

UNIT

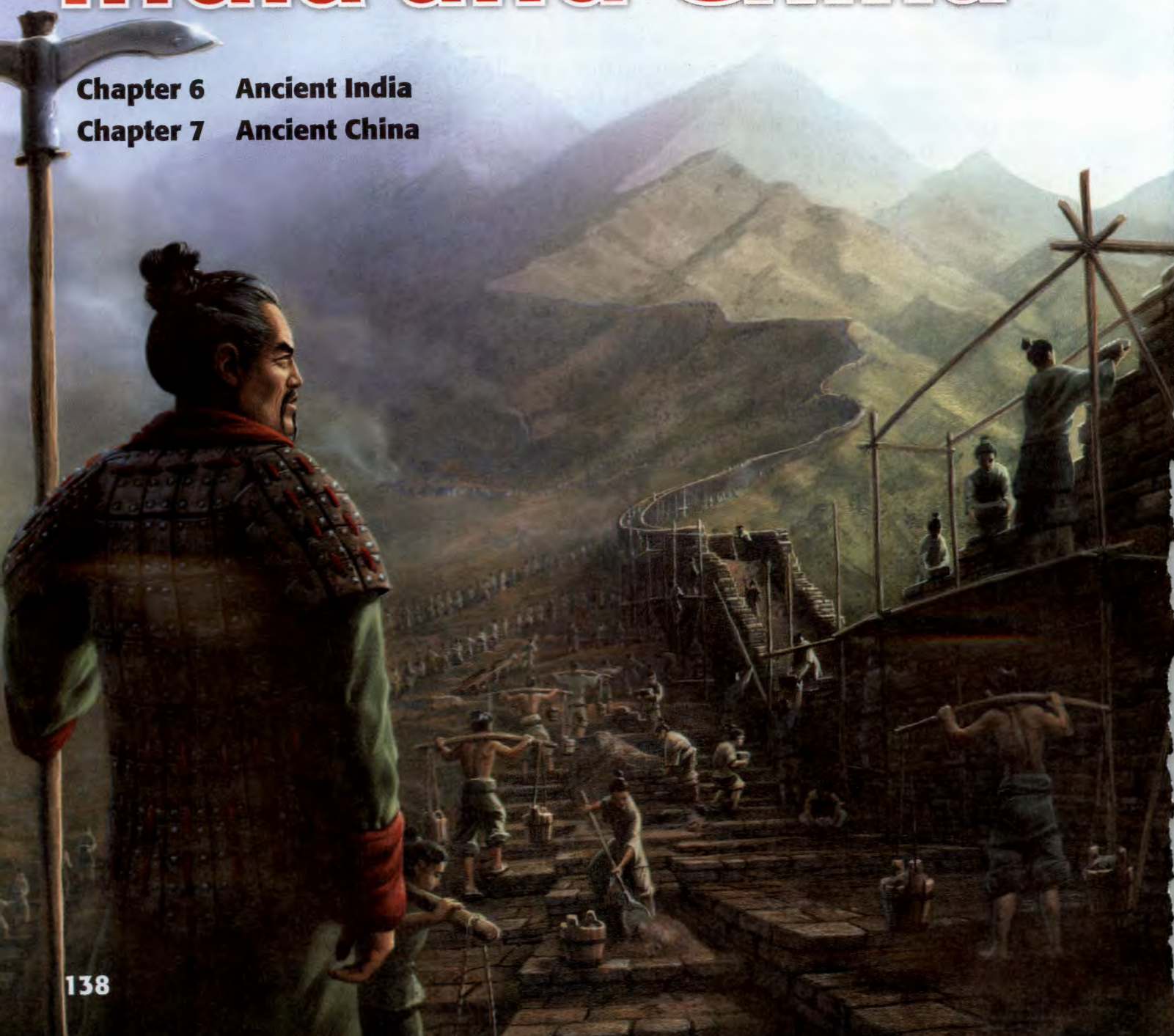
3

2300 BC–AD 500

Civilization in India and China

Chapter 6 Ancient India

Chapter 7 Ancient China





What You Will Learn...

Two of the earliest civilizations of the ancient world arose in India and in China. In both of these places, river valleys provided the setting for the development of civilization. The Indians and Chinese built large empires and made many advances in science, art, and learning.

These civilizations also gave rise to new spiritual traditions. Two of the world's major religions—Hinduism and Buddhism—began in India. In China, the scholars Confucius and Laozi developed ideas that influenced Chinese thinking and society for more than 2,000 years.

In the next two chapters, you will learn about the advanced civilizations and cultures of India and China.

Explore the Art

In this scene, the Chinese emperor Shi Huangdi oversees the building of a massive wall in 220 BC. Why do you think people might build such a giant barrier?

Ancient India



California Standards

History–Social Science

6.5 Students analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the early civilizations of India.

English–Language Arts

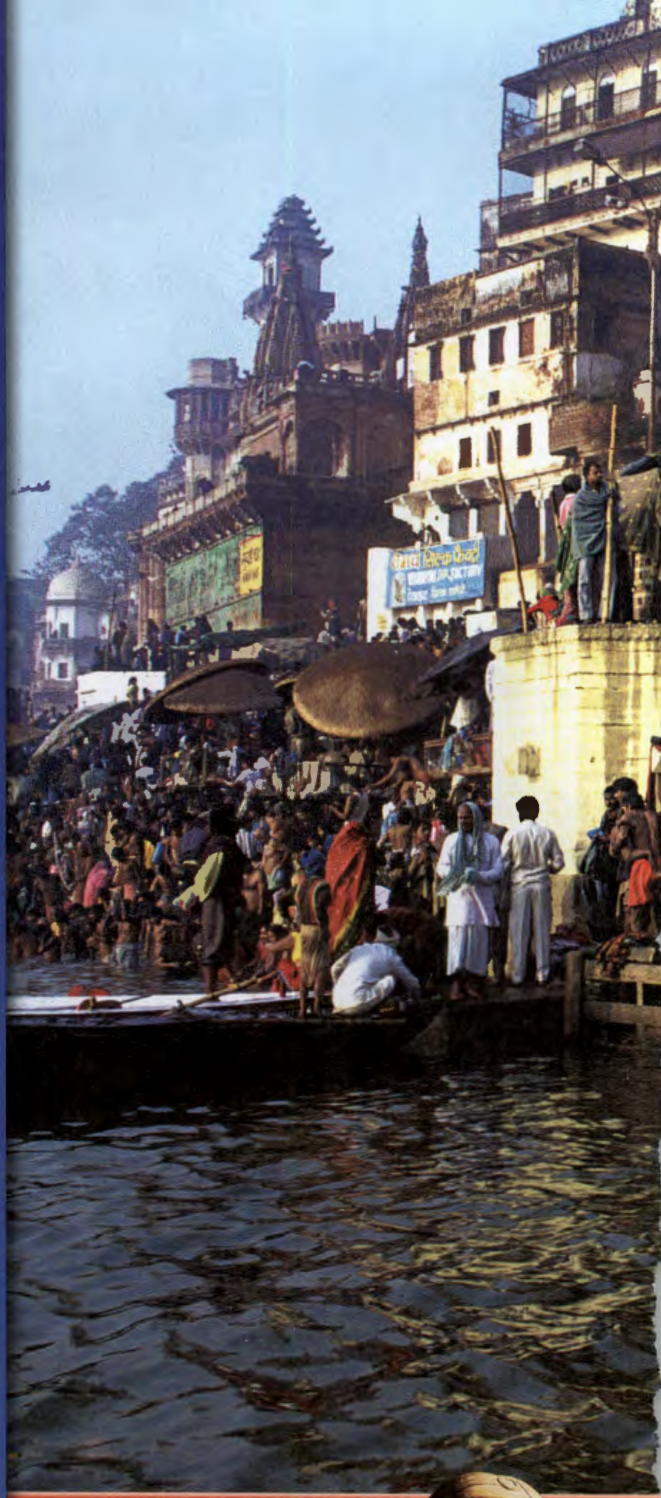
Writing 6.1.0 Exhibit awareness of the audience and purpose.

Reading 6.2.0 Students read and understand grade-level-appropriate material.

FOCUS ON WRITING



An Illustrated Poster Ancient India was a fascinating place. It was the home of amazing cities, the site of strong empires, and the birthplace of major religions. As you read this chapter, think about how you could illustrate one aspect of Indian culture in a poster. When you finish the chapter, you will design such a poster, which will include captions that explain the illustrations you have drawn.



c. 2600 BC

Urban Harappan civilization reaches maturity.

CHAPTER EVENTS

2300 BC

WORLD EVENTS

2200 BC

The Old Kingdom ends in Egypt.



History's Impact

▶ video series

Watch the video to understand the impact of Buddhism as a major world religion.



What You Will Learn...

In this chapter you will learn about the ancient civilization of India, the birthplace of two major world religions—Hinduism and Buddhism. In this photo, crowds of Hindus gather to bathe in the sacred Ganges River.

1500s BC

Aryans begin migrating into India.

c. 1250 BC

Central tenets of Hinduism take shape.

**c. 563 BC**

Prince Siddhartha Gautama, or the Buddha, is born in northern India.

**c. AD 320**

Chandragupta founds the Gupta Empire.

1500 BC**c. 1500 BC**

The Shang Dynasty is established in China.

**1000 BC****500 BC****BC 1 AD****334 BC**

Alexander the Great begins his conquests.

AD 391

All non-Christian religions are banned in the Roman Empire.

AD 500

Economics

Geography

Politics

Religion

Society
and Culture

Science and
Technology

Focus on Themes This chapter outlines and describes the development of India. You will read about India's first civilization, called the Harappan civilization, so advanced that the people had indoor bathrooms and a writing system. You will

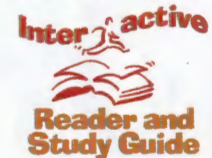
also learn about the **society and culture** that restricted whom Indian people could talk with or marry. Finally, you will read about the **religions** and empires that united India and about the art and literature that the Indians created.

Inferences about History

Focus on Reading What's the difference between a good guess and a weak guess? A good guess is an *educated* guess. In other words, the guess is based on some knowledge or information. That's what an inference is, an educated guess.

Making Inferences About What You Read On pages 86 and 87, you practiced drawing conclusions. You use almost the same process to make an inference: combine information from your reading with what you already know, and make an educated guess about what it all means. Once you have made several inferences, you may be able to draw a conclusion that ties them all together.

Additional
reading support
can be found in the



Question Why did Aryan priests have rules for performing sacrifices?

Inside the Text

- Sacred texts tell how to perform sacrifices.
- Priests sacrificed animals in fire.
- Sacrifices were offerings to the gods.

Outside the Text

- Other religions have duties only priests can perform.
- Many ancient societies believed sacrifices helped keep the gods happy.

Steps for Making Inferences

1. Ask a question.
2. Note information "Inside the Text."
3. Note information "Outside the Text."
4. Use both sets of information to make an educated guess, or inference.

Inference The Aryans believed that performing a sacrifice incorrectly might anger the gods.



Key Terms and People

You Try It!

The following passage is from the chapter you are about to read. Read the passage and then answer the questions that follow.

Harappan Achievements

Harappan civilization was very advanced. Most houses had bathrooms with indoor plumbing. Artisans made excellent pottery, jewelry, ivory objects, and cotton clothing. They used high-quality tools and developed a system of weights and measures.

*From
Chapter 6,
p. 148*

Harappans also developed India's first known writing system. However, scholars have not yet learned to read this language, so we know very little about Harappan society. Unlike Mesopotamia or Egypt, for example, there are no large religious monuments or palaces, so the relationship between the people and their government is less clear. On the other hand, the remarkable similarity of material culture from widely scattered Harappan sites suggests a high level of social control.

Harappan civilization ended by the early 1700s BC, but no one is sure why.

Answer the following questions to make inferences about Harappan society.

1. Do you think that the Harappan language was closely related to the languages spoken in India today? Consider the information inside the text and things you have learned outside the text to make an inference about the Harappan language.
2. What have you just learned about Harappan achievements? Think back to other civilizations you have studied that made similar achievements. What allowed those civilizations to make their achievements? From this, what can you infer about earlier Harappan society?

As you read Chapter 6, use the information you find in the text to make inferences about Indian society.

Chapter 6

Section 1

subcontinent (p. 144)
monsoons (p. 145)
Sanskrit (p. 149)

Section 2

caste system (p. 151)
Hinduism (p. 153)
reincarnation (p. 153)
karma (p. 154)
Jainism (p. 155)
nonviolence (p. 155)

Section 3

fasting (p. 157)
meditation (p. 157)
the Buddha (p. 157)
Buddhism (p. 158)
nirvana (p. 158)
missionaries (p. 160)

Section 4

Chandragupta Maurya (p. 162)
Asoka (p. 163)
Chandragupta II (p. 164)

Section 5

metallurgy (p. 170)
alloys (p. 170)
Hindu-Arabic numerals (p. 170)
inoculation (p. 170)
astronomy (p. 171)

Academic Vocabulary

Success in school is related to knowing academic vocabulary—the words that are frequently used in school assignments and discussions. In this chapter, you will learn the following academic words:

establish (p. 164)
process (p. 170)

Geography and Early India

What You Will Learn...

