

# How, When and Where

## Q1. State whether true or false:

- (a) James Mill divided Indian history into three periods – Hindu, Muslim, Christian.
- (b) Official documents help us understand what the people of the country think.
- (c) The British thought surveys were important for effective administration.

### Answer.

- (a) False
- (b) False
- (c) True

## Q2. What is the problem with the periodisation of Indian history that James Mill offers?

**Answer.** The period of Indian history which is the problem with James Mill's offering is the superiority of the British over the Hindu and Muslim. James Mill incorporated Indian history into Hindu, Muslim and British. Claiming that it was necessary to implement European etiquette, art, institutions and law in India.

James Mill's ideas have many faults:

- (a) He thought that all Asian societies were at a lower level of civilization than Europe.
- (b) According to their history, before the British came to India, Hindus and Muslims were autocratic rulers in the country.
- (c) Not all the rulers of ancient India shared the same faith. So naturally, there will be no religious tolerance

## Q3. Why did the British preserve official documents?

**Answer.** According to the British, writing was more important than speaking because documents in records and museums could be used for reference at a much later period whenever necessary for study or debate. They can also serve as information or evidence of a decision or action taken earlier on a matter.

## Q4. How will the information historians get from old newspapers be different from that found in police reports?

**Answer.** It is due to the information printed in a newspaper is usually influenced by the views and opinions of journalists, news editors etc., but what historians find in police reports are usually correct and realistic