WHY HISTORY IS DIVIDED INTO AGES

Q3. Why do historians divide early human history into different ages such as Stone Age, Bronze Age, and Iron Age? What does this classification tell us about human progress?

Historians use these ages to organise the past by important materials and technologies used for tools.

- **Stone Age:** stone tools were widely used.
- **Bronze Age:** people developed copper/bronze metallurgy, specialised crafts and urban centres.
- **Iron Age:** iron became an important material for tools and weapons.



Stone Age



Bronze Age



Iron Age

The classification shows changes in technology, work, settlements and society over time.

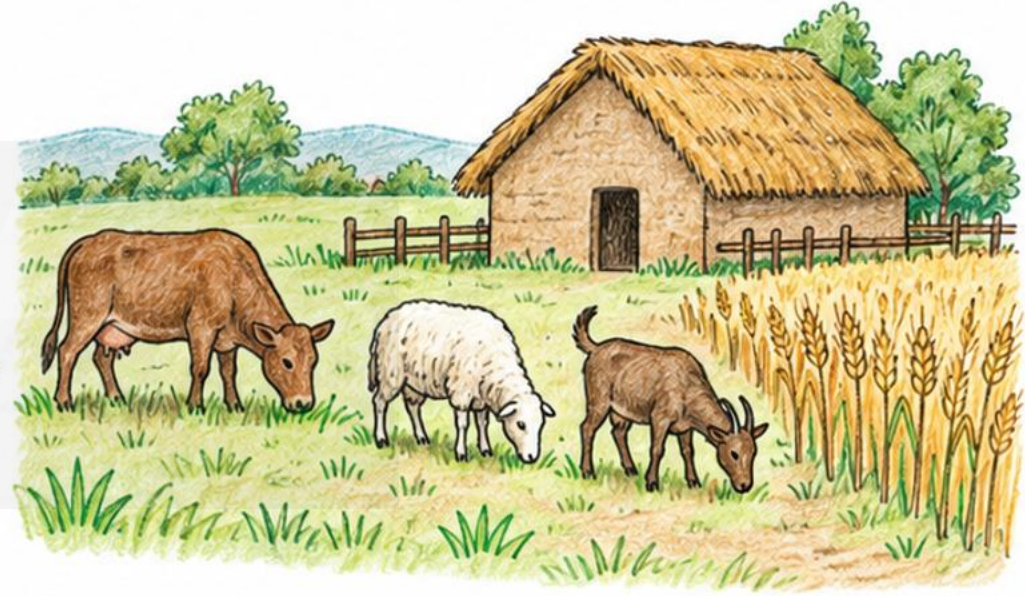
These changes did not happen at the same time everywhere. Older materials often continued to be used.

A DAY AS A NEOLITHIC FARMER

Q4. Imagine you are a Neolithic farmer. Describe one day of your life. What challenges would you face that a hunter-gatherer would not?

Sample imagined day:

In the morning, I take our sheep, goats and cattle out to graze. Then I work in the fields and care for the wheat and barley. At home, we process grain with stone tools and keep food in pottery or a granary. In the evening, I return to our village house and care for the animals.



Different challenges:

- I must look after a fixed field and wait for crops to grow.
- Poor water supply or a failed crop can threaten our stored food.
- Domesticated animals need regular care.

A hunter-gatherer mainly searches for wild food rather than tending crops.

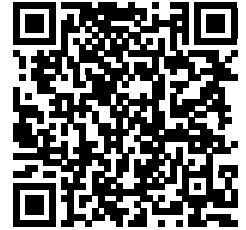


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