Main Ideas

1. The geography of India includes high mountains, great rivers, and heavy seasonal rain.
2. Harappan civilization developed along the Indus River.
3. The Aryan invasion of India changed the region's civilization.

The Big Idea

Indian civilization first developed on the Indus River.

Key Terms

subcontinent, p. 144

monsoons, p. 145

Sanskrit, p. 149



HSS 6.5.1 Locate and describe the major river system and discuss the physical setting that supported the rise of this civilization.

6.5.2 Discuss the significance of the Aryan invasions.

If YOU were there...

Your people are nomadic herders in southern Asia about 1200 BC. You live in a river valley with plenty of water and grass for your cattle. Besides looking after cattle, you spend time learning to recite sacred texts from the village elders. They say these words hold your people's history. One day, it will be your duty to teach them to your own children.

Why is it important to pass on these words?

BUILDING BACKGROUND Like Mesopotamia and Egypt, India was home to one of the world's first civilizations. Like other early civilizations, the one in India grew up in a river valley. But the society that eventually developed in India was very different from the ones that developed elsewhere.

Geography of India

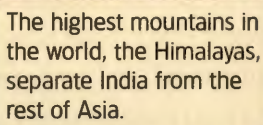
Look at a map of Asia in the atlas of this book. Do you see the large, roughly triangular landmass that juts out from the center of the southern part of the continent? That is India. It was the location of one of the world's earliest civilizations.

Landforms and Rivers

India is huge. In fact, it is so big that many geographers call it a subcontinent. A **subcontinent** is a large landmass that is smaller than a continent. Subcontinents are usually separated from the rest of their continents by physical features. If you look at the map on the next page, for example, you can see that mountains largely separate India from the rest of Asia.

Among the mountains of northern India are the Himalayas, the highest mountains in the world. To the west are the Hindu Kush. Though these mountains made it hard to enter India, invaders have historically found a few paths through them.

A small globe showing the Indian subcontinent highlighted in red, indicating its location in South Asia.



India is a huge peninsula, so large it's called a subcontinent.

Kanchenjunga
28,208 ft.
(8,598 m)

Arabian
Sea

Bay of Bengal

Andaman Islands Andaman Sea

INDIAN
OCEAN

GEOGRAPHY SKILLS INTERPRETING MAPS

1. Place When do the wet monsoons come to India?
2. Location What large plateau occupies the heart of India?

flooded. As in Mesopotamia and Egypt, the flooding left behind a layer of fertile silt. The silt created ideal farmland for early settlers.

Climate

Most of India has a hot and humid climate. This climate is heavily influenced by India's **monsoons**, seasonal wind patterns that cause wet and dry seasons.

In the summer, monsoon winds blow into India from the Indian Ocean, bringing heavy rains that can cause terrible floods. Some parts of India receive as much as 100 or even 200 inches of rain during this time. In the winter, winds blow down from the mountains. This forces moisture out of India and creates warm, dry winters.

READING CHECK Drawing Conclusions

How do you think monsoons affected settlement in India?

Harappan Civilization

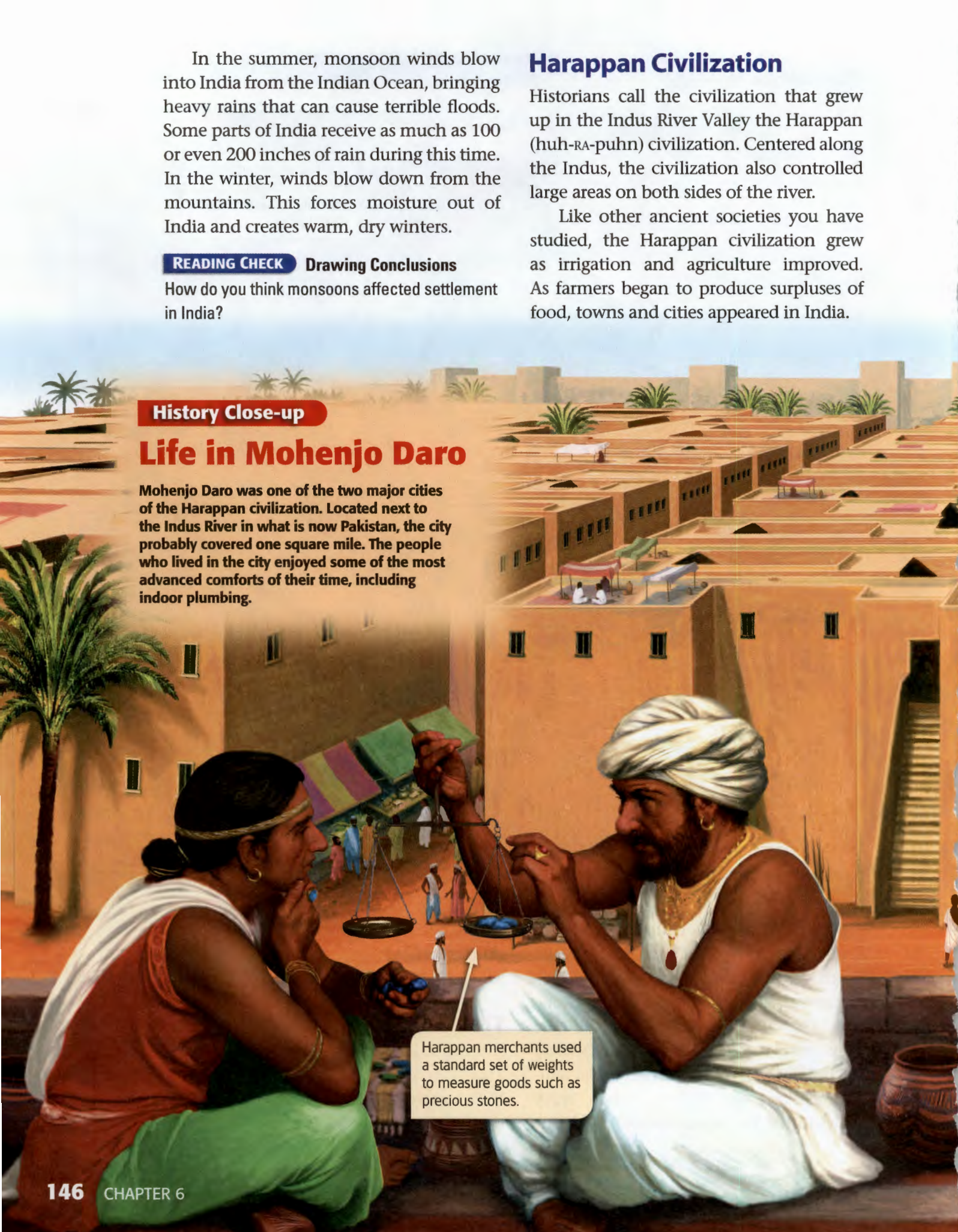
Historians call the civilization that grew up in the Indus River Valley the Harappan (huh-RA-puhn) civilization. Centered along the Indus, the civilization also controlled large areas on both sides of the river.

Like other ancient societies you have studied, the Harappan civilization grew as irrigation and agriculture improved. As farmers began to produce surpluses of food, towns and cities appeared in India.

History Close-up

Life in Mohenjo Daro

Mohenjo Daro was one of the two major cities of the Harappan civilization. Located next to the Indus River in what is now Pakistan, the city probably covered one square mile. The people who lived in the city enjoyed some of the most advanced comforts of their time, including indoor plumbing.



Harappan merchants used a standard set of weights to measure goods such as precious stones.

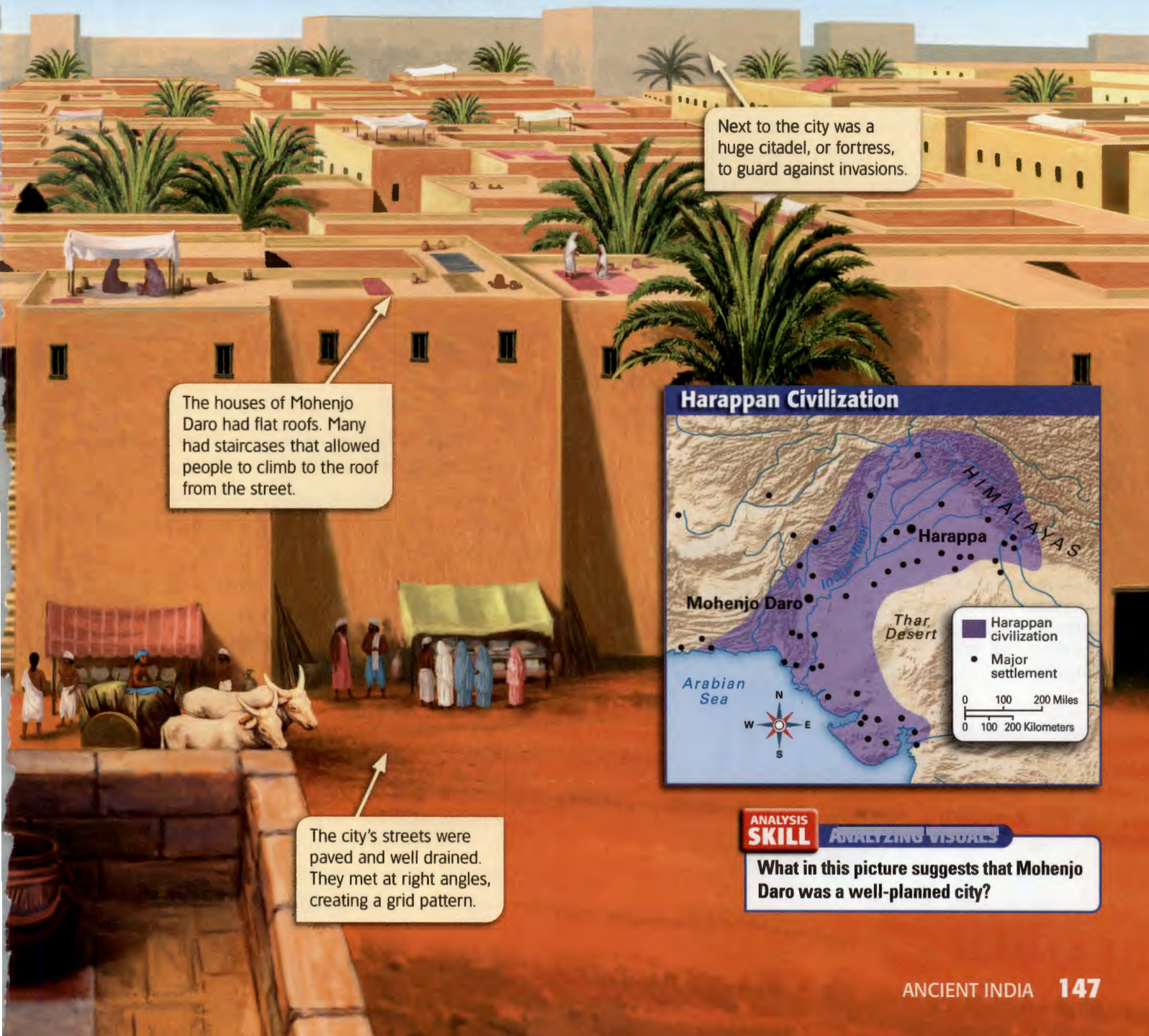
India's Early Cities

The Harappan civilization was named after the modern city of Harappa (huh-RA-puh), Pakistan. It was near this city that ruins of the civilization were first discovered. From studying these ruins, archaeologists currently estimate that the civilization thrived between 2300 and 1700 BC.

The greatest sources of information we have about Harappan civilization are the ruins of two large cities, Harappa and Mohenjo Daro (mo-HEN-joh DAR-oh). The two cities lay more than 300 miles apart

but were remarkably similar. More recent sources include the ruins discovered at Kalibangan, Dholavira, and the port of Lothal, in addition to the 2,600 rural settlements excavated in northwest India.

Both Harappa and Mohenjo Daro were well planned. Each stood near a towering fortress. From these fortresses, defenders could look down on the cities' brick streets, which crossed at right angles and were lined with storehouses, workshops, market stalls, and houses. In addition, both cities had many public wells.



Next to the city was a huge citadel, or fortress, to guard against invasions.

The houses of Mohenjo Daro had flat roofs. Many had staircases that allowed people to climb to the roof from the street.

The city's streets were paved and well drained. They met at right angles, creating a grid pattern.



ANALYSIS SKILL

ANALYZING VISUALS

What in this picture suggests that Mohenjo Daro was a well-planned city?

Harappan Achievements

Harappan civilization was very advanced. Most houses had bathrooms with indoor plumbing. Artisans made excellent pottery, jewelry, ivory objects, and cotton clothing. They used high-quality tools and developed a system of weights and measures.

Harappans also developed India's first known writing system. However, scholars have not yet learned to read this language, so we know very little about Harappan society. Unlike Mesopotamia or Egypt, for example, there are no large religious monuments or palaces, so the relationship between the people and their government is less clear. On the other hand, the remarkable similarity of material culture from widely scattered Harappan sites suggests a high level of social control.

Harappan civilization ended by the early 1700s BC, but no one is sure why. Perhaps invaders destroyed the cities or natural disasters, like floods or earthquakes, caused the civilization to collapse.

