

L-5 INDIAN BRONZES

Keywords/New Words

Metal sculptures	Aesthetically	Universe	Gesture	Dokra casting
Bronze	Outstanding	Illusion	Salvation	Metallurgical
Lost-wax process (cire perdue)	Cosmic Dance	Dwarf	Limbs	Kiln
Rythum	Dynamic	Eternal	Re-creation	Mould
Replica	Cast	Furnace	Artifact	Bee-wax
Proficient	Modest	Sacred	Disciple	Anatomical
Formidable	Universal appeal	Mobility	Symbolically	Sacrifice
Independence	Zenith			

In-text Questions

In-text Questions 5.2

Fill in the blanks

1. Nataraja collection at National Museum, New Delhi is made of Bronze metal.
2. Nataraja is holding the drum of creation in the upper right hand and the fire of destruction in the left.
3. Bronze casting of Nataraja belongs to the Chola dynasty.

In-text Questions 5.3

Put (✓) or (x)

1. Dokra casting is the lost-wax technique. (✓)

2. The technique of Dokra casting is one of the oldest metallurgical art form.
(✓)
3. Coating the replica with Dry clay. (x)

In-text Questions 5.4

Fill in the blanks

1. D.P.Roy Chowdhury was proficient in wrestling, writing, and music.
2. In his early life, Shri D. P. Roy Chowdhury started work under the noted sculptor Hiranmoy Roy Chowdhury.
3. The Triumph of Labour is a symbol of sacrifice that Indians made for winning Independence.

Model Questions

1. What are the characteristics of Nataraja Bronze Sculpture?

Answer: The characteristics of Nataraja Bronze Sculpture are:

- It shows Lord Shiva doing cosmic dance and trampling the dwarf of illusion.
- He has four hands. He is holding:
 - In the upper right hand: drum of creation
 - In the upper left hand: fire of destruction
 - In the lower right hand: stretched out in a gesture of protection
 - In the lower left hand: signifies salvation
- The sculpture has balance of limbs and rhythm.
- The dynamic movement of God shows the process of creation, destruction and re-creation.

2. Write the method of preparing the lost-wax process?

Answer: Dokra casting/Lost-wax Process/Cire-Perdue technique is one of the oldest metallurgical art forms used in ancient civilizations in India, China, Greece and Mesopotamia.

Horse Riding, made by Tribals, is one of the finest examples of this technique.

The steps involved in this process are:

- i. Making a clay cover by firing in kiln.
- ii. Wrapping bee-wax around the core to get a replica.
- iii. Coating the replica with wet clay and then drying in the sun.
- iv. The Sun's heat or any other heating process melts the wax which flows out.
- v. Filling the hollow space now with metal.
- vi. Casting this in a furnace.
- vii. Breaking the mould to get the artifact.

3. Name the dynasty under which Bronze sculpture reached its Zenith.

Answer: The Bronze sculpture reached its Zenith during Chola Dynasty of 10th Century BC.

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. Describe different aspects of making bronze sculpture with an example. 2

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| 2. | Write the method of preparing the Bronze sculpture from lost wax process.
Name one style of sculpture of this technique. | 2 |
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Answer for 1 and 2: Dokra casting/Lost-wax Process/Cire-Perdue technique is one of the oldest metallurgical art forms used in ancient civilizations in India, China, Greece and Mesopotamia.

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 - vi. Casting this in a furnace.
 - vii. Breaking the mould to get the artifact.
3. Describe the aesthetic quality of 'Nataraja' sculpture of Chola period. **[2]**
 4. Describe the aesthetic qualities of 'Nataraja' sculpture of Chola. **2**

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| 5. | Describe the technique, material and theme of the famous sculpture "Nataraja". | 2 |
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| 6. | Describe the technique, natural and subject matter of the famous sculpture 'Nataraja'. | 2 |
|----|--|----------|

Answer for 3, 4 5 and 6: The characteristics of Nataraja Bronze Sculpture are:

- It shows Lord Shiva doing cosmic dance and trampling the dwarf of illusion.
- He has four hands. He is holding:
 - In the upper right hand: drum of creation
 - In the upper left hand: fire of destruction
 - In the lower right hand: stretched out in a gesture of protection
 - In the lower left hand: signifies salvation
- The sculpture has balance of limbs and rhythm.
- The dynamic movement of God shows the process of creation, destruction and re-creation.

7. Write at least *thirty* words of appreciation on 'Triumph of Labour'. 2
8. Choose a sculpture of D.P. Roy Chowdhury and describe it. 2
9. Write an appreciative note on 'triumph of labour'. 2
10. Write at least thirty words of appreciation on the sculpture, 'Triumph of Labour'. 2

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| 11. | Write at least thirty words of appreciation on "Triumph of Labour". | 2 |
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12. Who created the sculpture "The Triumph of Labour and what does it represent Symbolically? [2]
13. Write at least thirty words of appreciation on "Triumph of Labour". 2

Answer for 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 11 and 12:

The **Triumph of Labour** sculpture was made by **Shri. D.P. Roy Chowdhury**.

About Shri D.P. Roy Chowdhury:

- He was a sculptor, painter, writer, musician and wrestler.
- He used to worship his works and considered his studio as a temple of art.
- He was a student of great artists like Abanindranath Tagore and Hiranmoy Roy Chowdhury.

About Triumph of Labour Sculpture:

- The Triumph of Labour sculpture is a masterpiece of Indian contemporary sculpture.
- The sculpture shows four men toiling to move a rock.
- The anatomy of men who are doing that difficult task is perfectly shown.
- The sculpture has universal appeal and a rare quality of mobility.
- The sculpture is a symbol of sacrifice which Indians made for winning Independence from British rulers.