

Name: _____ Date: _____

Vital Villages, Thriving Towns

Q1. Why the earliest coins which were in use for about 500 years were called punch marked coins?

Ans. _____

Q2. Why some of the earliest works in Tamil, known as Sangam literature?

Ans. _____

Q3. List all the women who could be employed by the superintendent.

Ans. _____

Q4. What kinds of inscription have been found in Mathura?

Ans. _____

Q5. Who lived in the village?

Ans. _____

Vital Villages, Thriving Towns

Q1. Why the earliest coins which were in use for about 500 years were called punch marked coins?

Ans. They have been given this name because the designs were punched on to the metal — silver or copper.

Q2. Why some of the earliest works in Tamil, known as Sangam literature?

Ans. These texts were called Sangam because they were supposed to have been composed and compiled in assemblies (known as sangams) of poets that were held in the city of Madurai.

Q3. List all the women who could be employed by the superintendent.

Ans. Widows, young women who are differently abled, nuns, mothers of courtesans, retired women servants of the king, women who have retired from service in temples, may be employed by the superintendent.

Q4. What kinds of inscription have been found in Mathura?

Ans. Generally, these are short inscriptions, recording gifts made by men (and sometimes women) to monasteries and shrines. These were made by kings and queens, officers, merchants, and crafts persons who lived in the city.

Q5. Who lived in the village?

Ans. There were at least three different kinds of people living in most villages in the southern and northern parts of the subcontinent. In the Tamil region, large landowners were known as vellalar, ordinary ploughmen were known as uzhavar, and landless labourers, including slaves, were known as kadaiyyar and adimai.