READING CHECK Analyzing Why don't we know much about Harappan civilization?

Harappan Art

Like other ancient peoples, the Harappans made small seals like the one below that were used to stamp goods. They also used clay pots like the one at right decorated with a goat.



Aryan Invasion

Not long after the Harappan civilization crumbled, a new group took power in the Indus Valley. They were called the Aryans (AIR-ee-uhnz). Historians have long debated the origins of the Aryans. Some historians believe they came from Central Asia, but others disagree. Wherever the Aryans came from, some people think they may have helped end the Harappan civilization.

Invaders from the West

The Aryans were skilled warriors. Using chariots and advanced weapons, these invaders took new territory. By 1200 BC Aryan warriors had swept through the Hindu Kush and taken control of the entire Indus Valley. From there they moved east to the Ganges River Valley.

Much of what we know about Aryan society comes from religious writings known as the Vedas (VAY-duhs). These collections of poems, hymns, myths, and rituals were written by Aryan priests. You will read more about the Vedas later in this chapter.

Government and Society

As nomads, the Aryans took along their herds of animals as they moved. But over time, they settled in villages and began to farm. Unlike the Harappans, they did not build big cities.

The Aryan political system was also different from the Harappan system. The Aryans lived in small communities, based mostly on family ties. No single ruling authority existed. Instead, each group had its own leader, often a skilled warrior.

Aryan villages were governed by rajas (RAH-juh-z). A raja was a leader who ruled a village and the land around it. Villagers farmed some of this land for the raja. They used other sections as pastures for their cows, horses, sheep, and goats.

Although many rajas were related, they didn't always get along. Sometimes rajas joined forces before fighting a common enemy. Other times, however, rajas went to war against each other. In fact, Aryan groups fought each other nearly as often as they fought outsiders.

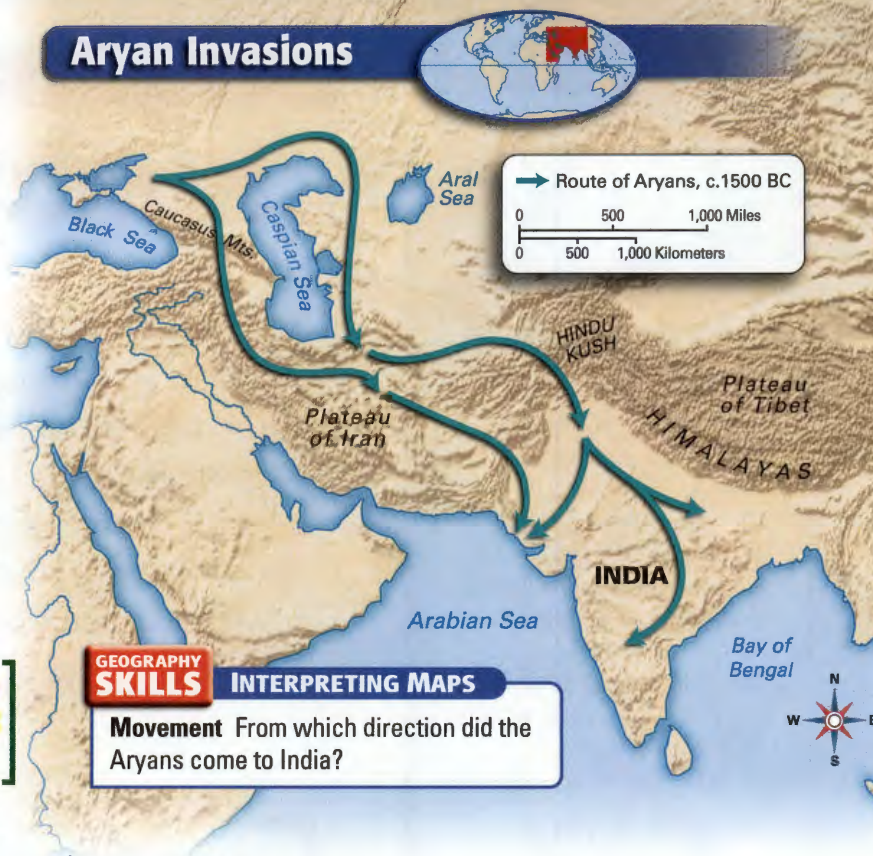
Language

The first Aryan settlers did not read or write. Because of this, they had to memorize the sacred texts that were important in their culture, such as the Vedas. If people forgot these sacred texts, the works would be lost forever.

The language in which these Aryan sacred texts were composed was **Sanskrit**, the most important language of ancient India. At first, Sanskrit was only a spoken language. Eventually, however, people figured out how to write it down so they could keep records. These Sanskrit records are a major source of information about Aryan society. Sanskrit is no longer widely spoken today, but it is the root of many modern South Asian languages.

READING CHECK Identifying What source provides much of the information we have about the Aryans?

Aryan Invasions



GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

INTERPRETING MAPS

Movement From which direction did the Aryans come to India?

SUMMARY AND PREVIEW The earliest civilizations in India were centered on the Indus Valley. First the Harappans and then the Aryans lived in this fertile valley. In the next section, you will learn about a new religion that developed in the Indus Valley after the Aryans settled there—Hinduism.

THE IMPACT TODAY

Hindi, the most widely spoken Indian language, is based on Sanskrit.

Section 1 Assessment

go.hrw.com
Online Quiz

KEYWORD: SQ6 HP6

Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People HSS 6.5.1, 6.5.2

- a. Define** What are monsoons?

b. Contrast How does northern India differ from the rest of the region?

c. Elaborate Why is India called a subcontinent?
- a. Recall** Where did Harappan civilization develop?

b. Analyze What is one reason that scholars do not completely understand some important parts of Harappan society?
- a. Identify** Who were the Aryans?

b. Contrast How was Aryan society different from Harappan society?

Critical Thinking

- Categorizing** Draw a diagram like this one. Use it to show how Indian society changed after the Aryan invasion.

India before the invasion

India after the invasion



FOCUS ON WRITING

5. Illustrating Geography and Early Civilizations

This section described two possible topics for your poster: geography and early civilizations. Which of them is more interesting to you? Write down some ideas for a poster about your chosen topic.

Origins of Hinduism

What You Will Learn...

Main Ideas

1. Indian society divided into distinct groups under the Aryans.
2. The Aryans practiced a religion known as Brahmanism.
3. Hinduism developed out of Brahmanism and influences from other cultures.
4. The Jains reacted to Hinduism by breaking away to form their own religion.

The Big Idea

Hinduism, the largest religion in India today, developed out of ancient Indian beliefs and practices.

Key Terms

caste system, p. 151

Hinduism, p. 153

reincarnation, p. 153

karma, p. 154

Jainism, p. 155

nonviolence, p. 155



HSS 6.5.3 Explain the major beliefs and practices of Brahmanism in India and how they evolved into early Hinduism.

6.5.4 Outline the social structure of the caste system.

If YOU were there...

Your family are skillful weavers who make beautiful cotton cloth. You belong to the class in Aryan society who are traders, farmers, and craftspeople. Often the raja of your town leads the warriors into battle. You admire their bravery but know you can never be one of them. To be an Aryan warrior, you must be born into that noble class. Instead, you have your own duty to carry out.

How do you feel about remaining a weaver?

BUILDING BACKGROUND As the Aryans moved into India, they developed a strict system of social classes. As the Aryans' influence spread through India, so did their class system. Before long, this class system was a key part of Indian society.

Indian Society Divides

As Aryan society became more complex, their society became divided into groups. For the most part, these groups were organized by people's occupations. Strict rules developed about how people of different groups could interact. As time passed, these rules became stricter and became central to Indian society.

The Varnas

According to the Vedas, there were four main *varnas*, or social divisions, in Aryan society. These *varnas* were:

- Brahmins (BRAH-muhns), or priests,
- Kshatriyas (KSHA-tree-uhs), or rulers and warriors,
- Vaisyas (VYSH-yuhs), or farmers, craftspeople, and traders, and
- Sudras (SOO-drahs), or laborers and non-Aryans.

The Brahmins were seen as the highest ranking because they performed rituals for the gods. This gave the Brahmins great influence over the other *varnas*.

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The Caste System

As the rules of interaction between *varnas* got stricter, the Aryan social order became more complex. In time, each of the four *varnas* in Aryan society was further divided into many castes, or groups. **This caste system divided Indian society into groups based on a person's birth, wealth, or occupation.** At one time, some 3,000 separate castes existed in India.

The caste to which a person belonged determined his or her place in society. However, this ordering was by no means permanent. Over time, individual castes gained or lost favor in society as caste members gained wealth or power. On rare occasions, people could change caste.

Caste Rules

To keep their classes distinct, the Aryans developed sutras, or guides, which listed all the rules for the caste system. For example, people were not allowed to marry anyone from a different class. It was even forbidden for people from one class to eat with people from another. People who broke the caste rules could be banned from their homes and their castes, which would make them untouchables. Because of these rules, people spent almost all of their time with others in their same class.

READING CHECK Drawing Inferences How did a person become a member of a caste?

The Varnas

QUICK
FACTS

Brahmins
Brahmins were India's priests and were seen as the highest *varna*.



Kshatriyas
Kshatriyas were rulers and warriors.



Vaisyas
Vaisyas were farmers, craftspeople, and traders.



Sudras
Sudras were workers and servants.



ANALYSIS
SKILL

ANALYZING VISUALS

Why do you think priests were at the top of Indian society?

Hindu Deities and Beliefs

Hindus believe in many deities, but they believe that all the deities are aspects of a single universal spirit called Brahman. Three aspects of Brahman are particularly important in Hinduism—Brahma, Siva, and Vishnu.

Major Beliefs of Hinduism

QUICK FACTS

- A universal spirit called Brahman created the universe and everything in it. Everything in the world is just a part of Brahman.
- Every person has a soul or *atman* that will eventually join with Brahman.
- People's souls are reincarnated many times before they can join with Brahman.
- A person's karma affects how he or she will be reincarnated.



The deity Brahma represents the creator aspect of Brahman. His four faces symbolize the four Vedas.

Brahmanism

Religion had been an important part of Aryan life even before the Aryans moved to India. Eventually, in India, religion took on even more meaning. Because Aryan priests were called Brahmins, their religion is often called Brahmanism.

The Vedas

Aryan religion was based on the Vedas. There are four Vedas, each containing sacred texts. The oldest of the Vedas, the *Rigveda*, was probably compiled in the second millennium BC. It includes hymns of praise to many deities. This passage, for example, is the opening of a hymn praising Indra, a deity of the sky and war.

“The one who is first and possessed of wisdom when born; the god who strove to protect the gods with strength; the one before whose force the two worlds were afraid because of the greatness of his virility [power]: he, O people, is Indra.”

—from the *Rigveda*, in *Reading about the World, Volume I*, edited by Paul Briens, et al

Vedic Texts

Over the centuries, Aryan Brahmins wrote down their thoughts about the Vedas. In time these thoughts were compiled into collections called Vedic texts.

One collection of Vedic texts describes Aryan religious rituals. For example, it describes how sacrifices should be performed. Priests placed animals, food, or drinks to be sacrificed in a fire. The Aryans believed that the fire would carry these offerings to the deities.

A second collection of Vedic texts describes secret rituals that only certain people could perform. In fact, the rituals were so secret that they had to be done in the forest, far from other people.

The final group of Vedic texts are the Upanishads (oo-PAHN-ee-shads), most of which were written by about 600 BC. These writings are reflections on the Vedas by religious students and teachers.

READING CHECK **Finding Main Ideas** What are the Vedic texts?



Siva, the destroyer aspect of Brahman, is usually shown with four arms and three eyes. Here he is shown dancing on the back of a demon he has defeated.



Vishnu is the preserver aspect of Brahman. In his four arms, he carries a conch shell, a mace, and a discus, symbols of his power and greatness.

Hinduism Develops

The Vedas, the Upanishads, and the other Vedic texts remained the basis of Indian religion for centuries. Eventually, however, the ideas of these sacred texts began to blend with ideas from other cultures. People from Persia and other kingdoms in Central Asia, for example, brought their ideas to India. In time, this blending of ideas created a religion called **Hinduism**, the largest religion in India today.

Hindu Beliefs

The Hindus believe in many deities. Among them are three major deities: Brahma the Creator, Siva the Destroyer, and Vishnu the Preserver. At the same time, however, Hindus believe that each deity is part of a single universal spirit called Brahman. They believe that Brahman created the world and preserves it. Deities like Brahma, Siva, and Vishnu represent different aspects of Brahman. In fact, Hindus believe that everything in the world is part of Brahman.

Life and Rebirth

According to Hindu teachings, everyone has a soul, or *atman*, inside them. This soul holds the person's personality, the qualities that make them who they are. Hindus believe that a person's ultimate goal should be to reunite that soul with Brahman, the universal spirit.

Hindus believe that their souls will eventually join Brahman because the world we live in is an illusion. Brahman is the only reality. The Upanishads taught that people must try to see through the illusion of the world. Since it is hard to see through illusions, it can take several lifetimes. That is why Hindus believe that souls are born and reborn many times, each time in a new body. This process of rebirth is called **reincarnation**.

THE IMPACT TODAY

More than 800 million people in India practice Hinduism today.

