

Vocabulary Builder Activity



Ancient India

A. Content Vocabulary

Directions: In the space next to each vocabulary term, write the letter of the word or phrase most closely connected with it.

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. subcontinent _____ | A) Aryan belief |
| 2. monsoon _____ | B) Indo-European |
| 3. language family _____ | C) teacher |
| 4. Sanskrit _____ | D) rain |
| 5. Vedas _____ | E) jati |
| 6. guru _____ | F) prince |
| 7. caste _____ | G) language of the Vedas |
| 8. raja _____ | H) unseen universal spirit |
| 9. Hinduism _____ | I) the rebirth of the soul |
| 10. Brahman _____ | J) Hindu holy writings |
| 11. dharma _____ | K) landmass |
| 12. reincarnation _____ | L) personal duty |

Vocabulary Builder *Cont.*

The logo for 'networks' features the word in a bold, sans-serif font. The letter 'o' in 'networks' is replaced by a stylized globe icon with several lines radiating from it, suggesting a network or global connectivity.

Ancient India

Directions: Fill in the blanks with one of the words from the Word Bank. Use each term only once. You may have to change the form of the word.

Bhagavad Gita	karma
Buddhism	nirvana
dharma	pilgrim
Jainism	stupa

Sajan was a student of religion. After he read the _____, he decided to go on a spiritual quest. He did not like the idea of rule by _____, or rule by religious leaders. He knew, however, that during the rule of the Mauryans, Ashoka changed his life when he turned to _____. Seeking such a change for himself, Sajan became a religious traveler and visited many of the _____ that Ashoka had set up, hoping that this would create good _____. Yet he sensed that he was not fulfilling his _____. Then, he heard about the concept of ahimsa. He was impressed and converted to _____. By following the idea of harming no living being and by practicing what he learned, he hoped he would reach _____.

Vocabulary Builder *Cont.*



Ancient India

B. Academic Vocabulary

Directions: In the space next to each word or phrase, write the vocabulary word that is its ANTONYM (opposite).

abandon	estimate	manual
contribute	eventual	migrate
decline	focus	promote
emerge		

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. pull in _____ | 6. scatter _____ |
| 2. improve _____ | 7. stay put _____ |
| 3. calculate exactly _____ | 8. mechanical _____ |
| 4. current _____ | 9. return _____ |
| 5. withhold _____ | 10. discourage _____ |

Directions: On the line in each sentence, replace the word or words in *italics* with a vocabulary word that is a SYNONYM (means about the same). You may have to change the form of the word.

promote	status	text
reside	structure	

- Most Indus Valley people *lived* (_____) in farming villages.
- Mahavira did all he could to *advance* (_____) his peaceful philosophy.

Vocabulary Builder *Cont.*



Ancient India

- 3. The *buildings* (_____) of Harappa were laid out in grid patterns.
- 4. The written *words* (_____) of the Ramamyana are in Sanskrit.
- 5. Brahmins enjoyed the highest *rank* (_____) in the caste system.

C. Combined Vocabulary Reinforcement

Directions: Each sentence below uses an academic or content vocabulary word shown in italics. Read the sentence. If the vocabulary word is used correctly, circle it. If the word is used incorrectly, draw a line through it. For each incorrect use of a vocabulary word, write your own sentence on the line provided, using the word correctly.

- 1. Without the rain brought by the *monsoons*, the Indus Valley people would not be able to grow food.

- 2. Ashoka set out to build a *nirvana* for his people.

- 3. Because the citizens of Monhenjo-Daro had no *estimated* language, we don't know much about their daily lives.

- 4. To understand the complex rituals of the Hindus, it would be helpful to learn *Sanskrit*.

Vocabulary Builder *Cont.*



Ancient India

5. Gupta mathematicians discovered new concepts because *Jainism* taught them to value math and science.

6. Weak leadership after the death of Ashoka caused his empire to *decline*.

7. Buddhist religious shrines are *structured* in a dome shape.

8. Hindu boys look forward to their official entry into manhood, the *reincarnation* ceremony.

9. The ruins of Ancient Indian civilizations *contribute* much to our knowledge of the past.

10. People called *pilgrims* used trade roads to travel to holy sites.
