



Social Science

Grade IX - Geography

Lesson 2 - Physical Features of India

Solved Question Bank

I. Multiple Choice Questions

- India's only active volcano is situated at
 - Lakshadweep
 - Andaman and Nicobar
 - Malwa Plateau
 - Chotanagpur Plateau
- Landslide mostly occurs in _____.
 - Plateau Region
 - Upper Himalayan Region
 - Lesser Himalayan Region
 - Shivalik Region
- Which of these regions is oldest part of India?
 - The Himalayan Region
 - The Peninsular Plateau
 - The Island Groups
 - The Desert Region
- Luni is the only river which drains the
 - Desert Region of India
 - Peninsular Region
 - Central Highland
 - Malabar Coast
- The western part of the northern plains is dominated by:
 - Doabs
 - Bhabhar
 - Terai
 - Ox-bow lakes
- The height of Mt. Everest above sea level is
 - 8598 metres
 - 8491 metres
 - 8172 metres
 - 8848 metres
- 'Kumaon Himalayas' region lies between rivers
 - Beas and Ravi
 - Chenab and Ravi
 - Satluj and Kali
 - Beas and Chenab

1. (b)

2. (d)

3. (b)

4. (a)

5. (a)

6. (d)

7. (c)





I. Fill in the Blanks

- 8. The longitudinal valleys lying between lesser Himalayas and Shivaliks are known as _____.
- 9. The famous valleys of Kashmir, Kangra and Kullu are located in the _____ range of the Himalayas.
- 10. Lesser Himalayas are known as _____.

8. Duns	9. Himachal	10. Himadri
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I. True or False

- 11. The Chilika Lake is the largest salt water lake in India.
- 12. The Aravalis are young-fold mountains.

11. True	12. False
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I. Match the columns

Column A	Column B
a. A circular shoe-shaped coral reef.	i. Basin
b. An area drained by rivers and its tributaries.	ii. Atoll
c. A region which drains all the rainwater into a river.	iii. Gorge/Canyon
d. Formed due to erosional activity	iv. Catchment area

a. (ii)	b. (i)	c. (iv)	d. (iii)
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I. Very Short Answer Type Questions

1. What does the geology of the peninsular plateau show?

The geology of the peninsular plateau shows that it constitutes one of the ancient landmasses on the earth's surface. It was supposed to be one of the most stable blocks.



2. Mention any one feature of Northern Plains of India.

The Northern plains of India are fertile alluvial plains formed by deposition of sediments by the rivers.

3. What is the composition of the peninsular plateau?

It is composed of igneous and metamorphic rocks with gently hills and wide valleys.

4. Name the major physical divisions of India.

The major physical divisions of India are-the Himalayan mountains, the Northern plains, the Peninsular plateau, the India desert, the Coastal plains, the Islands.

5. What is the extent of Himalayas?

The Himalayas stretch along the northern borders of India. The Himalayas spread out from Indus to Brahmaputra in a west-east direction.

6. In which part Himalayan altitudinal extent is greater?

The eastern-half of Himalayas have greater altitudinal extent than western-half.

7. Why is Himadri mountain range names so?

Himadri in Sanskrit means the abode of snow and the range is perpetually snowbound.

8. Mention the location of Mussoorie, Nainital and Ranikhet in India.

Mussoorie-Uttarakhand, Nainital Uttarakhand, Ranikhet-Uttarakhand.

9. What do you mean by Lesser Himalayas?

Lesser Himalayas or Himachal are the mountain range located south of Himadri.

10. Name the three prominent sub-ranges of the Himachal Himalayas.

The sub-ranges are the PirPanjal, the DhaulaDhar and the Mahabharat.

11. Why are Shiwaliks more prone to earthquakes and landslides?

The Shiwaliks are more prone to earthquakes and landslides because they are made of unconsolidated because they are made of unconsolidated mud, sediments and rocks.

12. Name the longitudinal divisions of Himalayas:

a. Between Indus and Satluj rivers.

b. Between Kali and Tista rivers.

a. Between Indus and Satluj rivers the Himalayas' division is known as the Punjab Himalayas or Kashmir and Himachal Himalayas.

b. Between Kali and Teesta rivers, the Himalayas' division is known as the Nepal Himalayas.





13. Name the two rivers between which Kumaon and Assam Himalayas demarcated.

The Kumaon Himalayas is demarcated between the Satluj and the Kali rivers. The Assam Himalayas is demarcated between Tisat and Dihang rivers.

14. What do you mean by Purvachal?

Purvachal refers to sharp southward bent of Himalayas mountain beyond the Dihang gorge.

15. What is the location of the Purvachal?

Purvachal lies along the eastern edge of India and forms the border with Myanmar.