Hinduism and the Caste System

According to the traditional Hindu view of reincarnation, a person who has died is reborn in a new physical form.

The type of form depends upon his or her **karma**, the effects that good or bad actions have on a person's soul. Evil actions during one's life will build bad karma. A person with bad karma will be born into a lower caste or life form.

In contrast, good actions build good karma. People with good karma are born into a higher caste in their next lives. In time, good karma will bring salvation, or freedom from life's worries and the cycle of rebirth. This salvation is called *moksha*.

Hinduism taught that each person had a duty to accept his or her place in the world without complaint. This

is called obeying one's *dharma*. People could build good karma by fulfilling the duties required of their specific caste. Through reincarnation, Hinduism offered rewards to those who lived good lives. Even untouchables could be reborn into a higher caste.

Hinduism was popular at all levels of Hindu society, through all four *varnas*. By teaching people to accept their places in life, Hinduism helped preserve the caste system in India.

READING CHECK Summarizing What determined how a person would be reborn?

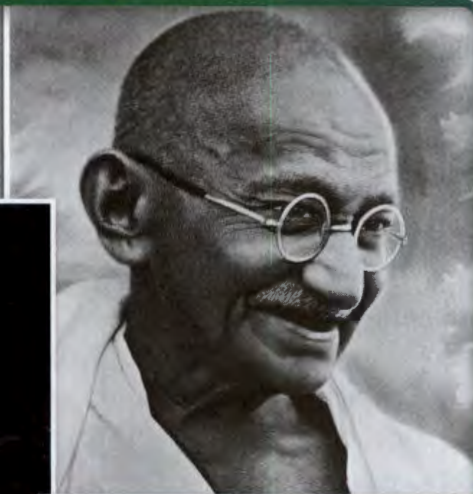
LINKING TO TODAY

Nonviolence

In modern times, nonviolence has been a powerful tool for social protest. Mohandas Gandhi led a long nonviolent struggle against British rule in India. This movement helped India win its independence in 1947. About 10 years later, Martin Luther King Jr. adopted Gandhi's nonviolent methods in his struggle to win civil rights for African Americans. Then, in the 1960s, César Chávez organized a campaign of nonviolence to protest the treatment of farm workers in California. These three leaders proved that people can bring about social change without using violence. As Chávez once explained, "Nonviolence is not inaction. It is not for the timid or the weak. It is hard work. It is the patience to win."



Mohandas Gandhi (top),
Martin Luther King Jr. (above), and
César Chávez (right)



ANALYSIS SKILL

ANALYZING INFORMATION

How did these three leaders prove that nonviolence is a powerful tool for social change?

Jains React to Hinduism

Although Hinduism was widely followed in India, not everyone agreed with its beliefs. Some unsatisfied people and groups looked for new religious ideas. One such group was the Jains (JYNZ), believers in a religion called Jainism (JY-ni-zuhm).

Jainism was based on the teachings of a man named Mahavira. Born into the Kshatriya *varna* around 599 BC, he was unhappy with the control of religion by the Brahmins, whom he thought put too much emphasis on rituals. Mahavira gave up his life of luxury, became a monk, and established the principles of Jainism.

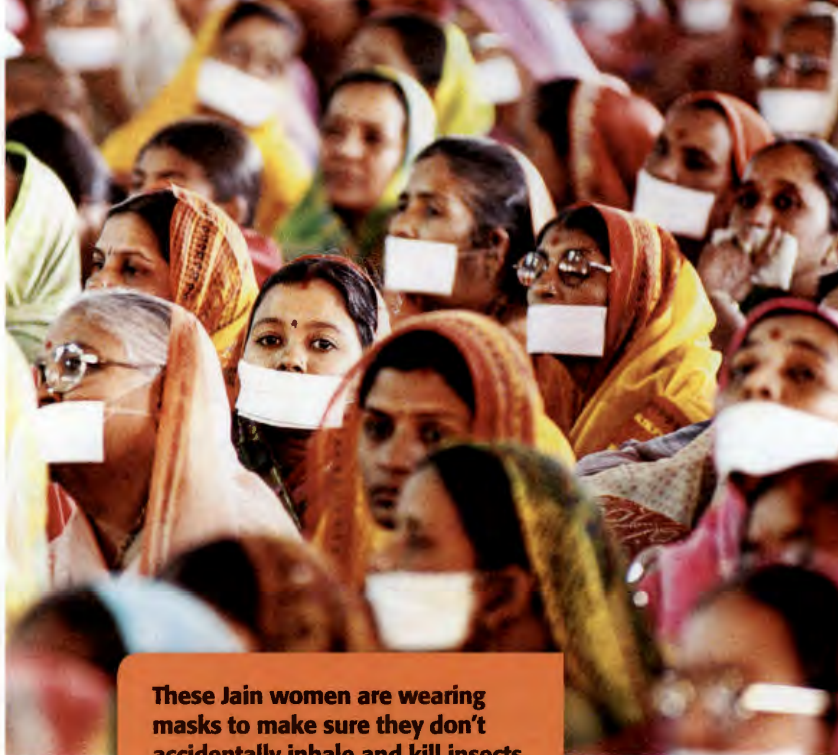
The Jains try to live by four principles: injure no life, tell the truth, do not steal, and own no property. In their efforts not to injure anyone or anything, the Jains practice **nonviolence**, or the avoidance of violent actions. The Sanskrit word for this nonviolence is *ahimsa* (uh-HIM-sah). Many Hindus also practice *ahimsa*.

The Jains' emphasis on nonviolence comes from their belief that everything is alive and part of the cycle of rebirth. Jains are very serious about not injuring or killing any creature—humans, animals, insects, or even plants. They do not believe in animal sacrifice, like the ones the ancient Brahmins performed. Because they don't want to hurt living creatures, Jains are vegetarians. They do not eat any food that comes from animals.

READING CHECK Identifying Points of View

Why do Jains avoid eating meat?

SUMMARY AND PREVIEW You have learned about two religions that developed in India—Hinduism and Jainism. In Section 3, you will learn about another religion that began there—Buddhism.



These Jain women are wearing masks to make sure they don't accidentally inhale and kill insects.

Section 2 Assessment

go.hrw.com
Online Quiz

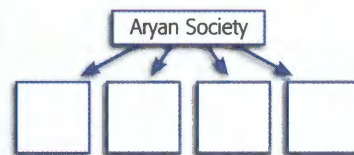
KEYWORD: SQ6 HP6

Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People HSS 6.5.3, 6.5.4

- a. Identify** What is the **caste system**?
b. Explain Why did strict caste rules develop?
- a. Identify** What does the *Rigveda* include?
b. Analyze What role did sacrifice play in Aryan society?
- a. Define** What is **karma**?
b. Sequence How did Brahmanism develop into Hinduism?
c. Elaborate How does Hinduism reinforce followers' willingness to remain within their castes?
- a. Recall** What are the four main teachings of **Jainism**?
b. Predict How do you think the idea of **nonviolence** affected the daily lives of Jains in ancient India?

Critical Thinking

- 5. Categorizing** Draw a graphic organizer like the one shown here. In each box, identify one of the four *varnas* of Aryan society. Below the name, list the people who belonged to that class.



FOCUS ON WRITING

- 6. Illustrating Hinduism** Now you have a new possible topic for your poster. How might you explain a complex religion like Hinduism?

Origins of Buddhism

What You Will Learn...

Main Ideas

1. Siddhartha Gautama searched for wisdom in many ways.
2. The teachings of Buddhism deal with finding peace.
3. Buddhism spread far from where it began in India.

The Big Idea

Buddhism began in India and became a major religion.

Key Terms and People

fasting, p. 157
 meditation, p. 157
 the Buddha, p. 157
 Buddhism, p. 158
 nirvana, p. 158
 missionaries, p. 160



HSS 6.5.5 Know the life and moral teachings of the Buddha and how Buddhism spread in India, Ceylon, and Central Asia.

If YOU were there...

You are a trader traveling in northern India in about 520 BC. As you pass through a town, you see a crowd of people sitting silently in the shade of a huge tree. A man sitting at the foot of the tree begins to speak about how one ought to live. His words are like nothing you have heard from the Hindu priests.

Will you stay to listen? Why or why not?

BUILDING BACKGROUND The Jains were not the only ones to break from Hinduism. In the 500s BC a young Indian prince attracted many people to his teachings about how people should live.

Siddhartha's Search for Wisdom

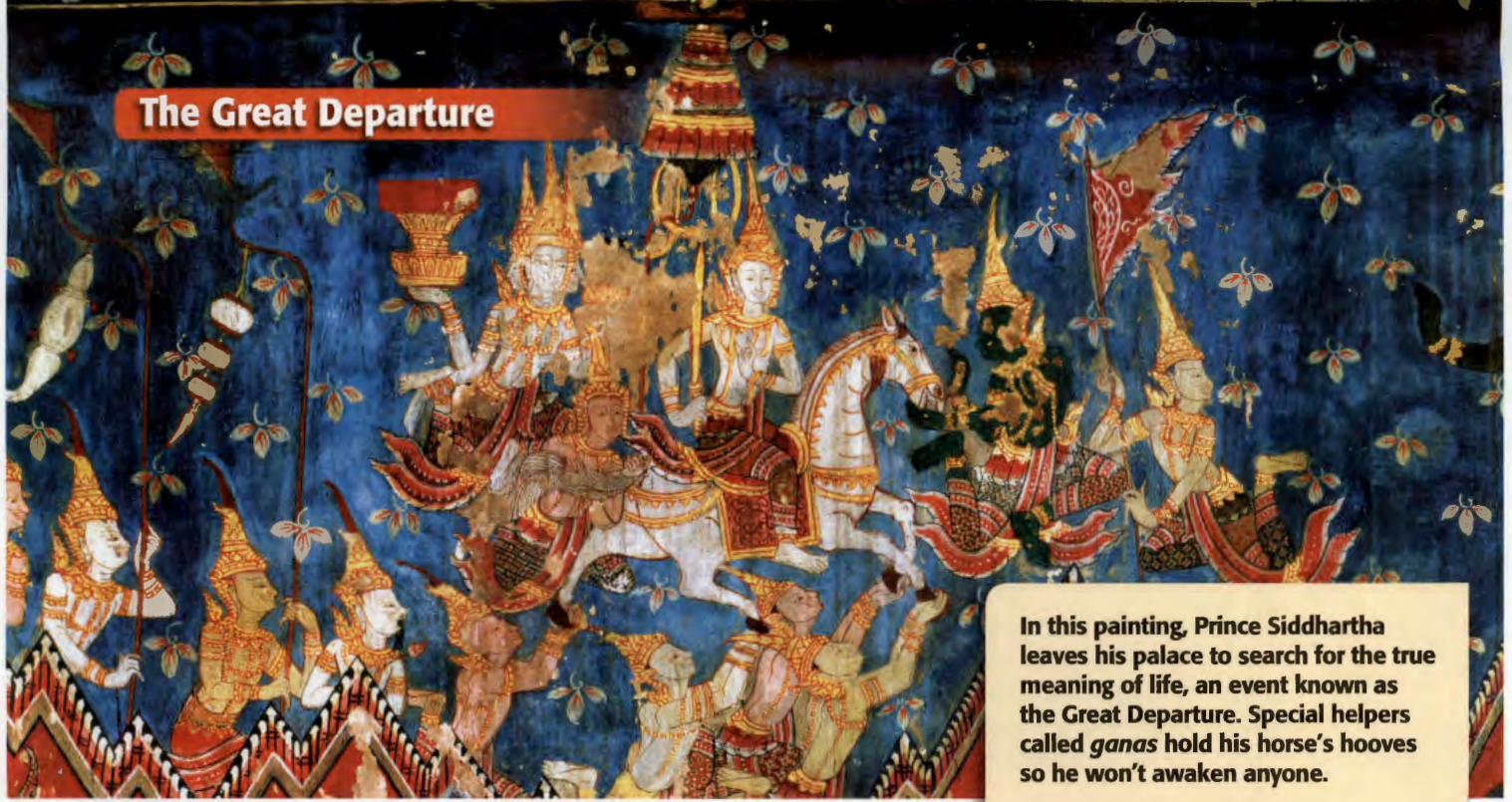
In the late 500s BC a restless young man, dissatisfied with the teachings of Hinduism, began to ask his own questions about life and religious matters. In time, he found answers. These answers attracted many followers, and the young man's ideas became the foundation of a major new religion in India.

The Quest for Answers

The restless young man was Siddhartha Gautama (si-DAHR-tuh GAU-tuh-muh). Born around 563 BC in northern India, near the Himalayas, Siddhartha was a prince who grew up in luxury. Born a Kshatriya, a member of the warrior class, Siddhartha never had to struggle with the problems that many people of his time faced. However, Siddhartha was not satisfied. He felt that something was missing in his life.

Siddhartha looked around him and saw how hard other people had to work and how much they suffered. He saw people grieving for lost loved ones and wondered why there was so much pain in the world. As a result, Siddhartha began to ask questions about the meaning of human life.

The Great Departure



In this painting, Prince Siddhartha leaves his palace to search for the true meaning of life, an event known as the Great Departure. Special helpers called *ganas* hold his horse's hooves so he won't awaken anyone.

