

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL SCIENCE

L.No	Title of Lesson	SKILLS	Activity
0	Introduction to Social Science	Self Awareness, Critical Thinking, Creative Thinking, Problem Solving	Visiting Museum, Learning and Understanding History by seeing visuals e.g., Paintings, Sculpture, and Architectural remains etc.

Meaning

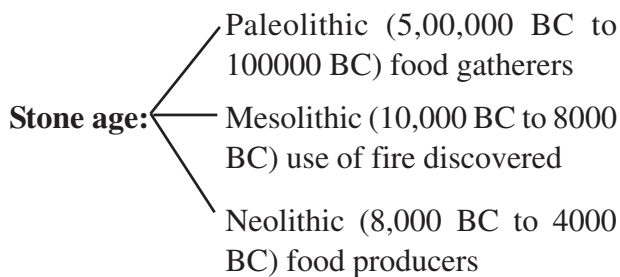
Social Science aims to understand all aspects of society as well as finding solutions to deal with social problems. It helps us to acquire a capacity to make connections between various subjects. Some important branches of Social Science are Economics, History, Archaeology, Geography, Political Science and Sociology.

Major Branches of Social Science

- **History** relates the story of cooperative actions of a large number of men and women in their quest for a better life.
- **Archaeology** is the study of ancient times with aspect to society and culture. Trace of events of past can be found in material remains i.e. artifacts, burials, ruined buildings, monuments, inscription pillars, metal plates, coins, seals, tools, pottery, toys, pictures etc.
- **Geography** is the study of earth's landscapes, people, places and environment. It is unique in bridging the social sciences with natural sciences.
- **Political Science** is concerned with the theory and practice of politics and analysis of political systems and political behaviour. Herein relationship between the political events and the conditions is studied.
- **Sociology** is the study of human behaviour in social context, it focuses on the study of human groups, so as to understand the structure of a society and how it works.
- **Economics** is the scientific study of the ways in which humans make choices about production, consumption and wealth. It is the Social Science of studying a balance between needs and available resources.

Evolution of Human Beings

- Human beings emerged about two million years ago.
- They resembled apes, who lived in caves or on tree tops.
- Invention of writing was a landmark
- Prehistory is the period for which no written records are available
- History refers to the period of history for which written records are available.



Social Science and Problems of Present Day Societies

Though humans have progressed from mere hunters to space age, problems still exist which are:

- Poverty and hunger
- Unequal distribution of wealth
- Unemployment and under employment
- Parallel economy, tax evasion and black money
- Corruption in public life
- Pollution and environmental degradation
- Lack of nationalism and love for the country
- Gender discrimination
- Violence, terrorism, naxalism
- Criticism, regionalism, casteism, communalism as hurdles to National Integration.

Different stages of human development

- Hunting stage: As food gatherers, (earliest stage)
- Village life (Rural): Advent of agriculture and settled life
- Town life (urban): As food producers, discovery of metals led to specialisation of crafts
- City life: Civilisation and culture progressed, Arts like painting, music, sculpture and architecture developed

Evaluate Yourself

- Q. Discuss different stages of human development.
- Q. List any five problems of present day societies.
- Q. Explain important branches of Social Science.