16. How does the purvachal composed of?

The Purvachal composed of strong sandstone i.e. sedimentary rocks.

17. Name the hills that make the Purvachal.

The Patkai hills, Naga hills, Manipur hills and Mizo hills make the Purvachal.

18. Name the major river systems of the Northern plains.

The three major river systems are the Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra.

19. Mention the extent of Northern plains of India.

The Northern plains of India spreads over an area of 7 lakh sq. km. It has a length of 2400 km and breadth of 240 to 320 km.

20. How are riverine islands formed? Give an example.

Riverine islands are formed by the rivers in their lower course. The rivers are involved in depositional work due to the gentle slope, low velocity and thus lead to the formation of a riverine island, e.g., Majuli island in Brahmaputra river (the largest inhabited riverine island in the world).

21. Explain the term distributary.

In the lower course rivers split into numerous channels due to the deposition of the silt. These numerous channels known as distributaries. e.g. R. Hooghly is the distributary of R. Ganga.

22. Mention the division of northern plains.

They are divided into three sections - Punjab plains, Ganga plains and Brahmaputra plains-according to the basis of rocks.

23. Which section of Northern plains is dominated by doabs?

Originating from Himalayas, the Indus River and its tributaries are dominated by doabs.





24. Mention the division of Northern plains on the basis of relief features.

The division includes *bhabar*, *terai*, *bhangar* and *khaddar*.

25. Give the composition of the peninsular plateau.

The peninsular plateau is composed of the old crystalline, igneous and metamorphic rocks. They were formed by the breaking and drifting of Gondwana land.

26. Give two broad divisions of the peninsular plateau.

The two broad divisions of the peninsular plateau are the Central Highlands and the Deccan Plateau.

27. Name the two mountain ranges by which the Vindhyan range is bounded on the south and on the northwest.

The Vindhyan range is bounded by the Satpura range on the south and the Aravalis on the northwest.

28. What do you mean by *bundelkhand* and *baghelkhand*?

The eastward extensions of the Central Highland is known as *bundelkhand* and *baghelkhand*.

29. Mention the location of Deccan Plateau.

Deccan Plateau is located in the south of the Narmada river. The Satpura range is in north while the Mahadev, the Kaimur hills and the Maikal range is its eastern extension.

30. Which two well-known rivers originate near the Mahadev hills?

The rivers originating near the Mahadev hills are the Narmada and the Son.

31. List down the extension of Deccan Plateau in northeast.

The extension are Meghalaya, Karbi-Anglong Plateau and North Cachar hills.

32. Name the highest peak of the Western Ghats.

The AnaiMudi with the height of 2,695 m is the highest peak of the Western Ghats.

33. Which is the highest peak of the Eastern Ghats?

The Mahendragiri with the height of 1,501 m is the highest peak of the Eastern Ghats.

34. Name the hills lies in the southeast of the Eastern Ghats.

The Shevroy and Javadihills lie in the southeast of the Eastern Ghats.

35. Mention one distinct feature of Peninsular plateau.

The Deccan trap i.e. the black soil area is one of the distinct features of Peninsular Plateau.

36. How did the black soil form in Deccan Trap?





In Deccan Trap, rocks are of volcanic origin, thus the type of rocks is igneous and these are denuded over time resulted in formation of black soil.

37. What is the location of Satpura range in comparison with the Aravali?

The Satpura range lies to the south of the Aravali range.

38. Which is the only largest river in the Indian desert?

River Luni is the only largest river in the Indian desert.

39. What do you mean by Barchans? Where are they found?

Crescent-shaped dunes are known as Barchans. They are found in the Indian desert prominently near the Indo-Pakistan boundary.

40. List down the location of the western coast.

The western coast is a narrow plain sandwiched between the Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea.

41. Name the three divisions of the western coastal plains.

The three divisions of western coastal plains are the Konkan, the Kannada and the Malabar.

42. On which coastal plain does the deltas of the Godavari, Mahandi, Krishna and Kaveri formed?

On the eastern coastal plains, these deltas are formed.

43. What is the Chilikalake?

It is a largest back water or salt water lake found in Odisha, south of the Mahanadi delta.

44. What was the earlier name of Lakshadweep?

They were known as Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindive. In the year 1973 they were named as Lakshadweep.

45. Which island in the Lakshadweep islands group has a bird sanctuary?

The bird sanctuary is located in the Pitti Island.

46. In which habitat the coral polyps flourish?

Coral polyps flourish in a habitat consisting of shallow warm water, which does not have mud. This kind of habitat is found in Lakshadweep islands.

47. Which physical feature of India is known as granaries of the world?

The Northern plain of India is known as granaries of the world.



I. Short Answer Type Questions.

1. Give a brief description of the Himalayan Mountains.

Or

State any three features of Himalayan Mountains.