Before Siddhartha reached age 30, he left his home and family to look for answers. His journey took him to many regions in India. Wherever he traveled, he had discussions with priests and people known for their wisdom. Yet no one could give convincing answers to Siddhartha's questions.

The Buddha Finds Enlightenment

Siddhartha did not give up. Instead, he became even more determined to find the answers he was seeking. For several years, he wandered in search of answers.

Siddhartha wanted to free his mind from daily concerns. For a while, he did not even wash himself. He also started **fasting, or going without food**. He devoted much of his time to **meditation, the focusing of the mind on spiritual ideas**.

According to legend, Siddhartha spent six years wandering throughout India. He eventually came to a place near the town of Gaya, close to the Ganges River. There, he sat down under a tree and meditated.

After seven weeks of deep meditation, he suddenly had the answers that he had been looking for. He realized that human suffering comes from three things:

- wanting what we like but do not have,
- wanting to keep what we like and already have, and
- not wanting what we dislike but have.

Siddhartha spent seven more weeks meditating under the tree, which his followers later named the Tree of Wisdom. He then described his new ideas to five of his former companions. His followers later called this talk the First Sermon.

Siddhartha Gautama was about 35 years old when he found enlightenment under the tree. From that point on, he would be called **the Buddha** (BOO-duh), or the "Enlightened One." The Buddha spent the rest of his life traveling across northern India and teaching people his ideas.

READING CHECK Summarizing What did the Buddha conclude about the cause of suffering?

THE IMPACT TODAY

Buddhists from all over the world still travel to India to visit the Tree of Wisdom and honor the Buddha.

Teachings of Buddhism

As he traveled, the Buddha gained many followers, especially among India's merchants and artisans. He even taught his views to a few kings. These followers were the first believers in **Buddhism**, a religion based on the teachings of the Buddha.

The Buddha was raised Hindu, and many of his teachings reflected Hindu ideas. Like Hindus, he believed that people should act morally and treat others well. In one of his sermons, he said:

“Let a man overcome anger by love. Let him overcome the greedy by liberality [giving], the liar by truth. This is called progress in the discipline [training] of the Blessed.”

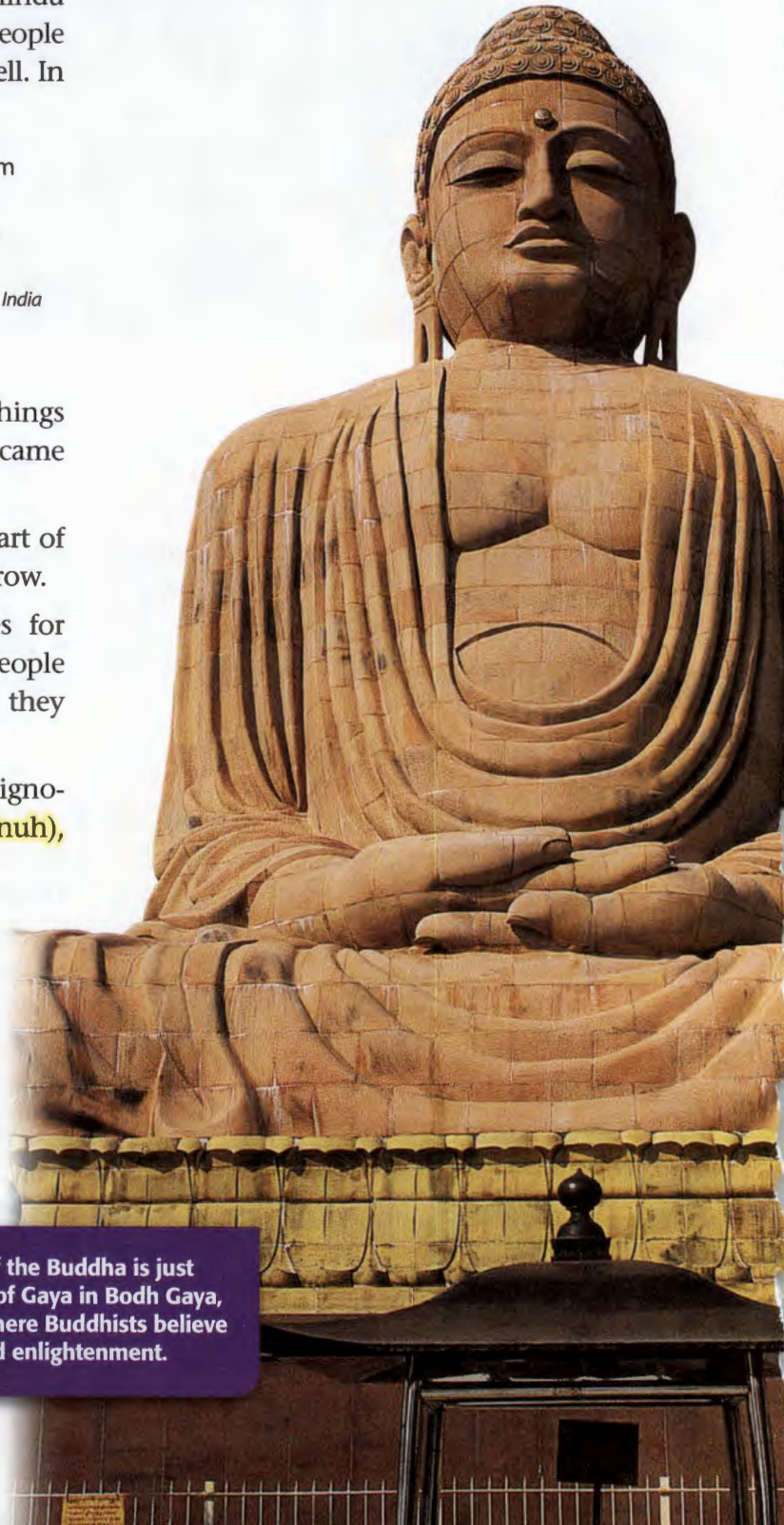
—The Buddha, quoted in *The History of Nations: India*

Four Noble Truths

At the heart of the Buddha's teachings were four guiding principles. These became known as the Four Noble Truths:

1. Suffering and unhappiness are a part of human life. No one can escape sorrow.
2. Suffering comes from our desires for pleasure and material goods. People cause their own misery because they want things they cannot have.
3. People can overcome desire and ignorance and reach **nirvana** (nir-VAH-nuh), a state of perfect peace. Reaching nirvana frees the soul from suffering and from the need for further reincarnation.
4. People can overcome ignorance and desire by following an eightfold path that leads to wisdom, enlightenment, and salvation.

The chart on the next page shows the steps in the Eightfold Path. The Buddha believed that this path was a middle way between human desires and denying oneself any pleasure. He believed that people should overcome their desire for material goods. They should, however, be reasonable, and not starve their bodies or cause themselves unnecessary pain.



This giant statue of the Buddha is just south of the town of Gaya in Bodhi Gaya, India—the place where Buddhists believe Siddhartha reached enlightenment.

The Eightfold Path

QUICK FACTS



1 Right Thought

Believe in the nature of existence as suffering and in the Four Noble Truths.



2 Right Intent

Incline toward goodness and kindness.



3 Right Speech

Avoid lies and gossip.



4 Right Action

Don't steal from or harm others.



5 Right Livelihood

Reject work that hurts others.



6 Right Effort

Prevent evil and do good.



7 Right Mindfulness

Control your feelings and thoughts.



8 Right Concentration

Practice proper meditation.

Challenging Hindu Ideas

Some of the Buddha's teachings challenged traditional Hindu ideas. For example, the Buddha rejected many of the ideas contained in the Vedas, such as animal sacrifice. He told people that they did not have to follow these texts.

The Buddha challenged the authority of the Hindu priests, the Brahmins. He did not believe that they or their rituals were necessary for enlightenment. Instead, he taught that it was the responsibility of each individual to work for his or her own salvation. Priests could not help them. However, the Buddha did not reject the Hindu teaching of reincarnation. He taught that people who failed to reach nirvana would have to be reborn time and time again until they achieved it.

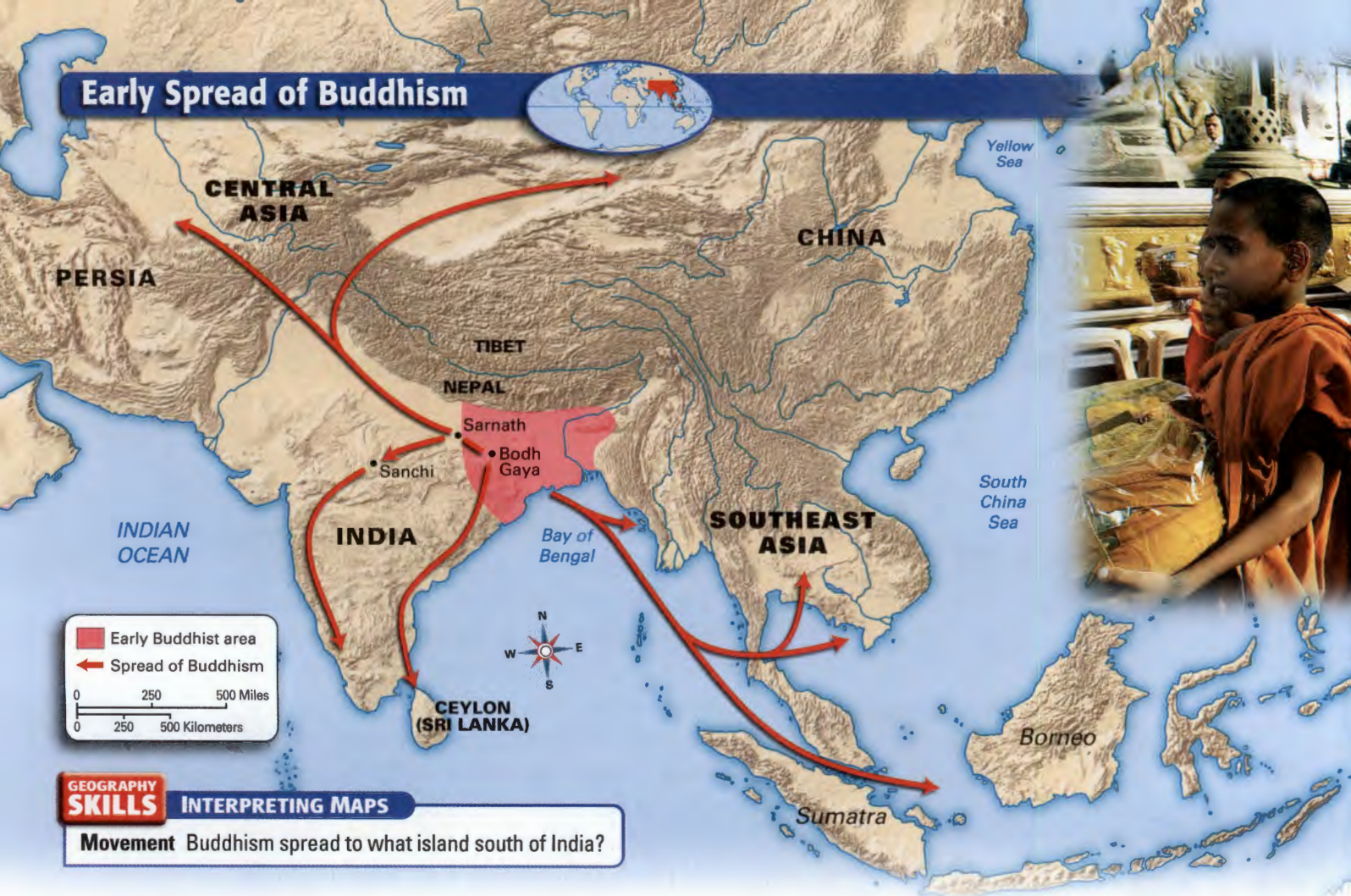
The Buddha was opposed to the caste system. He didn't think that people should be confined to a particular place in society. Everyone who followed the Eightfold Path properly, he said, would achieve nirvana. It didn't matter what *varna* or caste they had belonged to in life as long as they lived the way they should.

The Buddha's opposition to the caste system won him support from the masses. Many of India's herdsmen, farmers, artisans, and untouchables liked hearing that their low social rank would not be a barrier to enlightenment. Unlike Hinduism, Buddhism made them feel that they had the power to change their lives.

The Buddha also gained followers among the higher classes. Many rich and powerful Indians welcomed his ideas about avoiding extreme behavior while seeking salvation. By the time of his death around 483 BC, the Buddha's influence was spreading rapidly throughout India.

READING CHECK **Comparing** How did Buddha's teachings agree with Hinduism?

Early Spread of Buddhism



Buddhism Spreads

Buddhism continued to attract followers after the Buddha's death. After spreading through India, the religion began to spread to other areas as well.

Buddhism Spreads in India

According to Buddhist tradition, 500 of the Buddha's followers gathered together shortly after he died. They wanted to make sure that the Buddha's teachings were remembered correctly.

In the years after this council, the Buddha's followers spread his teachings throughout India. The ideas spread very quickly, because Buddhist teachings were popular and easy to understand. Within 200 years of the Buddha's death, his teachings had spread through most of India.

