1. **How did the first World War affected the Indians?**

**OR**

**Describe the hardship caused by the First World War on Indians**

The war created a new economic and political situation in the country. In order to meet the war expenses, the British government introduced war loans, increased the existing taxes and introduced income tax. The customs duties on goods were raised. During the war period between 1913 and 1918 the prices doubled. This brought extreme hardship for the common people. The Indian village people were recruited to the military services forcefully which caused widespread anger. Then in 1918-19 and 1920-21, crops failed in many parts of India, resulting in acute shortages of food. This was accompanied by an influenza epidemic. 12 to 13 million Indians died as a result of famines and the epidemic during this period.

1. **When did Mahatma Gandhi return to India from South Africa?**

Mahatma Gandhi returned to India in January 1915 South Africa

1. **Name the novel method of mass agitation that Mahatma Gandhi used for fighting the racist regime in South Africa**

Satyagraha

1. **Explain the idea behind Satyagraha**

**Or**

**Describe the concept of Satyagraha**

In South Africa, Mahatma Gandhi successfully fought the racist government with a novel method of mass agitation, which he called satyagraha. The idea of satyagraha emphasised the power of truth and the need to search for truth. It suggested that if the cause was true, if the struggle was against injustice, then physical force was not necessary to fight the oppressor. Without seeking vengeance or being aggressive, a satyagrahi could win the battle through non-violence. This could be done by appealing to the conscience of the oppressor. People – including the oppressors – had to be persuaded to see the truth, instead of being forced to accept truth through the use of violence. By this struggle, truth was bound to ultimately triumph. Mahatma Gandhi believed that this dharma of non-violence could unite all Indians.

1. **Why did Gandhijith travel to Champaran, Bihar in 1916 ?**

Gandhijith travelled to Champaran, Bihar in 1916 to inspire the peasants to struggle against the oppressive plantation system.

1. Why did Gandhiji organise satyagraha in Kheda district of Gujarat”

In 1917, Gandhiji organised a satyagraha to support the peasants of the Kheda district of Gujarat. Affected by crop failure and a plague epidemic, the peasants of Kheda could not pay the revenue, and were demanding that revenue collection be relaxed.

1. **When did Mahatma Gandhi go to Ahmedabad to organise a satyagraha movement amongst cotton mill workers?**

In 1918

1. **Explain the three satyagrahas organized by Gandhiji**
2. In 1916 Gandhiji went to Champaran, Bihar and inspired the peasants to struggle against the oppressive plantation system.
3. In 1917, Gandhiji organised a satyagraha to support the peasants of the Kheda district of Gujarat who were affected by crop failure and a plague epidemic. They could not pay the revenue, and were demanding that revenue collection be relaxed.
4. Mahatma Gandhi organised a satyagraha movement amongst cotton mill workers of Ahmedabad in 1918.
5. Explain the **Rowlatt Act (1919)**

The **Rowlatt Act was a**n Act passed by the Imperial Legislative Council in 1919. The Act gave the government a lot of powers to repress political activities, and allowed detention of political prisoners without trial for two years. The **Rowlatt Act** was passed quickly in the though the Indian members in the Legislative Council unitedly opposed it.