The three features of Himalayan Mountains are:

- a. Himalayas are geologically young as well as structurally fold mountains stretching along the northern borders of India.
- b. They run from west to east direction i.e. from River Indus to River Brahmaputra.
- c. They form an arc over a length of 2400 km. they are the loftiest rugged mountain range in the world.

2. Explain in brief the famous passes of the Himalayas.

A pass is a natural pathway in between high mountains. The Himalayan mountains are so formidable that it is not possible to cross them. There are some passes in the Himalayas which provide route-way across them. Some of the important passes are:

- a. Shipki La located in Satluj valley in Himachal Pradesh along Tibet border.
- b. Lipulekh pass near Tibet border in Uttarakhand providing route to Mt. Kailash and Mansarowar in Tibet.
- c. In the east, there is Nathu La pass in Sikkim and China border providing passage from India to Lhasa Bomdi la pass La Arunachal-China border.

3. List some major Mountain Peaks of the Himalayas.

The Greater Himalayas or Himadri has the tallest peaks of the world. Many peaks are more than 8000 metres above sea level and remain snow bound throughout the year. Some of them are as follows:

- a. Mount Everest or Sagarmatha is 8848 high located in Nepal is the world's highest peak.
- b. Kanchenjunga (8598 m) is the second highest peak in the Himalayas. It is in Sikkim in India.
- c. Nanga Parbat (8126 m) lies in Kashmir and Nanda Devi (7817 m) in Uttarakhand are the other two peaks.



d. NamchaBarwa (7756 m), an important peak on the border of Arunachal Pradesh and Tibet.

4. Give an account of the four divisions of Himalayas from west to east along with Purvachal hills.

The four divisions of Himalayas from west to east are:

a. **Punjab Himalayas:** They lie between Indus and Satluj rivers. They are also known locally as Kashmir and Himachal Himalayas from west to east.

b. **Kumaon Himalayas:** These Himalayas lie between Satluj and Kali rivers.

c. **Nepal Himalayas:** These Himalayas lie between Kali and Tista rivers.

d. **Assam Himalayas:** These Himalayas lie between Tista and Dihang rivers.

Purvachal Hills: These are the north-eastern extension of Himalayas. Beyond the Dihang gorge, the Himalayas bend sharply to the South and spread along the north-eastern boundary on India. They are mainly composed of strong sandstones. The important hills are the Patkai, the Naga, the Manipur and the Mizo hills.

5. Mention division of Northern Plains marked by rivers.

The Northern Plains of India are fertile alluvial plains. The division of Northern plains marked by river are:

a. **Indus Plains:** Indus plain formed by River Indus and its tributaries e.g. Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas and Satluj.

b. **Ganga Plains:** The plain formed by River Ganga and its tributaries such as Yamuna, Ghaghara, Gandak, Kosi etc. It extends between Ghaggar and Teesta rivers. It covers the states of Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal.

c. **Brahmaputra Plains:** The plains lies in the east mainly in Assam. These are very narrow plains drained by Brahmaputra and its tributaries.

6. Write some important features of Ganga Plains.

Some important features of Ganga Plains are:

a. The Ganga Plain lies in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Delhi and West Bengal. The deltaic part of the plain is in West Bengal and Bangladesh. This part of the plains is formed by Ganga and its Himalayan tributaries (Yamuna, Ghaghara, Gandak) and Peninsular tributaries (Chambal, Betwa, Ken and Son).

b. The Plain slopes towards east and southeast and also has high fertile soils.

c. These plains extended between Ghaggar and Teesta rivers.



7. Differentiate between bhabhar and terai.

Bhabar	Terai
a. It is formed by the rivers after descending down from the mountains (along the foothills-Shiwalika to Tista).	a. It lies to the south of bhabar running parallel to it.
b. It is 8-16 km wide.	b. It is 20-30 km wide.
c. The bhabar area comprises of pebble rocks. It makes a porous bed near the river.	c. It has rich deposits of alluvium.
d. Streams disappear in bhabar and flow underground.	d. Underground streams of bhabar re-emerge here as a marshy land.
e. Not suitable for agriculture.	e. Suitable for agriculture or can be reclaimed for agriculture.

8. Write the importance of peninsular plateau.

- a. The peninsular plateau which is made up of old crystalline igneous and metamorphic rocks is a rich source of mineral wealth.
- b. The Deccan Trap provides the black soil, which is most suitable for cultivation of cotton crops.
- c. It has a number of industries especially in the Chotanagpur plateau are e.g. Jameshedpur and Bokaro steel plants etc.

