

L-11 COMPANY SCHOOL

Key Words/New Words

Strong footing	exhausted	decade	influenced	British civilians	Muted colours
bypassing	freelancing	century	Blue print	souveneirs	engravings
recruit	appeal	rival	History survey	adventurers	Sharp features
surveys	province	historians	freelancing	Officials	Squat figures
depicted	accurately	hired	perspective	Migrated	stipple
Patrons	trends	Local interest	distinctive	Gouache	Artisans
embroidering	Shawls	craftmanship	sobre	Ochre colour	Sepia
staring	Flora and Fauna	Indian sympathy for birds and animals			

In-text Questions

In-text Questions 11.2

Choose the right answer:

- a) The medium of the 'A group of Kashmiri Artisans' painting is:
 - i. Tempera
 - ii. Oil Colour
 - iii. Water Colour

b) Indian artistes are inspired by:

- i. Rajput Miniature
- ii. Mughal
- iii. Western Art

c) The painter of this painting used:

- i. Stippling
- ii. Line Shading
- iii. Flat Colour

In-text Questions 11.3

Fill up the blanks

- a) The technique of the Bird painting is Kali Syahi or Black Ink.
- b) The Bird picture is drawn on the paper imported from Europe.
- c) The Bird painting is done in Company style.

Model Questions

Give brief description of the following:

1. Why company school is also known as Patna school?

Answer: The company school is also known as Patna school because:

- During the rule of Aurangzeb, many artisans fled Delhi and migrated to Mushidabad, West Bengal, as Nawab of Bengal provided patronage.
- But, around 1760, due to the fall of Nawab of Bengal, many painters from Mushidabad had to migrate to Patna.

- In Patna, the Indian aristocrats as well as the East India company people provided patronage for artisans.
- The paintings were made by these artisans in Indo-European style.
- Patna became one of the main art centers for these Indo-European style paintings known as Company style or Patna Style.

2. Why Indian artistes were hired by Europeans?

Answer: The Indian artistes were hired by Europeans because:

- Indian artists were more familiar with Indian subjects. Hence, they could depict Indian subjects more accurately.
- British East India Company needed artists to prepare blue prints for their big railway projects.
- Indian artists were good at depicting birds and animals. Hence, they were hired for scientific projects on India's flora and fauna.

3. Describe the subjects of Company school paintings?

Answer: The subjects of Company school paintings were:

- Blue prints for railway projects
- Pictures for natural history surveys
- Portraits of British civilians

4. Describe the characteristics of Company school paintings

Answer: The characteristics of Company school paintings are:

- They had mixed Indo-European style.
- They were water colour paintings including European perspective and shading.



- Colours were usually muted.
- Sharp features and use of thick lines to define the eyes.

Previous Year Questions

The questions of 1 mark should be answered in about 15 words, 2 marks in about 30 words, and 3 and 4 marks should be answered in about 50 words.

1. Write a very short note on the painting “A Group of Kashmiri Artisans”. 1

Answer: A short note on the painting “A Group of Kashmiri Artisans”:

- Tempera technique is used.
- This is done on paper with water colour.
- It is company school painting.
- The painting consists of 8 men, 2 women 3 children and old man enjoying hukka.
- Men are embroidering shawls, women and children are looking on.
- The colours used for painting are deep sepia ochre and red.
- Figures have pointed noses, heavy eyebrows and deep-seated staring eyes.
- Little shading, but frequent stippling are used.

2. Appreciate the Company Painting ‘A Group of Kashmiri Artisans’. 1

Answer: Same as above.

3. List out the different centre of the "Company School of Art". 1

Answer: The company school originated in Mushidabad, West Bengal. Later it spread to places like:

- Delhi
- Calcutta
- Varanasi
- Lucknow
- Patna

- Tanjore

4. Find the root of 'Company School of Art'. 1

Answer: The company school originated in Mushidabad, West Bengal.

- Later it moved to Patna and many other Indian cities.
- Mixed Indo-European style was used.

5. Find the root of "Company School of Painting".

1

Answer: Same as above.

6. Identify the influence of colonial art on Indian painting during 19th century. 1

Answer: The influence of colonial art on Indian painting during 19th century:

- During 19th century, the British East India Company started ruling India. Hence, painters started making paintings which were a mix of Indian and European style.
- A new style of water color painting developed.
- This style included **western perspective** and **shading**.
- Muted colors were used.
- Painters were influenced by English water colors and prints.
- These paintings were called Company paintings.

7. Explain the influence of colonial art on Indian painting during 19th CCE. 1

Answer: Same as above.

8. Identify a style of painting with colonial influence 1

Answer: Same as above.

9. What method has been illustrated in the picture 'bird' of the company school? Describe. [1]

Answer: The technique used to make 'The Bird' painting is called 'Kali Syahi'.

- Here, picture is painted directly with a brush without a pencil drawing.
- This is done with black ink on paper.
- The other names for the technique are Kajli Syahi, Black Ink, or Syahi Kalam.
- The painting shows a surprised bird.
- The wing feathers are minutely depicted.

10. Describe the style of the Company School Painting of the Bird.

1

Answer: Same as above

11. Why the term "Company Painting" is for a special kind of Painting. [1]

Answer: The term "Company Painting" is for a special kind of Painting because:

- During the rule of British East India Company, a new type of painting developed in India.
- These paintings were mainly done for the officials and the official work of British East India Company.
- It was a mix of Indo European style.
- This style included **western perspective** and **shading**.
- Muted colors were used.

12. Why the term 'Company Painting' is for a special kind of painting? 1

Answer: Same as above

13. Write short notes on the following : 1

b) Company School

Answer: Same as above

14. Identify a style of painting with colonial influence? 1

Answer: Same as above

Write short note on : **1**

(a) A group of Kashmiri artisans

(b) The bird.

15.

Answer: A short note on paintings 'A Group of Kashmiri Artisans and 'The Bird':

A Group of Kashmiri Artisans	The Bird
<p>A short note on the painting "A Group of Kashmiri Artisans":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tempera technique is used. • This is done on paper with water color. • It is company school painting. • The painting consists of 8 men, 2 women 3 children and old man enjoying hukka. • Men are embroidering shawls; women and children are looking on. • The colours used for painting are deep sepia ochre and red. • Figures have pointed noses, heavy eyebrows and deep-seated staring eyes. • Little shading, but frequent stippling are used. 	<p>A short note on the painting "The Bird":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kali Syahi technique is used. • This is done with black ink on paper. • The painting shows a surprised bird. • The wing feathers are minutely depicted.