Buddhism Spreads Beyond India

The spread of Buddhism increased after one of the most powerful kings in India, Asoka, became Buddhist in the 200s BC. Once he converted, he built Buddhist temples and schools throughout India. More importantly, though, he worked to spread Buddhism into areas outside of India. You will learn more about Asoka and his accomplishments in the next section.

Asoka sent Buddhist **missionaries**, or people who work to spread their religious beliefs, to other kingdoms in Asia. One group of these missionaries sailed to the island of Sri Lanka around 251 BC. Others followed trade routes east to what is now Myanmar and to other parts of Southeast Asia. Missionaries also went north to areas near the Himalayas.



Young Buddhist students carry gifts in Sri Lanka, one of the many places outside of India where Buddhism spread.

Missionaries also introduced Buddhism to lands west of India. They founded Buddhist communities in Central Asia and Persia. They even taught about Buddhism as far away as Syria and Egypt.

Buddhism continued to grow over the centuries. Eventually it spread via the Silk Road into China, then Korea and Japan. Through their work, missionaries taught Buddhism to millions of people.

A Split within Buddhism

Even as Buddhism spread through Asia, however, it began to change. Not all Buddhists could agree on their beliefs and practices. Eventually disagreements between Buddhists led to a split within the religion. Two major branches of Buddhism were created—Theravada and Mahayana.

Members of the Theravada branch tried to follow the Buddha's teachings exactly as he had stated them. Mahayana Buddhists, though, believed that other people could interpret the Buddha's teachings to help people reach nirvana. Both branches have millions of believers today, but Mahayana is by far the larger branch.

READING CHECK Sequencing How did Buddhism spread from India to other parts of Asia?

SUMMARY AND PREVIEW Buddhism, one of India's major religions, grew more popular once it was adopted by rulers of India's great empires. You will learn more about those empires in the next section.

Section 3 Assessment

go.hrw.com
Online Quiz

KEYWORD: SQ6 HP6

Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People HSS 6.5.5

- a. Identify** Who was the **Buddha**, and what does the term *Buddha* mean?
b. Summarize How did Siddhartha Gautama free his mind and clarify his thinking as he searched for wisdom?
- a. Identify** What is **nirvana**?
b. Contrast How are Buddhist teachings different from Hindu teachings?
c. Elaborate Why do Buddhists believe that following the Eightfold Path leads to a better life?
- a. Describe** Into what lands did **Buddhism** spread?
b. Summarize What role did **missionaries** play in spreading Buddhism?

Critical Thinking

- Summarizing** Draw a diagram like the one shown here. Use it to identify and describe the Four Noble Truths as taught by the Buddha.

1.	2.
3.	4.

FOCUS ON WRITING

- Considering Indian Religions** Look back over what you've just read and the notes you took about Hinduism earlier. Perhaps you will want to focus your poster on ancient India's two major religions. Think about how you could design a poster around this theme.

Indian Empires

What You Will Learn...

Main Ideas

1. The Mauryan Empire unified most of India.
2. Gupta rulers promoted Hinduism in their empire.

The Big Idea

The Mauryas and the Guptas built great empires in India.

Key People

Chandragupta Maurya, p. 162

Asoka, p. 163

Chandragupta II, p. 164

If YOU were there...

You are a merchant in India in about 240 BC. You travel from town to town on your donkey, carrying bolts of colorful cloth. In the heat of summer, you are grateful for the banyan trees along the road. They shelter you from the blazing sun. You stop at wells for cool drinks of water and rest houses for a break in your journey. You know these are all the work of your king, Asoka.

How do you feel about your king?

BUILDING BACKGROUND For centuries after the Aryan invasion, India was divided into small states. Each state had its own ruler and India had no central government. Then, in the 300s BC, a foreign conqueror, Alexander the Great, took over part of northwestern India. His armies soon left, but his influence continued to affect Indian society. Inspired by Alexander's example, a strong leader soon united India for the first time.

Mauryan Empire Unifies India

In the 320s BC a military leader named **Chandragupta Maurya** (kuhn-druh-GOOP-tuh MOUR-yuh) seized control of the entire northern part of India. By doing so, he founded the Mauryan Empire. Mauryan rule lasted for about 150 years.

The Mauryan Empire

Chandragupta Maurya ruled his empire with the help of a complex government. It included a network of spies and a huge army of some 600,000 soldiers. The army also had thousands of war elephants and thousands of chariots. In return for the army's protection, farmers paid a heavy tax to the government.

In 301 BC Chandragupta decided to become a Jainist monk. To do so, he had to give up his throne. He passed the throne to his son, who continued to expand the empire. Before long, the Mauryas ruled all of northern India and much of central India as well.



HSS 6.5.6 Describe the growth of the Maurya Empire and the political and moral achievements of the emperor Asoka.



Asoka

Around 270 BC Chandragupta's grandson **Asoka** (uh-SOH-kuh) became king. Asoka was a strong ruler, the strongest of all the Mauryan emperors. He extended Mauryan rule over most of India. In conquering other kingdoms, Asoka made his own empire both stronger and richer.

For many years, Asoka watched his armies fight bloody battles against other peoples. A few years into his rule, however, Asoka converted to Buddhism. When he did, he swore that he would not launch any more wars of conquest.

After converting to Buddhism, Asoka had the time and resources to improve the lives of his people. He had wells dug and roads built throughout the empire. Along these roads, workers planted shade trees

and built rest houses for weary travelers. He also encouraged the spread of Buddhism in India and the rest of Asia. As you read in the previous section, he sent missionaries to lands all over Asia.

Asoka died in 233 BC, and the empire began to fall apart soon afterward. His sons fought each other for power, and invaders threatened the empire. In 184 BC the last Mauryan king was killed by one of his own generals. India divided into smaller states once again.

FOCUS ON READING

What can you infer about the religious beliefs of Asoka's sons?

READING CHECK Finding Main Ideas How did the Mauryans gain control of most of India?

Mauryan Empire, c. 320–185 BC



Mauryan troops used war elephants in battle, striking fear in their enemies. As the elephants charged forward into battle, soldiers on top hurled spears at their enemies.



GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

INTERPRETING MAPS

Place Which cities were part of the Mauryan Empire?

Gupta Rulers Promote Hinduism

After the collapse of the Mauryan Empire, India remained divided for about 500 years. During that time, Buddhism continued to prosper and spread in India, and so the popularity of Hinduism declined.

A New Hindu Empire

Eventually, however, a new dynasty was **established** in India. It was the Gupta (GOOP-tuh) Dynasty, which took over India around AD 320. Under the Guptas, India was once again united, and it once again became prosperous.

ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

establish to set up or create

The first Gupta emperor was Chandragupta I. Although their names are similar, he was not related to Chandragupta Maurya. From his base in northern India, Chandragupta's armies invaded and conquered neighboring lands. Eventually he brought much of the northern part of India under his control.

Indian civilization flourished under the Gupta rulers. These rulers were Hindu, so Hinduism became India's major religion. The Gupta kings built many Hindu temples, some of which became models for later Indian architecture. They also promoted a revival of Hindu writings and worship practices.

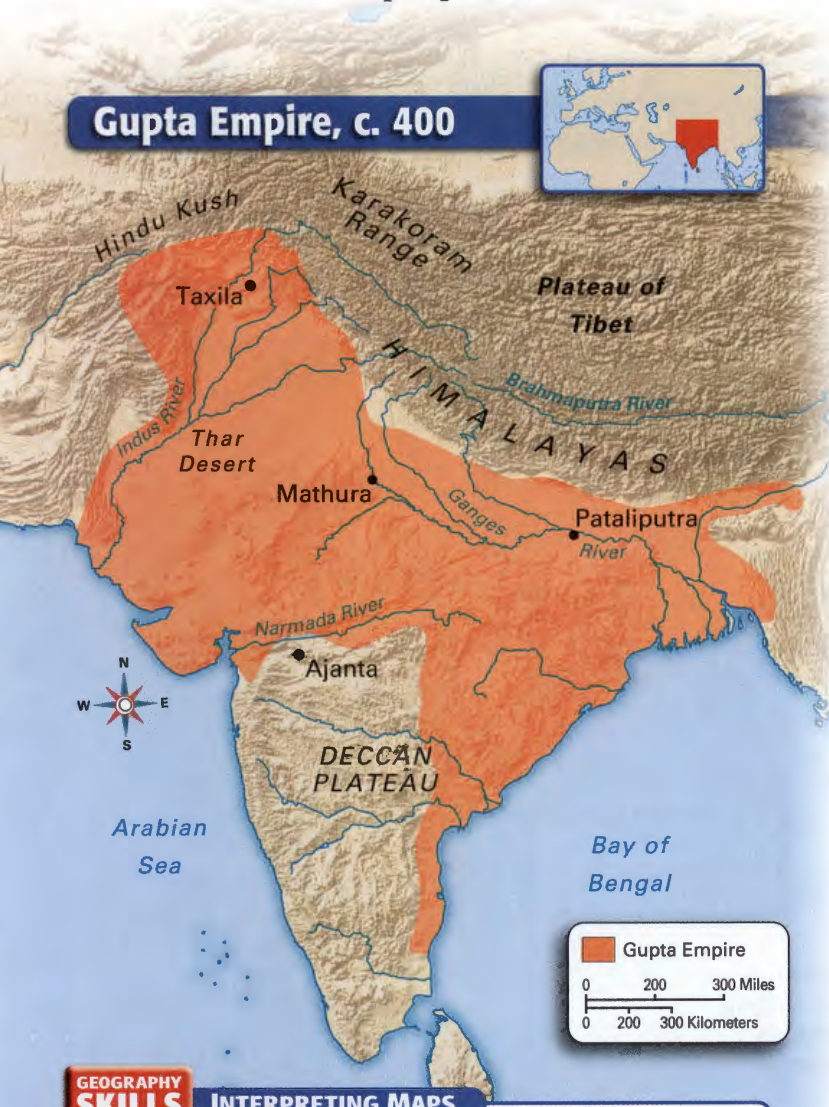
Although they were Hindus, the Gupta rulers also supported the religious beliefs of Buddhism and Jainism. They promoted Buddhist art and built Buddhist temples. They also established a university at Nalanda that became one of Asia's greatest centers for Buddhist studies.

Gupta Society

In 375 Emperor **Chandragupta II** took the throne in India. Gupta society reached its high point during his rule. Under Chandragupta II, the empire continued to grow, eventually stretching all the way across northern India. At the same time, the empire's economy strengthened, and people prospered. They created fine works of art and literature. Outsiders admired the empire's wealth and beauty.

Gupta kings believed the social order of the Hindu caste system would strengthen their rule. They also thought it would keep the empire stable. As a result, the Guptas considered the caste system an important part of Indian society.

This was not good news for women, whose roles were limited by caste rules. Brahmins taught that a woman's role was to marry and have children. Women couldn't even choose their own husbands.



GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

INTERPRETING MAPS

Region What region of India was not part of the Gupta Empire?



Gupta Art
This Gupta painting of a palace scene shows some of India's different castes. Gupta rulers supported Hinduism and the caste system.

Parents arranged all marriages. Once married, wives had few rights. They were expected to serve their husbands. Widows had an even lower social status than other women.

Gupta rule remained strong in India until the late 400s. At that time the Huns, a group from Central Asia, invaded India from the northwest. Their fierce attacks drained the Gupta Empire of its power and wealth. As the Hun armies marched farther into India, the Guptas lost hope.

By the middle of the 500s, Gupta rule had ended, and India had divided into small kingdoms yet again.

READING CHECK Summarizing What was the Gupta Dynasty's position on religion?

SUMMARY AND PREVIEW The Mauryas and Guptas united much of India in their empires. Next you will learn about their many achievements.

Section 4 Assessment

go.hrw.com
Online Quiz
KEYWORD: SQ6 HP6

Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People HSS 6.5.6

- 1. a. **Identify** Who created the Mauryan Empire?
b. **Summarize** What happened after Asoka became a Buddhist?
c. **Elaborate** Why do you think many people consider Asoka the greatest of all Mauryan rulers?
- 2. a. **Recall** What religion did most of the Gupta rulers belong to?
b. **Compare and Contrast** How were the rulers Chandragupta Maurya and Chandragupta I alike, and how were they different?
c. **Evaluate** Do you think the Gupta enforcement of caste rules was a good thing? Why or why not?

Critical Thinking

- 3. **Categorizing**
Draw a chart like this one. Fill it with information about India's rulers.

Ruler	Dynasty	Accomplishments

FOCUS ON WRITING

- 4. **Comparing Indian Empires** Another possible topic for your poster would be a comparison of the Maurya and Gupta empires. Make a chart in your notebook that shows such a comparison.

Asoka

How can one decision change a man's entire life?

When did he live? before 230 BC

Where did he live? Asoka's empire included much of northern and central India.

What did he do? After fighting many bloody wars to expand his empire, Asoka gave up violence and converted to Buddhism.

Why is he important? Asoka is one of the most respected rulers in Indian history and one of the most important figures in the history of Buddhism. As a devout Buddhist, Asoka worked to spread the Buddha's teachings. In addition to sending missionaries around Asia, he built huge columns carved with Buddhist teachings all over India. Largely through his efforts, Buddhism became one of Asia's main religions.

Generalizing How did Asoka's life change after he became Buddhist?

