



Subject : History Topic: Peasants and Farmers Date of Worksheet :14/1/2018

Resource Person:Mrs.SangeetaKumble Date :

Name of the Student: Class & Division: Roll Number:

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	ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS: NOTE: (QUESTION 1, 3, 7,11,12,13,19,21,22 TO BE WRITTEN IN THE NOTEBOOK.)	
1	Who was captain swing?	1
2	Why did the Swing rioters break the threshing Machines?  -Threshing machines deprived labour of their livelihood.  -Poor farmers felt that the threshing machines would replace people and render them jobless.  -Threshing machines were therefore broken, leading to riots that spread over southern England.	3
3	What did the commonland mean to the English country side peasants?	3
4	What happened to the poor after the enclosure movement?  The poor could no longer collect their firewood from the forests, or graze their cattle on the commons.  They could no longer collect applesand berries, or hunt small animals for meat.  Nor could they gather thestalks that lay on the fields after the crops were cut.  Everything belongedto the landlords; everything had a price which the poor could notafford to pay.  They found their customary rights gradually disappearing.  Deprived of their rights and driven off the land, they tramped in searchof work.  From the Midlands, they moved to the southern counties of England. Where there was a great demand for agricultural labourers. But nowhere couldthe poor find secure jobs.  For them work became insecure, employment uncertain and income unstable.	5
5	Why were the threshing machines introduced by the landlords? -During the Napoleonic Wars, prices of food grains were high andfarmers expanded production vigorouslyFearing a shortage of labour, they began buying the new threshing machines that had come into the marketThey complained of the insolence of labourers, their drinking habits, and the difficulty of making them workThey thought, would help them reduce their dependence on labourers.	3
6	What were the advantages of the enclosures?	3
	<ul> <li>Enclosures were now seen as necessary to make long-term investmentson land and plan crop rotations to improve the soil.</li> <li>Enclosures also allowed the richer landowners to expand the land under their control.</li> </ul>	





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	- They could produce more for the market to earn more profit.	
7	Turnips and clovers were grown by the farmers in their farms Give reason.	3
7 8	Turnips and clovers were grown by the farmers in their farms Give reason.  Explain the factors that led to the enclosure in England?  -When the price of wool went up in the world market in the sixteenth century, rich farmers wanted to expand wool production to earn profits. So they began dividing and enclosing common land and building hedges around their holdings to separate their property from that of others.  -Unlike the sixteenth-century enclosures that promoted sheep farming, the land being enclosed in the late eighteenth century was for grain production because the English population expanded rapidly demanding for more food grains to feed the population.  -Moreover, Britain at this time was industrializing. More and more people began to live and work in urban areas. Men from rural areas migrated to towns in search of jobs. To survive they had to buy food grains in the market.  -By the end of the eighteenth century, France was at war with England. This disrupted trade and the import of food grains from Europe.	5
	-Prices of food grains in England sky rocketed, encouraging landowners to enclose	
	lands and enlarge the area under grain cultivation. Profits flowed in and	
9	landowners pressurized the Parliament to pass the Enclosure Acts.	5
	Write note on the westward movement.  -After the American War of Independence from 1775 to 1783 and the formation of the United States of America, the white Americans began to move westward.  -By the time Thomas Jefferson became President of the USA in 1800, over 700,000 white settlers had moved on to the Appalachian plateau through the passes.  - The decades after 1800, the US government committed itself to a policy of driving the American Indians westward, first beyond the river Mississippi, and then further west.  - Numerous wars were waged in which Indians were massacred and many of their villages burnt. The Indians resisted, won many victories in wars, but were ultimately forced to sign treaties, give up their land and move westward.  -As the Indians retreated, the settlers poured in. They came in successive waves. They settled on the Appalachian plateau by the first decade of the eighteenth century, and then moved into the Mississippi valley between 1820 and 1850.  -They slashed and burnt forests, pulled out the stumps, cleared the land for cultivation, and built log cabins in the forest clearings. Then they cleared larger areas, and erected fences around the fields. They ploughed the land and sowed corn and wheat.  - The early years, the fertile soil produced good crops. When the soil became impoverished and exhausted in one place, the migrants would move further west, to explore new lands and raise a new crop.  -It was, however, only after the 1860s that settlers swept into the Great Plains across the River Mississippi. In subsequent decades this region became a major	





