

Harappan Sources

&

Instructions

Instructions

What happened to the inhabitants of Indus Valley? Because we haven't discovered how to read their language we don't know... so we need to use historical evidence gathered through archaeology and put the clues together to come up with what happened to the Harappans.

- For this assignment you are going to analyzing 5 sources. (there is little information for the 5w's, but trust me they are all reliable.
- These sources are theories about what happened to the ancient people of the Indus Valley.
- Read the instructions at the top of the page (they will be provided on the next slide) before proceeding.

Vocabulary: Theory - a supposition or a system of ideas intended to explain something

The following chart corresponds to the five theories you will be reading. For each theory create a name and list the three key points to that theory. Then use your background knowledge to assess the validity of each theory.

Theory Name- After reading the theory come up with a name for that theory.

- Example- for theory 5 you might call it
 - False Massacre
 - No Last Stand
 - Where's the Armor

Name _____

What Happened to the Harappans?

The following chart corresponds to the five theories you will be reading. For each theory create a name and list the three key points to that theory. Then use your background knowledge to assess the validity of each theory.

Theory Name	Key Points of the Theory	Validity Assessment
Theory 1-	A- B- C-	
Theory 2-	A- B- C-	
Theory 3-	A- B- C-	
Theory 4-	A- B- C-	
Theory 5- False Massacre	A- B- C-	

Name _____

What Happened to the Harappans?

The following chart corresponds to the five theories you will be reading. For each theory create a name and list the three key points to that theory. Then use your background knowledge to assess the validity of each theory.

Key Points of the Theory- As you read the theory, pick out the top 3 key points. These should be the most important information. There may be more than 3, so you need to make a call on what YOU feel is most important.

- For source 5 you may list
 - Looked at skeletons believed to be massacred
 - Bodies were buried at different times
 - No signs of wounds that happen in a massacre.
 - No evidence of a last stand

Theory Name	Key Points of the Theory	Validity Assessment
Theory 1-	A- B- C-	
Theory 2-	A- B- C-	
Theory 3-	A- B- C-	
Theory 4-	A- B- C-	
Theory 5- False Massacre	A- Looked at skeletons believed to be massacred B- Bodies Buried at different times C- No Evidence of Last Stand	

Validity Assessment- Do you believe that this theory could be true?

- I want you to answer if you believe this is a valid theory. Regardless if you think it happened or not. Do you think this COULD have happened.
 - Then say why you believe this is a valid theory.
 - It should look like
 - Yes, I believe this theory because it makes sense that bodies in a massacre would be buried at the same level, so they never were massacred.
 - No, I don't believe this is valid. Because I don't believe they can tell the bodies were buried at different times.

Name _____

What Happened to the Harappans?

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Theory 4-	A- B- C-	
Theory 5- False Massacre	A- Looked at skeletons believed to be massacred B- Bodies Buried at different times C- No Evidence of Last Stand	Yes I believe this is valid because I trust the expertise that these bodies were buried at different times, making me believe this was not a massacre sight.

Now combine your factual knowledge with these theories to decide, what **you** believe actually happened based off of the evidence you have learned (you must combine/use 2 theories). Include relevant details and facts to support your case. See the “how to write an essay” link on my website.

In this section you are going to take all the theories from the front page, and see if any that you found valid work together. Then you are going to brainstorm how they worked with each other and you are going to write an introduction paragraph and 2 body paragraphs on your opinion.

1st- Write your hook sentence here, be sure that is is

- 1- True/unbiased
- 2- True, for everyone
- 3- About the topic



Your Theory about Harappa

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Hook _____

Transition _____

Thesis- I believe _____

_____ because of the evidence found in theories....

Theory (____)

Theory (____)

Body 1- _____

Body 2- _____

2nd- Write your thesis. Be sure to clearly state your position, then list the evidence you are going to use (theories) in the order they are going to be used in your body paragraphs.

3rd- fill in your transition sentences so your thesis and hook fit together.

4th- Write your body paragraphs, we will cover these on our next writing assignment.

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Hook _____

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_____ because of the evidence found in theories....
Theory () _____
Theory () _____

Body 1- _____

Body 2- _____

Source 1

Theory 1

There is archaeological evidence that shows a possible massacre. Skeletons of both men and women have been found scattered about the streets. They were found on the same stratum which indicates they died at the same time. Some of the skeletons were incomplete, while two had cranial damage. There were other indications of a quick exit by the people of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro. One of the Aryan Gods, Indra, was bloodthirsty and is often referred to as the destroyer of forts.

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Source 2

Theory 2

The Harappans were known for their seals. The seals, which were used to imprint images in clay, most often had pictures of an animal with pictograms from an unknown written language. The most common animals found on the seals are unicorns and bulls, but there are also other animals. Some of the other animals include the monkey, the rhino, the elephant, and the hippopotamus. All of these creatures commonly live in forested, jungle habitats with plenty of water. Today the Indus River Valley is mostly arid plains or desert. This shows us that there was a change in the climate at some point in history.

Theory 2

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Source 3

Theory 3

The Indus River was a wildly changing one. It would change its course quite regularly during the time of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro. A change in the course of the river could have disastrous effects on any city that was located on its banks. This is the case for most of the cities in the Harappan Age. In fact the city of Harappa was destroyed and rebuilt five times, while Mohenjo-Daro was rebuilt six times.

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Source 4

Theory 4

The Harappans were an *agrarian* society, meaning they grew crops in fields and lived in one place. They had a highly advanced sewer system and running water in each home. They were also able to build an irrigation system to bring water from the Indus River to their fields. In order to support a larger population they needed larger fields and so they would cut down trees to enlarge the amount of arable land. Over time, the Harappans fields were exhausted of minerals and nutrients, and the irrigation system left a salty residue on their fields. This limited the ability of the Harappans to grow crops.

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Source 5

Theory 5

In 1964, an American scientist George Dales, looked at skeletons believed to have been massacred. He found evidence that many of them had been buried years after the others died, after the ground level had risen. There are also no signs of extensive burning, no bodies of armored warriors, and no significant amount of weapons. The raised Citadel, shows no sign of a last stand.

Theory 5

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