

# Life in the Indus Valley Answers

1. When did the Indus Valley civilisation start?

**The Indus Valley civilisation started around 3200 BC.**

2. Who first lived in the Indus Valley civilisation?

**The first people who lived in the Indus Valley civilisation were farmers.**

3. What did Charles Masson find?

**He found mounds of bricks which he thought looked like castles.**

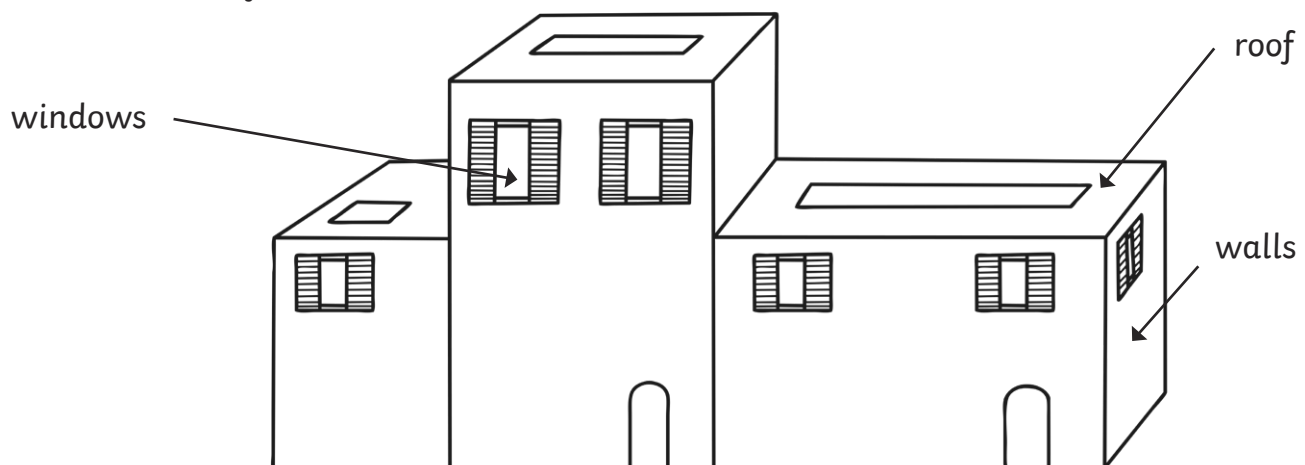
4. Give three reasons why water was important to the people of the Indus Valley civilisation?

**The water kept the soil good for growing crops and was useful for cooking, washing and drinking.**

5. What were the buildings made from?

**The buildings were made from mud bricks which were dried in the sun.**

6. Draw a picture of what you think a house may have looked like and label the windows, the walls and the roof.



7. Would you have liked to have lived in the Indus Valley civilisation? Why/why not?

**Yes: possible reasons include warm weather outside but nice cool houses inside because of the thick walls, clean water available from wells, meeting friends on the flat roofs of their houses, houses quiet inside because there were no windows facing the streets.**

**No: possible reasons include small houses with only one or two rooms, simple toilets which didn't flush, hard work farming the fields and travelling for trade.**

# Life in the Indus Valley Answers

1. Where was the Indus Valley civilisation?

**It was built around the Indus River which runs through modern day northeast Afghanistan, Pakistan and Northwest India.**

2. When did the Indus Valley civilisation begin?

**The Indus Valley civilisation started around 3200 BC.**

3. Who first lived in the Indus Valley civilisation?

**The first people who lived in the Indus Valley civilisation were farmers.**

4. By what date had all the major cities been abandoned?

**All the major cities had been abandoned by 1300 BC.**

5. What did Charles Masson discover in 1826?

**He found mounds of bricks which he thought looked like castles. They were actually buildings from Harappa.**

6. Give five reasons why water was important to the people of the Indus Valley civilisation?

**Water was important for cooking, washing and drinking. The floodwaters kept the soil rich and fertile for growing crops. The river allowed traders to carry goods to other cities.**

