

Name: _____ Date: _____

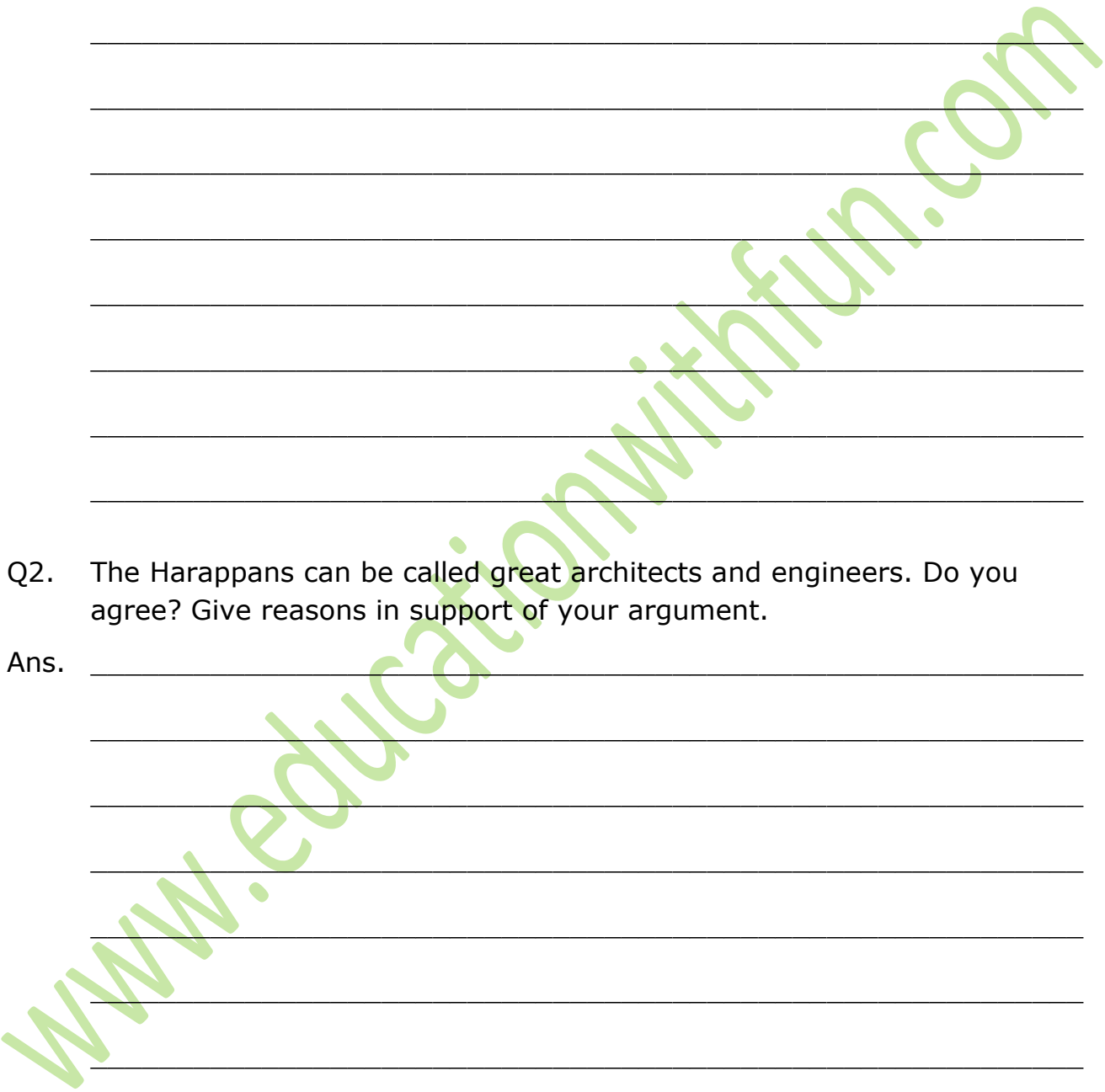
In the Earliest Cities

Q1. Write about the houses, drains and streets of Harappan cities.

Ans. _____

Q2. The Harappans can be called great architects and engineers. Do you agree? Give reasons in support of your argument.

Ans. _____



In the Earliest Cities

Q1. Write about the houses, drains and streets of Harappan cities.

Ans. Houses, drains and streets of Harappan cities

- i. Generally, houses were either one or two storeys high, with rooms built around a courtyard.
- ii. Most houses had a separate bathing area, and some had wells to supply water.
- iii. Many of these cities had covered drains. Each drain had a gentle slope so that water could flow through it.
- iv. Drains in houses were connected to those on the streets and smaller drains led into bigger ones.
- v. As the drains were covered, inspection holes were provided at intervals to clean them.

Q2. The Harappans can be called great architects and engineers. Do you agree? Give reasons in support of your argument.

Ans. The Harappans can be called great architects and engineers because

- i. They built massive walls and gateways surrounding the city area to protect the city from flood and control illegal trade.
- ii. Most of these roads and streets were paved with fire brunt bricks. The main streets intersected at right angles, dividing the city into squares or rectangular blocks each of which was divided length wise and cross wise by lanes.
- iii. The drainage system was excellent. Drains were covered and had a gentle slope so that water could flow through it. Inspection holes were provided at intervals to clean them.

All three — houses, drains and streets — were probably planned and built at the same time.