KEY EVENTS

- **c. 270 BC** Asoka becomes the Mauryan emperor.
- **c. 261 BC** Asoka's empire reaches its greatest size.
- **c. 261 BC** Asoka becomes a Buddhist.
- **c. 251 BC** Asoka begins to send Buddhist missionaries to other parts of Asia.



This Buddhist shrine, located in Sanchi, India, was built by Asoka.



Indian Achievements

SECTION

5

If YOU were there...

You are a traveler in western India in the 300s. You are visiting a cave temple that is carved into a mountain cliff. Inside the cave it is cool and quiet. Huge columns rise all around you. You don't feel you're alone, for the walls and ceilings are covered with paintings. They are filled with lively scenes and figures. In the center is a large statue with calm, peaceful features.

How does this cave make you feel?

BUILDING BACKGROUND The Mauryan and Gupta empires united most of India politically. During these empires, Indian artists, writers, scholars, and scientists made great advances. Some of their works are still studied and admired today.

Religious Art

The Indians of the Maurya and Gupta periods created great works of art, many of them religious. Many of their paintings and sculptures illustrated either Hindu and Buddhist teachings. Magnificent temples—both Hindu and Buddhist—were built all around India. They remain some of the most beautiful buildings in the world today.

Temples

Early Hindu temples were small stone structures. They had flat roofs and contained only one or two rooms. In the Gupta period, though, temple architecture became more complex. Gupta temples were topped by huge towers and were covered with carvings of the god worshipped inside.

Buddhist temples of the Gupta period are also impressive. Some Buddhists carved entire temples out of mountainsides. The most famous such temple is at Ajanta. Its builders filled the caves with beautiful wall paintings and sculpture.

What You Will Learn...

Main Ideas

1. Indian artists created great works of religious art.
2. Sanskrit literature flourished during the Gupta period.
3. The Indians made scientific advances in metalworking, medicine, and other sciences.

The Big Idea

The people of ancient India made great contributions to the arts and sciences.

Key Terms

metallurgy, p. 170

alloys, p. 170

Hindu-Arabic numerals, p. 170

inoculation, p. 170

astronomy, p. 171



HSS 6.5.7 Discuss important aesthetic and intellectual traditions (e.g., Sanskrit literature, including the *Bhagavad Gita*; medicine; metallurgy; and mathematics, including Hindu-Arabic numerals and the zero).

Temple Architecture



This Hindu temple is covered with incredibly detailed carvings and decorations. Many individual sculptures are images of important Hindu deities, like the deity of Vishnu above.

Another type of Buddhist temple was the stupa. Stupas had domed roofs and were built to house sacred items from the life of the Buddha. Many of them were covered with detailed carvings.

Paintings and Sculpture

The Gupta period also saw the creation of great works of art, both paintings and statues. Painting was a greatly respected profession, and India was home to many skilled artists. However, we don't know the names of many artists from this period. Instead, we know the names of many rich and powerful members of Gupta society who paid artists to create works of beauty and significance.

Most Indian paintings from the Gupta period are clear and colorful. Some of them show graceful Indians wearing fine jewelry and stylish clothes. Such paintings offer us a glimpse of the Indians' daily and ceremonial lives.

Artists from both of India's major religions, Hinduism and Buddhism, drew on their beliefs to create their works. As a result, many of the finest paintings of ancient India are found in temples. Hindu painters drew hundreds of deities on temple walls and entrances. Buddhists covered the walls and ceilings of temples with scenes from the life of the Buddha.

Indian sculptors also created great works. Many of their statues were made for Buddhist cave temples. In addition to the temples' intricately carved columns, sculptors carved statues of kings and the Buddha. Some of these statues tower over the cave entrances. Hindu temples also featured impressive statues of their deities. In fact, the walls of some temples, such as the one pictured above, were completely covered with carvings and images.

READING CHECK Summarizing How did religion influence ancient Indian art?

Sanskrit Literature

As you read earlier, Sanskrit was the main language of the ancient Aryans. During the Maurya and Gupta periods, many works of Sanskrit literature were created. These works were later translated into many other languages.

Sacred Texts

The greatest of these Sanskrit writings are two sacred texts, the *Mahabharata* (muh-HAH-BAH-ruh-tuh) and the *Ramayana* (rah-MAH-yuh-nuh). Still popular in India, the *Mahabharata* is one of the world's longest sacred texts. It tells of the struggle between two families for control of a kingdom. Included within it are many long passages about Hindu beliefs. The most famous is called the *Bhagavad Gita* (BUG-uh-vuhd GEE-tah).

The *Ramayana*, according to Hindu tradition written prior to the *Mahabharata*, tells about a prince named Rama. In truth, the prince was the deity Vishnu in human form. He had become human so he could rid the world of demons. He also had to rescue his wife, a princess named Sita. For centuries, the characters of the *Ramayana* have been seen as models for how Indians should behave. For example, Rama is seen as the ideal ruler, and his relationship with Sita as the ideal marriage.

Other Works

Writers in the Gupta period also created plays, poetry, and other types of literature. One famous writer of this time was Kalidasa (kahl-ee-DAHS-uh). His work was so brilliant that Chandragupta II hired him to write plays for the royal court.

Sometime before 500, Indian writers also produced a book of stories called the *Panchatantra* (PUHN-chuh-TAHN-truh). The stories in this collection were intended to teach lessons. They praise people for cleverness and quick thinking. Each story ends with a message about winning friends, losing property, waging war, or some other idea. For example, the message below warns listeners to think about what they are doing before they act.

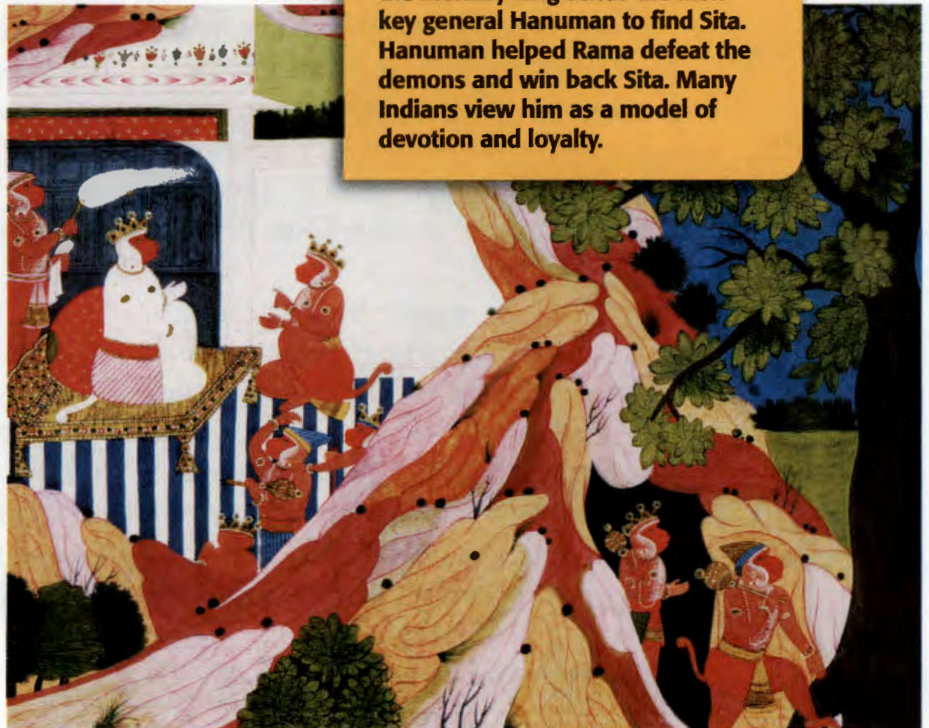
“The good and bad of given schemes
Wise thought must first reveal:
The stupid heron saw his chicks
Provide a mongoose meal.”

—from the *Panchatantra*, translated
by Arthur William Ryder

Eventually, translations of this collection spread throughout the world. It became popular even as far away as Europe.

READING CHECK **Categorizing** What types of literature did writers of ancient India create?

In this illustration of the *Ramayana*, the monkey king sends the monkey general Hanuman to find Sita. Hanuman helped Rama defeat the demons and win back Sita. Many Indians view him as a model of devotion and loyalty.



Indian Science



Medicine

In this modern painting, the Indian surgeon Susruta performs surgery on a patient. The ancient Indians had an advanced knowledge of medicine.

Metalworking

The Indians were expert metalworkers. This gold coin shows the emperor Chandragupta.



Scientific Advances

Indian achievements were not limited to art, architecture, and literature. Indian scholars also made important advances in metalworking, math, and the sciences.

Metalworking

The ancient Indians were pioneers of **metallurgy** (MET-uhl-uhr-jee), the science of working with metals. Their knowledge allowed them to create high-quality tools and weapons. The Indians also knew **processes** for mixing metals to create **alloys**, mixtures of two or more metals. Alloys are sometimes stronger or easier to work with than pure metals.

Metalworkers made their strongest products out of iron. Indian iron was very hard and pure. These features made the iron a valuable trade item.

During the Gupta Dynasty, metalworkers built the famous Iron Pillar near Delhi. Unlike most iron, which rusts easily, this pillar is very resistant to rust. The tall column still attracts crowds of visitors. Scholars study this column even today to learn the Indians' secrets.

ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

process a series of steps by which a task is accomplished

THE IMPACT TODAY

People still get inoculations against many diseases.

Mathematics and Other Sciences

Gupta scholars also made advances in math and science. In fact, they were among the most advanced mathematicians of their day. They developed many elements of our modern math system. The very numbers we use today are called **Hindu-Arabic numerals** because they were created by Indian scholars and brought to Europe by Arabs. The Indians were also the first people to create the zero. Although it may seem like a small thing, modern math wouldn't be possible without the zero.

The ancient Indians were also very skilled in the medical sciences. As early as the AD 100s, doctors were writing their knowledge down in textbooks. Among the skills these books describe is making medicines from plants and minerals.

Besides curing people with medicines, Indian doctors knew how to protect people against disease. The Indians practiced **inoculation** (i-nah-kyuh-LAY-shuhn), or injecting a person with a small dose of a virus to help him or her build up defenses to a disease. By fighting off this small dose, the body learns to protect itself.



Mathematics

This book is a copy of an ancient one from about AD 500 that summarized Indian knowledge of mathematics. It discussed basic arithmetic, fractions, and a counting system.

For people who were injured, Indian doctors could perform surgery. Surgeons repaired broken bones, treated wounds, removed infected tonsils, reconstructed broken noses, and even reattached torn earlobes! If they could find no other cure for an illness, doctors would cast magic spells to help people recover.

Indian interest in **astronomy**, the study of stars and planets, dates back to early times as well. Indian astronomers knew of seven of the nine planets in our solar system. They knew that the sun was a star and that the planets revolved around it. They also knew that the earth was a sphere and that it rotated on its axis. In addition, they could predict eclipses of the sun and the moon.

READING CHECK **Finding Main Ideas** What were two Indian achievements in mathematics?

SUMMARY AND PREVIEW From a group of cities on the Indus River, India grew into a major empire whose people made great achievements. In the next chapter, you'll read about another civilization that experienced similar growth—China.

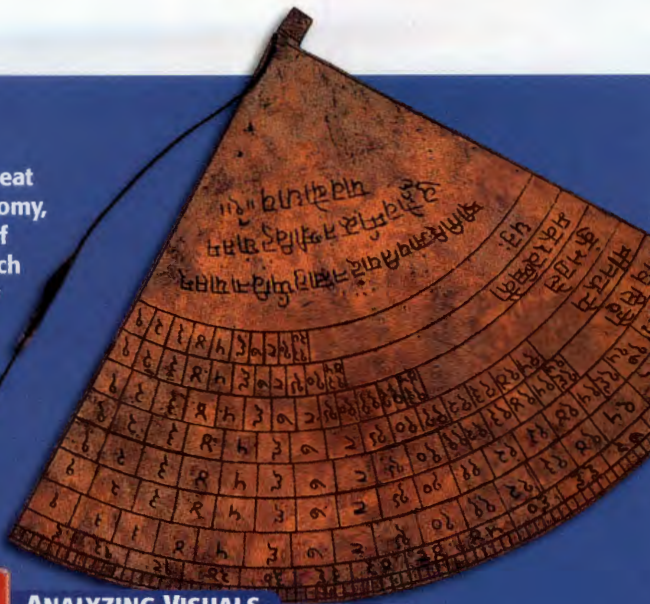
Astronomy

The Gupta made great advances in astronomy, despite their lack of modern devices such as telescopes. They used devices like this one from the 1700s to observe and map the stars.

ANALYSIS SKILL

ANALYZING VISUALS

What are some areas of science that people studied in ancient India?



Section 5 Assessment

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Online Quiz

KEYWORD: SQ6 HP6

Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People HSS 6.5.7

- a. Describe** What did Hindu temples of the Gupta period look like?
 b. Analyze How can you tell that Indian artists were well respected?
 c. Evaluate Why do you think Hindu and Buddhist temples contained great works of art?
- a. Identify** What is the *Bhagavad Gita*?
 b. Explain Why were the stories of the *Panchatantra* written?
 c. Elaborate Why do you think people are still interested in ancient Sanskrit epics today?
- a. Define** What is **metallurgy**?
 b. Explain Why do we call the numbers we use today **Hindu-Arabic numerals**?

