

CLASS NOTES

Class: V

Topic: Lesson 19 The Start of British Rule in India
(To be done in EVS notebook)

Subject: EVS

A. Write short answer of the following questions.

Que.1. What was the name of the Portuguese traveller who came to India in 1498?

Ans. The Portuguese traveller who came to in 1498 was Vasco da Gama.

Que2. Which kings ruled most of India when the British were fighting Europeans to take control of the spice trade?

Ans. When the British were fighting Europeans to take control of the spice trade, Most of India was under the rule of the Mughals.

Que3. What was the name of the British company that controlled trade with India?

Ans. The name of the British company that controlled trade with India was English East India Company.

B. Explain in few lines.

Que.1 How did the British take control over our country?

Ans. The British were able to take control of India mainly because India was not united.

- i. India was divided into many kingdoms. The kings fought with each other.
- ii. Sometimes their own ministers and generals would fight them for control over the kingdoms.
- iii. British made use of this. They would help one king to defeat another, or help a general defeat his king.
- iv. In return, they would take some land, the right to collect tax, the right to trade, and so on.

Que2. Describe how British trade expanded in India?

i) The British East India Company slowly and gradually expanded its trading activities in India by getting permission from the then ruling powers, the Mughals and the local rulers.

ii) They sent raw materials like coal, cotton jute and indigo from India to factories in England.

iii) They sold machine-made goods made in England in our markets.

Que3. What was the condition of the Indians under British rule?

Ans. The condition of the Indians under British rule was not good.

i) Indian farmers suffered because they were forced to grow jute and indigo instead of food crops.

ii) The craftsman, potters and weavers were unhappy because people preferred to buy cheaper machine-made goods.

iii) The Indians employed by the British were unhappy because British looked down on Indians, paid them less and insulted them.

iv) In general, the people of the country became poorer, while British made money and took it away to their country.

Que4. Define settlements.

Ans. Settlements were towns controlled by the traders and their armies. Each country (the Dutch, British, French) made its own settlements. Most of them were along the coasts, from where ships full of Indian goods would sail for Europe.

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