

Class -XI
CH-3
HORNBILL
Discovering Tut

Q1. Give reasons for the following.

King Tut's body has been subjected to repeated scrutiny.

Answer

King Tut's body has been subjected to repeated scrutiny for the riches it was buried with. There has also been a lot of speculation about the manner of his death and the time of his death.

II. Howard Carter's investigation was resented.

Answer

Howard Carter's investigation was resented because he used unscientific methods to cut the body away from the wooden base. He also focused more on the discovery of gold than on the fascinating details of Tut's life and the mysteries of his death.

III. Carter had to chisel away the solidified resins to raise the king's remains.

Answer

Carter found that the ritual resin that was used as a polish had hardened. The result was that the mummy was cemented to the bottom of the solid gold coffin. Neither the strongest force could move the mummy nor the burning sun could loosen the remains of the king.

IV. Tut's body was buried along with gilded treasures.

Answer

The ancient royals of Egypt were fabulously wealthy. They believed in afterlife. They also believed that they could take their wealth with them. So gilded treasures were buried with them.

V. The boy king changed his name from Tutankhaten to Tutankhamun.

Answer

Tutankhamun means 'Living image of Amun'. He was a major god in ancient Egypt. King Amenhotep III smashed the images of Amun and closed his temples. Tut oversaw a restoration of the old ways. He also changed his name to express his belief in Amun.

Q2. List the deeds that led Ray Johnson to describe Akhenaten as "wacky".

Answer

According to Ray Johnson Akhenaten was wacky because:

- ▶ He promoted the worship of Aten instead of Amun.
- ▶ He moved the religious capital from Thebes to the new city of Akhetaten.
- ▶ He smashed Amun's images.

► He closed Amun's temples.

► He changed his name to Akhenaten or servant of Aten.

2.IIList the advances in technology that have improved forensic analysis.

Answer

Today C.T. technology helps us to take hundreds of X-ray images in cross-sections. They can be put together like slices of bread to create a three-dimensional virtual body. This provides precise data for an accurate forensic reconstruction.

2.III Explain the statement, "King Tut is one of the first mummies to be scanned — in death, as in life"

Answer

The above statement refers that there are hundreds of mummies in Egypt. But Tut's is the first to be scanned. He remains the first even in death, as he was the first among his countrymen when he lived. He was a ruler, an emperor.

Q3. Scientific intervention is necessary to unearth buried mysteries.

Answer

For

If you think history has any relevance in our life, we must get at the truth. There are so many mysteries which remain unsolved. For example, we know very little about the Indus civilisation. The seals remain undeciphered. This needs scientific investigation. Without scientific intervention they will remain in the dark.

Against

No doubt we need to know the past. History has relevance in our life. But sometimes we take it too far. King Tut's mummy has been repeatedly investigated. In spite of spending millions of dollars, nothing new has been revealed. We must utilise our resources to help the living rather than investigating the dead.

Q4. Advanced technology gives us conclusive evidence of past events.

Answer

For

Today technology is so advanced that we can reconstruct the past. For example, we know how Pompeii was destroyed. But now we have reconstructed the whole city. We know precisely how the people lived.

OR

Against

It is an empty boast that advanced technology gives us conclusive evidence of past events. Let us take the case of King Tut. It has been C.T. scanned. What can it tell us how he died. If he was murdered who murdered him and why ? C.T. scan might give some idea how he died. But it cannot give conclusive evidence.

Q5. Traditions, rituals and funerary practices must be respected.

Answer

For

People who buried their dead with rituals and funerary practices did so with reverence for their dead. They wanted to lie in peace, undisturbed. We must respect their sentiments.

OR

Against

People in ancient times had some beliefs and funerary rituals. By investigating into them we can know much about them. It adds to our knowledge about the progress of human civilisation in different parts of the world.

Q6. What do you think are the reasons for the extinction of languages?

Answer

A language becomes extinct when its use is restricted to specific classes or categories of people. Secondly, the harshness of rules and lack of flexibility in usage also contribute in extinction of languages.

Q7. Do you think it is important to preserve languages?

Answer

Yes, it is important to preserve languages as they are responsible for the development of culture of the community. It helps in preservation of one's heritage and traditions. Language preservation ensures contact with one's history and literature.

Q8. In what ways do you think we could help prevent the extinction of languages and dialects?

Answer

Extinction of languages and dialects can be prevented through the following reasons.

- ▶ Transferring the vocabulary and dialects of the language to the next generation.
- ▶ Teaching the languages in colleges and universities and encouraging students to specialise in the same.

- ▶ Teaching children to use mother-tongue.
- ▶ Remaining connected to one's cultural roots.
- ▶ Respecting one's language which will help in taking it forward to the coming generations.