

Chapter 14: Knowledge is Power

Assessment Zone:

I. Tick the correct option:

1. c

2. c

3. a

4. c

5. b

II. Fill in the blanks

1. papyrus

2. pictures, symbols

3. Brahmi

4. India

5. holy, writing

III. Mark the statements as True (T) or False (F):

1. T

2. T

3. F

4. F

5. T

IV. Answer in brief:

1. The concepts of zero and decimal system originated in India.

2. A script is any particular system of writing or the written means of human communication.

3. The ancient Egyptians used to write on a paper-like material called papyrus.

4. Johannes Gutenberg invented the first printing press, in 1443.

5. The word 'Hieroglyph' is made from two Greek words: 'hieros' meaning holy and 'glyphe' meaning writing.

V. Answer the following questions;

1. The early books were handwritten and it was a tedious and time taking method. They were expensive too, because of which, only limited people could buy and read them.

2. The visually challenged people read with the help of the Braille Script. Louis Braille made this script for the blind. in 1825. Letters in the Braille are formed by raised dots on thick paper. By touching the raised dots with their fingers, the visually challenged people are able to read.

3. In 1443, Johannes Gutenberg invented the first printing press. He made small metal moulds of the letters of the alphabet. They were called types. These types could be arranged to form words, lines and pages known as typesetting. On typeset pages, ink was used and pressed on paper to get the print impression.

4. The earliest writings were in the form of pictures and symbols, first on the walls of caves and then on clay tablets. From word-signs to pictures and then words, script and writing material underwent changes with time. Clay tablets gave way to paper made from papyrus (reed). Printing began in the 15th century and the writing material changed to paper made from wood pulp.

5. Printing press made the printing process easier and large number of books could be printed in less time and at lower cost. Today, the quality of printing has improved and we have colourful books, magazines and newspapers printed across the world.