7. What types of buildings were found in the cities?

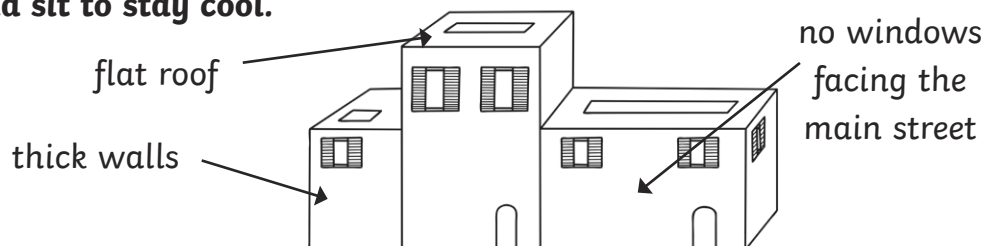
**Lots of different buildings were found including granaries, dock yards, public baths, warehouses and houses for people to live in.**

8. What were the buildings made from?

**The buildings were made from mud bricks which were dried in the sun.**

9. What features did the houses have that show the Indus Valley was a hot place to live? Draw a picture of what you think a typical house may have looked like and label the features.

**The houses had thick walls which kept it cool inside. The houses had flat roofs which created a garden where people could sit to stay cool.**



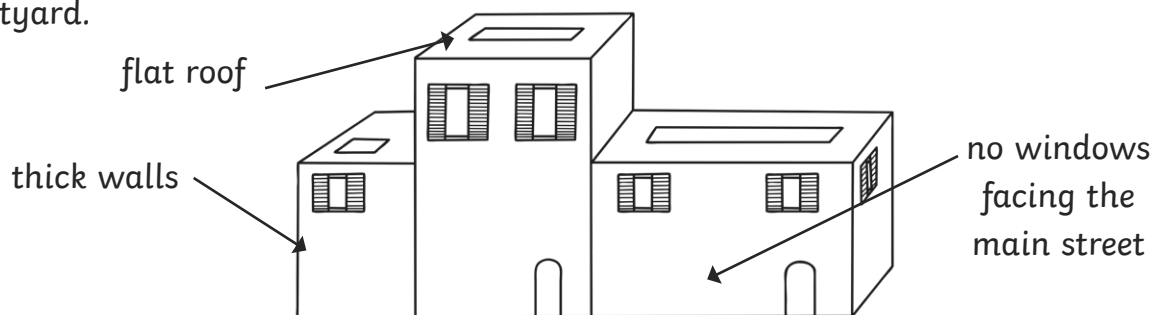
10. Would you have liked to have lived in the Indus Valley civilisation? Explain why.

**Yes: possible reasons include warm weather outside but nice cool houses inside because of the thick walls, clean water available from wells, inside toilets and showers, meeting friends on the flat roofs of their houses, houses quiet inside because there were no windows facing the streets.**

**No: possible reasons include small houses with only one or two rooms, simple toilets which didn't flush, hard work farming the fields and travelling for trade.**

# Life in the Indus Valley Answers

1. It was built around the Indus River which runs through modern day northeast Afghanistan, Pakistan and Northwest India.
2. The Indus Valley civilisation started around 3200 BC.
3. There is evidence that they made objects from clay, had their own writing script and used tools like ploughs to plough the land.
4. The Indus Valley civilisation began to decline in 1900 BC because the Ghaggar-Hakra River began to dry up and caused the area to gradually become a desert.
5. In 1826, a British soldier called Charles Masson found mounds of bricks which he thought looked like castles. They were actually buildings from Harappa. In 1856, workers building the Great Indian Railway found and used old bricks from buildings in Harappa and exploration of the area began.
6. The cities were built near rivers which provided water for cooking, washing and drinking. The water flooded each year and provided nutrients to the soil for growing crops. The river also provided a mode of transport for traders to carry their goods to other cities.
7. There were granaries for storing grain, dockyards for the traders' boats on the river, public baths for people to bathe, warehouses for storage and houses for people to live in.
8. Farmers, fishermen and traders may have lived outside the cities to have better access to their land and rivers for farming and trading.
9. The presence of a citadel suggests there was a leader of some sort, though probably not a priest or king. The rulers were prominent people from different fields such as traders and artisans. They ruled by controlling trade and were responsible for making sure the cities were well planned and functioned well.
10. The houses had thick walls which kept it cool inside. The houses had flat roofs which created a garden where people could sit to stay cool. Larger houses were often arranged around a central courtyard.



11. Yes: possible reasons include warm weather outside but nice cool houses inside because of the thick walls, clean water available from wells, inside toilets and showers, meeting friends on the flat roofs of their houses, houses quiet inside because there were no windows facing the streets.

No: possible reasons include small houses with only one or two rooms, simple toilets which didn't flush, hard work farming the fields and travelling for trade.

12. Accept any plausible question and explanation.