

Chapter 1 – Prehistoric Rock Paintings

EXERCISE

Question 1:

According to your observation how did the people of prehistoric times select themes for their paintings?

Answer 1:

- The people paint hunting scenes, various animals, their food gathering events, dance, and music, decorating bodies, other family scenes, and what they could find interesting around.
- For example, rock shelters at Lakhudiyar caves have prehistoric paintings. Men and animals have been painted in black, white, and red ochre.
- The painting is generally seen in drawn geometric patterns.
- The dancing figure of humans is also remarkable here.

Question 2:

What could have been the reasons for depicting more animal figures than human figures in cave paintings?

Answer 2:

- These could have been as the warning signs for the future generations about the dangers from animals and how to live with them.
- It could have been the guide for the animals suitable for the hunting or the hunting techniques, or the desire that future generations should know about how the lifestyle should be when they were living in forests.

Question 3:

Many visuals of prehistoric cave paintings have been given in this chapter. Among these which one do you like the most and why? Give a critical appreciation of the visual.

Answer 3:

Images painted, drawn or carved onto rocks and cave walls—which have been found across the globe—reflect one of humans' earliest forms of communication, with possible connections to language development. The most common subjects in cave paintings are large wild animals, such as bison, horses, aurochs, and deer, and tracings of human hands as well as abstract patterns, called finger flutings.

Question 4:

Other than Bhimbetka, which are the other major sites where these prehistoric paintings have been found? Prepare a report on different aspects of these paintings with pictures or line drawings.

Answer 4:

The Lakhudiyar caves in Uttarakhand, Kupgallu caves in Telangna, Jogimarra and Adamgarh caves in State of Madhya Pradesh, Piklihal and Tekkalkotta caves in Karnataka are lauded with prehistoric and Mesolithic paintings.

Question 5:

In modern times, how have walls been used as a surface to make paintings, graphics, etc?

Answer 5:

The walls are too brightly painted. Often, walls are treated as a canvas for a photographic image. Paintings of gardens or educational scenes are often used on garden walls or school walls for children. Public places are often decorated with paintings or other art to create awareness of government schemes and policies, hygiene, social messages, etc. Oil painting is the most popular painting style practiced by artists around the world. The paints are made by mixing pigments with oils like poppy seed oil, walnut oil, linseed oil, and safflower oil. Using oil paint gives you a range of opacity and intensity that you can use to create beautiful art.