

Name: _____ Date: _____

What Books and Burials Tell Us

Q1. Why were portholes used for?

Ans. _____

Q2. Which two words were used to describe the people or the community as a whole?

Ans. _____

Q3. Name the two groups described in terms of their work.

Ans. _____

Q4. Were some burial spots meant for certain families?

Ans. _____

Q5. What were oracle bones?

Ans. _____

What Books and Burials Tell Us

Q1. Why were portholes used for?

Ans. Portholes were used as an entrance. Through these portholes the bodies of family members who died later were brought into the grave.

Q2. Which two words were used to describe the people or the community as a whole?

Ans. One was the word jana, which we still use in Hindi and other languages. The other was vish. The word vaishya comes from vish.

Q3. Name the two groups described in terms of their work.

Ans. There are two groups who are described in terms of their work — the priests, sometimes called brahmins, who performed various rituals and the rajas.

Q4. Were some burial spots meant for certain families?

Ans. Sometimes, megaliths contain more than one skeleton. These indicate that people, perhaps belonging to the same family, were buried in the same place though not at the same time.

Q5. What were oracle bones?

Ans. Around 3500 years ago, we find some of the first evidence of writing in China. These writings were on animal bones. These are called oracle bones, because they were used to predict the future.