Critical Thinking

- 4. Categorizing** Draw a chart like the one below. Use it to identify ancient Indian achievements in math and science.

Metallurgy	Math	Medicine	Astronomy

FOCUS ON WRITING

- 5. Highlighting Indian Achievements** Make a list of Indian achievements that you could include on a poster. Now look back through your notes from this chapter. Which will you choose as the subject of your poster?

from the Bhagavad Gita

GUIDED READING

WORD HELP

lapses breaks
serenity peace
reason thinking
discipline self control

1 Krishna says that people need to give up the desire for possessions to find peace.

What does Krishna say comes with peace?



HSS 6.5.7 Discuss important aesthetic and intellectual traditions (e.g., Sanskrit literature, including the *Bhagavad Gita*; medicine; metallurgy; and mathematics, including Hindu-Arabic numerals and the zero).

ELA 3.3.4 Define how tone or meaning is conveyed in poetry through word choice, figurative language, sentence structure, line length, punctuation, rhythm, repetition, and rhyme.

translated by Barbara Stoler Miller

About the Reading *The Bhagavad Gita, one of Hinduism's most sacred texts, is part of the much longer epic called the Mahabharata. The title Bhagavad Gita is Sanskrit for "Song of the Lord." The lord to which the title refers is Krishna, who is the deity Vishnu in human form. The Gita, as the poem is sometimes known, is written as a conversation between Krishna and a prince named Arjuna. Faced with a battle in which he will have to fight many of his friends and family members, Arjuna turns to Krishna for advice. As part of his response, Krishna explains to Arjuna how a soul can find peace and eternal happiness.*

AS YOU READ Think about the meaning behind Krishna's advice to Arjuna.

From anger comes confusion;
from confusion memory lapses;
from broken memory understanding is lost;
from loss of understanding, he is ruined.

But a man of inner strength
whose senses experience objects
without attraction and hatred,
in self control, finds serenity. **1**

In serenity, all his sorrows
dissolve;
his reason becomes serene,
his understanding sure.

Without discipline,
he has no understanding or inner power;
without inner power, he has no peace;
and without peace where is joy?

If his mind submits to the play
of the senses,
they drive away insight,
as wind drives a ship on water. **2**

So, Great Warrior, when withdrawal
of the senses
from sense objects is complete,
discernment is firm.

When it is night for all creatures,
a master of restraint is awake;
when they are awake, it is night
for the sage who sees reality. **3**

As the mountainous depths
of the ocean
are unmoved when waters
rush into it,
so the man unmoved
when desires enter into him
attains a peace that eludes
the man of many desires. **4**

When he renounces all desires
and acts without craving,
possessiveness,
or individuality, he finds peace.

This is the place of the infinite spirit;
achieving it, one is freed from delusion;
abiding in it even at the time of death,
one finds the pure calm of infinity.



This painting from the 1700s shows Hindu women entering a forest on their way to meet Krishna.

GUIDED READING

WORD HELP

insight understanding;
wisdom

discernment understanding
restraint holding back; self
control

sage wise person

eludes escapes

renounces gives up

craving longing, wanting

delusion false belief

2 Just as the wind pushes a ship along the water, Krishna says, the desire for objects pushes away peace and understanding of the world.

3 Krishna says that people seeking peace should be more comfortable at night, because the senses are less active then than during the day.

4 Just as the ocean doesn't change when water rushes into it, people shouldn't be changed by desires.

What does Krishna say will be the reward for people without many desires?

CONNECTING SACRED TEXTS TO HISTORY

1. Analyzing Hindus believe that the world is an illusion that people must see through to be united with Brahman. How is this idea supported by Krishna's discussion of how to find peace?

2. Comparing Krishna says the people who find peace will reach the "place of infinite spirit" and find the "pure calm of infinity." How does this idea compare to the Buddhist concept of nirvana?

Social Studies Skills

Analysis

Critical Thinking

Participation

Study

Interpreting Diagrams

Understand the Skill

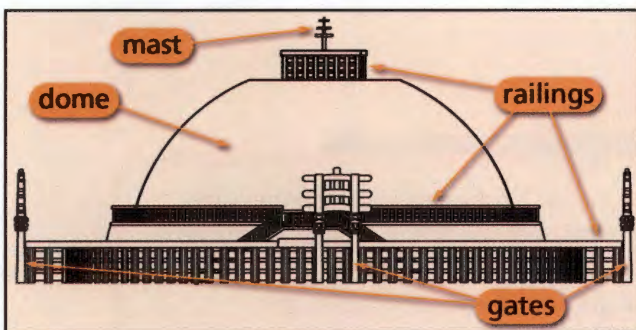
Diagrams are drawings that illustrate or explain objects or ideas. Different types of diagrams have different purposes. The ability to interpret diagrams will help you to better understand historical objects, their functions, and how they worked.

Learn the Skill

Use these guidelines to interpret a diagram:

- 1 Read the diagram's title or caption to find out what it represents. If a legend is present, study it as well to understand any symbols and colors in the diagram.
- 2 Most diagrams include labels that identify the object's parts or explain relationships between them. Study these parts and labels carefully.
- 3 If any written information or explanation accompanies the diagram, compare it to the drawing as you read.

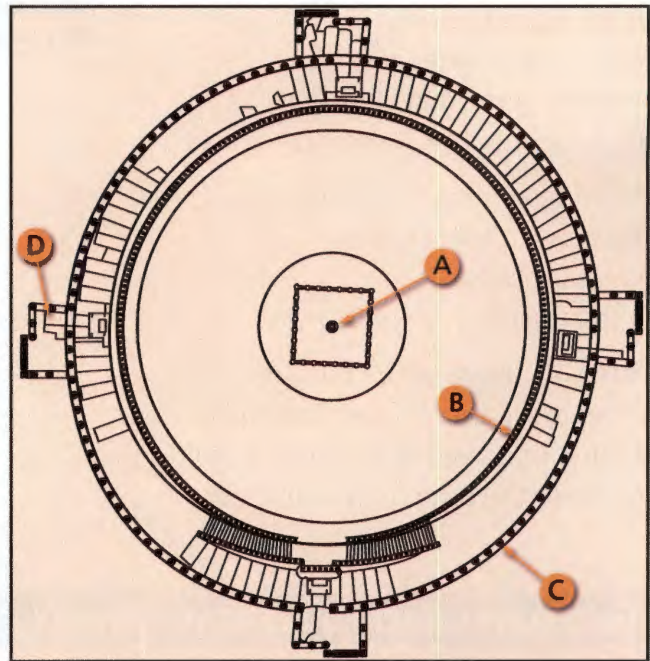
The diagram below is of the Great Stupa at Sanchi in India, which is thought to contain the Buddha's remains. Like most stupas, it was shaped like a dome.



The Sanchi stupa is surrounded by a stone railing with four gates called *torenas*. About halfway up the side of the mound is a second railing next to a walkway. Worshippers move along this walkway in a clockwise direction to honor the Buddha. The stupa is topped by a cube called the *harmika*. Rising from the harmika is a mast or spire. These parts and their shapes all have religious meaning for Buddhists.

Practice and Apply the Skill

Here is another diagram of the Sanchi stupa. Interpret both diagrams on this page to answer the questions that follow.



1. Which letter in this diagram labels the *torenas*?
2. What part of the stupa does the letter A label?
3. The walkway and railing are labeled by which letter?

Visual
Summary

Use the visual summary below to help you review the main ideas of the chapter.

QUICK
FACTS

The Harappan civilization began in the Indus River Valley.



Hinduism and Buddhism both developed in India.



Indians made great advances in art, literature, science, and other fields.

Reviewing Terms and People

Fill in the blanks with the correct term or name from this chapter.

- _____ are winds that bring heavy rainfall.
- A _____ is a division of people into groups based on birth, wealth, or occupation.
- Hindus believe in _____, the belief that they will be reborn many times after death.
- _____ founded the Mauryan Empire.
- The focusing of the mind on spiritual things is called _____.
- People who work to spread their religious beliefs are called _____.
- People who practice _____ use only peaceful ways to achieve change.
- _____ converted to Buddhism while he was ruler of the Mauryan Empire.
- A mixture of metals is called an _____.
- The study of the stars and planets is called _____.

Comprehension and
Critical Thinking

SECTION 1 (Pages 144–149) HSS 6.5.1, 6.5.2

- Describe** What caused floods on the Indus River, and what was the result of those floods?
 - Contrast** How was Aryan culture different from Harappan culture?
 - Elaborate** Why is the Harappan culture considered a civilization?

SECTION 2 (Pages 150–155) HSS 6.5.3, 6.5.4

- Identify** Who were the Brahmins, and what role did they play in Aryan society?
 - Analyze** How do Hindus believe karma affects reincarnation?
 - Elaborate** Hinduism has been called both a polytheistic religion—one that worships many deities—and a monotheistic religion—one that worships only one. Why do you think this is so?

SECTION 3 (Pages 156–161) HSS 6.5.5

13. **a. Describe** What did the Buddha say caused human suffering?
- b. Analyze** How did Buddhism grow and change after the Buddha died?
- c. Elaborate** Why did the Buddha's teachings about nirvana appeal to many people of lower castes?

SECTION 4 (Pages 162–165) HSS 6.5.6

14. **a. Identify** What was Chandragupta Maurya's greatest accomplishment?
- b. Compare and Contrast** What was one similarity between the Mauryas and the Guptas? What was one difference between them?
- c. Predict** How might Indian history have been different if Asoka had not become a Buddhist?

SECTION 5 (Pages 167–171) HSS 6.5.7

15. **a. Describe** What kinds of religious art did the ancient Indians create?
- b. Make Inferences** Why do you think religious discussions are included in the *Mahabharata*?
- c. Evaluate** Which of the ancient Indians' achievements do you think is most impressive? Why?

Reviewing Themes

16. **Religion** What is one teaching that Buddhism and Hinduism share? What is one idea about which they differ?
17. **Society and Culture** How did the caste system affect the lives of most people in India?

Using the Internet

go.hrw.com

KEYWORD: SQ6 WH6

18. **Activity: Making a Brochure** In this chapter, you learned about India's diverse geographical features and the ways in which geography influenced India's history. Enter the activity keyword. Then research the geography and civilizations of India, taking notes as you go. Finally, use the interactive brochure template to present what you have found.

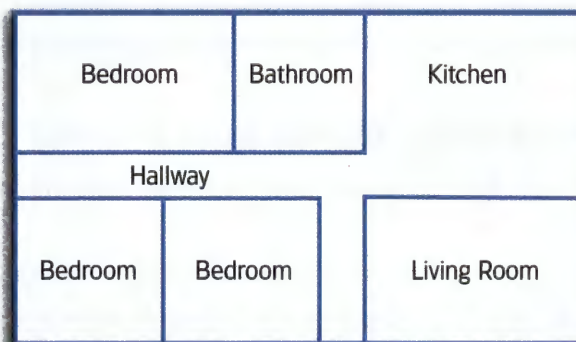
Reading Skills

19. **Drawing Inferences** Based on what you learned about the Gupta period, what inference can you draw about religious tolerance in ancient India? Draw a box like the one below to help you organize your thoughts.

Question:	
Inside the Text:	Outside the Text:
Inference:	

Social Studies Skills

20. **Understanding Diagrams** Look back over the diagram of the Buddhist temple in the skills activity at the end of this chapter. Using this diagram as a guide, draw a simple diagram of your house or school. Be sure to include labels of important features on your diagram. An example has been provided for you below.



FOCUS ON WRITING

21. **Designing Your Poster** Now that you have chosen a topic for your poster, it's time to create it. On a large sheet of paper or poster board, write a title that identifies the subject of your poster. Then draw pictures, maps, or diagrams that illustrate your chosen topic.

Next to each picture, write a short caption. Each caption should be two sentences long. The first sentence should identify what the picture, map, or diagram shows. The second sentence should explain why the picture is important to the study of Indian history.

Standards Assessment

DIRECTIONS: Read each question, and write the letter of the best response.

- 1** Use the map to answer the following question.



Civilization grew on the Indian subcontinent along the river marked on the map by the letter

- A W.
B X.
C Y.
D Z.
- 2** The people of which *varna* in early India had the hardest lives?
- A Brahmins
B Kshatriyas
C Sudras
D Vaisyas

- 3** What is the *main* goal of people who follow Buddhism as it was taught by the Buddha?
- A wealth
B rebirth
C missionary work
D reaching nirvana
- 4** The Mauryan emperor Asoka is known for all of the following *except*
- A expanding the empire across most of India.
B spreading Hinduism.
C working to improve his people's lives.
D practicing nonviolence.
- 5** Early India's contributions to world civilization included
- A developing the world's first calendar.
B creating what is now called algebra.
C inventing the plow and the wheel.
D introducing zero to the number system.

Connecting with Past Learnings

- 6** In this chapter you learned about two sacred epics, the *Mahabharata* and the *Ramayana*. Which of the following is also an epic poem that you have studied?
- A Hammurabi's Code
B the *Book of the Dead*
C *Gilgamesh*
D the Pyramid Texts
- 7** As you learned earlier in this course, the ancient Egyptians held elaborate religious rituals. Which of these Indian religions also involved many rituals, including sacrifices?
- A Buddhism
B Brahmanism
C Jainism
D Mauryanism