9. Write a short note on the Deccan Trap.

- a. The black soil area of the peninsular plateau is known as Deccan Trap.
- b. This is of volcanic origin, hence the rocks are of igneous nature. Over a period of time, these rocks have broken down to form black soils.
- c. It covers parts of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

10. Mention the three distinct features of Aravali hills.

The three distinct features of Aravali hills are:

- a. It lies on the western and north-western margins of the peninsular plateau.
- b. These hills appeared as broken hills as they got highly eroded.
- c. In a southwest to northeast direction, Aravali hills extended from Gujarat to Delhi.

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I. Long Answer Type Questions.

1. Describe the three parallel ranges of the Himalayas.



The three parallel ranges of the Himalayas are:

a. **Himadri (Greater or Inner Himalayas):** It is the most continuous range of the Himalayas. It has loftiest peaks with an average height of 6000 metres. For example, Mount Everest 8848 metres, Kanchenjunga 8598 metre. The folds of this part are asymmetrical in nature. It is perennially snow bound and gives rise to a number of perennial rivers e.g. Ganga rises from Gangotri glacier.

b. **Himachal (Lesser Himalayas):** These ranges lie south of Himadri and forms the most rugged ranges. These ranges are mainly composed of highly compressed and altered rocks. The average height of the lesser Himalayas is between 3700 and 4500 metres. The important ranges are the PirPanjal, the Dhauladhar and the Mahabharat. This range consists of the famous valley of Kashmir, the Kangra and the KulluValley. This range is also famous for its hills stations like Mussoorie, Nainital, Ranikhet, Shimla. This range is also famous for its fruit orchards.

c. **Shivaliks (Outer Himalayas):** These ranges extend over a width of 10-50 km and height between 900 and 1100 metres. These ranges are made up of unconsolidated mud and rocks brought down by the Himalayan rivers. These ranges are more prone to landslides and earthquakes. They are prominent in the western part of India. The longitudinal valleys lying between lesser Himalayas and the Shivaliks are called 'Duns' like Dehra dun, Kotli Dun and Patli Dun etc.

2. Mention the significance of Himalayas.

The significance of Himalayas is as follows:

a. The Himalayas act as a climatic divide. They do not allow the cold winds from Central Asia to come into India nor do they allow the monsoons to escape into Central Asia.

b. They are storehouse of forest wealth and wildlife.

c. They give rise to perennial rivers e.g. River Ganga.

d. They have a number of places of tourist attraction i.e. hill stations (Shimla, Nainital, Srinagar etc.).

e. They are also famous for the river valleys, e.g. Kashmir valley drained by Jhelum river and fruit orchards.

f. They also are well known for the glaciers like Siachen, the highest battlefield.

3. Classify the Northern plains on the basis of the variations in the relief features.





The Northern Plains are alluvial plains formed by deposition of sediments brought down by rivers from the mountains. On the basis of the variation on relief of the northern plains it can be divided into four regions.

a. **Bhabar:** The rivers, after descending down from the mountains, deposit pebbles in a narrow belt of 8-16 km lying parallel to the slopes of the Shiwaliks. This is known as bhabar. The streams disappear in this belt.

b. **Terai:** Below the *Bhabar* belt, the streams and rivers re-emerge and create a wet, swampy and marshy region called *terai*. It was a thickly forested area rich in wildlife. But now the area has been cleared for cultivation.

c. **Bhangar:** It is the largest part of the northern plains made up of older alluvium. This region lies above the flood plains of the rivers and present as a terrace-like feature. The soil is not fertile here, it contains calcareous deposits called *kankar*.

d. **Khadar:** The newer, younger deposits of the flood plains found in the lower river valley and at the mouth of the river. These are very fertile and get renewed every year by annual floods. They are suitable for intensive cultivation.

4. Mention the significance of Northern Plains of India.

The significance of Northern Plains are:

a. The Northern Plains of India are drained by Rivers Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra along with their tributaries. Thus, these plains are very fertile and are rich source of food grains in India so known as granaries of the world.

b. The plains are densely populated. A number of religious places are also there, e.g, Varanasi, Rishikesh, Haridwar etc.

c. There is presence of a number of perennial rivers, e.g. Ganga, Yamuna etc. provide water for irrigation.

d. They have a dense network of transport such as railways and roadways.

e. They provide the base for early civilisations.

5. How do the physical divisions of India complement each other?

Each physiographic region is unique in itself, but in spite of their differences they are interdependent on each other. They complement one another, in the following sense:

a. The Northern mountains are a rich source of water and forest resources.

b. The Northern Plains with fertile soil are the granaries for the whole country.





c. The Peninsular plateau is the storehouse of mineral wealth, so it is a base of manufacturing industries.

d. The coastal plains provide sites for fishing and port activities.

e. The island groups have a unique diversity in flora and fauna.

Conclusion: None of these regions can exist without the other. Therefore, there is a geographical unity between these different regions. In other words there is a kind of unity in diversity that exists in India.



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