

HISTORY: CH. 9 - THE STORY OF CRICKET

Answer the following

Q-1. Test cricket is a unique game in many ways. Discuss some of the ways in which it is different from other team games.

A: 1) One of the peculiarities of Test Cricket is that a match can continue for five days and still end in a draw. No other game take so much time to complete.

2) Another characteristics of cricket is that the length of the pitch is specified to be 22 yards, but the shape and size of the ground is not specified. Sports like hockey and football have fixed dimensions of playing area but cricket does not have. A cricket ground can be bigger or smaller, its shape can be oval or circular.

3) Its laws and regulations were laid down much before team games like soccer and hockey. The first written laws of cricket were drawn up in 1744.

Q-2. Describe one way in which the 19th cent. technology brought about a change in equipments and give an example where no change in equipment took place.

A: The technological change helped in the use of protective equipments. The invention of vulcanised rubber led to the introduction of pads in 1848 and protective gloves soon afterwards. The helmets were made out of metal and synthetic light weight materials.

Q-3. Explain why cricket became popular in India and West Indies. Can you give reasons why it did

not become popular in the countries of South America?

A: India and West Indies were colonies of England, where cricket was very popular. The British officials and 'sahibs' in India and West Indies played cricket to pass off their leisure time. In both the countries, initially the game was promoted by the upper class to imitate the colonial masters. Thus, it became popular in both the countries.

Most of the S. America remained under the colonial rule of other European powers but not England. Therefore, as cricket was not popular in the mother countries it did not become popular in colonies.

Q.4 - Give brief explanations for the following:

a) The Parsis were the first Indian community to set up a cricket club in India.

A: The origins of Indian cricket is to be found in Bombay and the first Indian community which started playing the game were the Parsis. This was because they were the first to come into close contact with the British because of their trading interests. They were the first Indian community to westernise. They founded the first Indian cricket club called the Oriental club in Bombay in 1848. The club was sponsored by rich Parsi business men like the Tatas and the Wadias.

b) Mahatma Gandhi condemned the Pentangular match.

A: The teams that played colonial India's greatest first class cricket tournament were represented by different religious communities. The Pentangular match