	wheat-producing area of America.	
10	In the 19 <sup>th</sup> century grain production grew as quickly as population. Explain OR	3
	What were the steps taken to meet the increasing demand of food grains	
	due to increase in population?	
	-Even though the population increased rapidly, in 1868 England was producing	
	about 80 per cent of the food it consumed. The rest was imported.	
	-The increase in food-grain production was made possible not by any radical	
	innovations in agricultural technology, but by bringing new lands under	
	cultivation.	
	- Landlords sliced up pasturelands, carved up open fields, cut up forest commons, took over marshes, and turned larger and larger areas into agricultural fields.	
11	Write a note on Native Americans.	5
12	In the 19 <sup>th</sup> century there was a dramatic expansion in wheat production in	3
	the USA why.	
13	State the advantages of the use of mechanical and harvesting machines in	3
	the USA.	
14	What happened to the farmers after the use of new technology in USA?	5
	-For the poorer farmers, machines brought misery.	
	-Many of thembought these machines, imagining that wheat prices would remain	
	high and profits would flow in.	
	- If they had no money, the banks offered loans. Those who borrowed found it	
	difficult to pay back their debts.	
	- Many of them deserted their farms and looked for jobs elsewhere.	
	-But jobs were difficult to find. Mechanization had reduced the need for labour.	
	- Production had expanded so rapidly during the war and post-war years that that	
	there was a large surplusWheat prices fell and export markets collapsed This created the grounds for the	
	Great Agrarian Depression of the 1930s that ruined wheat farmers everywhere	
15	How did the great plains of USA turn into a dust bowl?	5
	OR	
	What are the causes of the formation of the Dust Bowl?	
	-They occurred because the early 1930s were years of persistent drought.	
	-The rains failed year after year, and temperatures soared. The wind blew with	
	ferocious speed.	
	-But ordinary dust storms became black because the entire landscape had been	
	ploughed over, strippedof all grass that held it together.	
	-When wheat cultivation hadexpanded dramatically in the early nineteenth century,	
	zealous farmers had recklessly uprooted all vegetation and tractors had turned the	
	soil over, and broken the sod into dust.  The whole region had become a dust bowl	
	-The whole region had become a dust bowl.	





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16	What lessons can we draw from the conversion of the country side in the	3
	USA from a bread basket into a dust bowl?	
	-The conversion of USA countryside from bread basket to dust bowl teaches the	
	importance of conservation of the ecosystem.	
	- Human development cannot take place at the cost of natural environment.	
17	Why did the British increase the land under cultivation in India?	3
	-British rule was gradually established in India after the Battle of Plassey (1757).	
	-Over the period of colonial rule, the rural landscape was radically transformed.	
	- The British saw land revenue as a major source of government income.	
	- To build the resources of the state, efforts were made to impose a regular system	
	of land revenue, increase revenue rates, and expand the area under cultivation.	
18	How did the British make the Chinese addicted to opium?	5
	-The Portuguese had introduced opium into china where it was used for medicinal	
	purpose in a small quantity.	
	-The Chinese were aware of the danger of opium addiction and the Emperor had	
	forbidden its production and sale except for medicinal purposes.	
	-But the British began an illegal trade in opium.	
	-It was unloaded in a number of seaports of South- Eastern China and carried by	
	the local agent s to the interiors.	
	-while the English cultivated a taste for Chinese tea, the Chinese became addicted	
	to opium.	
	-People of all classes took to the drug –shop keepers and peddlers, officials and	
	army men, aristocrats and also the poor.	
	-As China became a country of opium addicts, British trade in tea flourished.	
19	Which crops were grown in India for the world market and why?	3
20	Why were the Manchus unwilling to allow the entry foreign goods into	5
	china?	
	-In the late 18 <sup>th</sup> century, the English East India company was buying tea and silk	
	from China for sale in England.	
	-But England at this time produced nothingthat could be easily sold in China.	
	The Confucian rulers of China, the Manchus, were suspicious of all foreign	
	merchants.	
	-They feared that the merchants would meddle in local politics and disrupt their	
	authority.	
	-so, the Manchus were not willing to allow entry of foreign goods into china.	
21	Why were the Indian cultivators reluctant to grow opium	5
22	How were the Indian cultivators made to grow opium by the British	5
23	How did the British establish their monopoly over opium trade?	5
	-By 1773, the British government in Bengal had established a monopoly to trade in	
	opium.	
1		1
	-No one else was legally permitted to trade in the productBy the 1820s, the British found to their horror that opium production in their	





	territories was rapidly declining, but its production outside the British territories	
	was increasing.	
	It was being produced in Central India and Rajasthan, within princely states that	
	were not under British control.	
	In these regions, local traders were offering much higher prices to peasants and	
	exporting opium to China.	
	. To the British this trade was illegal: it was smuggling and it had to be stopped.	
	Government monopoly had to be retained.	
	- It therefore instructed its agents posted in the princely states to confiscate all	
	opium and destroy the crops.	
24	Why did Indian peasants begin to agitate against the low prices of opium?	
	-The British would produce opium at cheap rates and sell it at a high price to	5
	opium agents in Calcutta, who then shipped it to China.	
	-This difference between the buying and selling price was the government's opium	
	revenue.	
	-The prices given to the peasants were so low that by the early eighteenth century	
	angry peasants began agitating for higher prices and refused to take advances	
	-In regions around Benares, cultivators began giving up opium cultivation. They	
	produced sugarcane and potatoes instead. Many cultivators sold off their crop to	
	travelling traders (pykars) who offered higher prices	
25	How did agricultural depression lead to job insecurity?	5
	-After the Napoleonic Wars had ended, thousands of soldiers returned to the	
	villages. They needed alternative jobs to survive.	
	- But this was a time when grain from Europe began flowing into England, prices	
	declined, and an Agricultural Depression set in;	
	-Anxious, landowners began reducing the area they cultivated and demanded that	
	the imports of crops be stopped.	
	-They tried to cut wages and the number of workmen they employed.	
	- The unemployed poor tramped from village to village, and those with uncertain	
	jobs lived in fear of a loss of their livelihood.	
	Jobo fived in real of a loss of their fivenifood.	