



**Chapter: 07**

**Civilizing the 'Native', Educating the Nation**

**Q.1: Match the following.**

**Column A**

William Jones  
R. Tagore  
Macaulay  
Pathshalas  
Mahatma Gandhi

**Column B**

respect for ancient cultures  
learning in natural environment  
promotion of English education  
gurus  
critical of English education.

**Q.2: State whether the statement is true or false.**

- a) James Mill was a severe critic of orientalist. **(True)**
- b) The 1854 Depatch on education was in favour of English being introduced as medium of instruction. **(True)**
- c) Gandhi thought that promotion of literacy was the most important aim of education. **(False)**
- d) Tagore felt that Children ought to be subjected to strict discipline. **(False)**

**Q.3: Why did James Mill felt the need to study Indian history, philosophy & laws?**

**Ans:** In order to understand India, it was necessary to discover the sacred and legal texts that were produced in the ancient period. For only those texts could reveal the real ideas and laws of the Hindus and Muslims and only a new study of these texts could form the basis of future development in India. He believed that this project would not only help the British learn from Indian culture, but it would also help Indians rediscover their own heritage and understand the last glories of their past. In this process, the British would become the guardians of Indian culture as well as its masters.

**Q4: Why did William Jones & Thomas Macaulay think that European style of education was essential in India?**

**Ans:** James Mill and Thomas Macaulay thought that European education is essential for India because they were of the opinion that the knowledge of the East was unscientific, illogical and irrational. They contended that the western education was scientific and logical. James Mill believed that Indians should be given the knowledge of scientific and technical advancements which have been made in the west.



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## Q.5: Why did Gandhi want to teach children handicrafts?

**Ans:** According to Mahatma Gandhi, this would develop a person's mind and soul. Simply, learning to read and write by itself does not count as education. So people had to work with their hands, learn crafts and know how different things operated. This would develop their mind self confidence, self reliance and their capacity to understand.

## Q6: Why did Gandhi think that English education had enslaved us?

**Ans:** Gandhi believed that English education filled Indians with inferiority complex, because Indians were made to believe in the greatness & superiority of English education. This destroyed their pride in their own culture & had enslaved us to admire British rule. Mahatma Gandhi also believed that there was poison in this education; it cast an evil spell on Indians. Bewitched by the West, Indians started to appreciate everything that came from the West. Mahatma Gandhi wanted an education that would help Indians to recover their sense of dignity and self respect.

## GLOSSARY:

- **Linguist:** Someone who knows and studies several languages.
- **Madrasa:** An Arabic word for a place of learning; any type of school or college.
- **Orientalists:** Those with a scholarly knowledge of the language and culture of Asia.
- **Munshi:** A person who can read, write and teach Persian.
- **Vernacular:** A term generally used to refer to a local language or dialect as distinct from what is seen as the standard language.