



Class 9	Social Studies	Geo Ch 2: Physical Features of India
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Question 1.

The Northern Plains has been formed by the interplay of three major river systems, namely _____ .

Answer:

The Indus-Ganga-Brahmaputra

Question 2.

The formation of the Northern Plains of India is a result of extensive

Answer:

Alluvial deposits

Question 3.

The most continuous range consisting of the loftiest peaks with an average height of 6,000 metres is known as the _____ .

Answer:

Himadri

Question 4.

Name the western and the eastern edges of the Peninsular Plateau.

Answer:

The Western Ghats and the Eastern Ghats.

Question 5.

The part lying between Teesta and Dihang rivers is the _____ .

Answer:

Assam Himalayas

Question 6.

Name the mountain ranges located in the eastern part of India.

Answer:

Purvachal or the eastern hill and mountain.

Question 7.

The valleys lying between Lesser Himalayas and the Shiwaliks are known as the _____ .

Answer:

Duns

Question 8.

The hills of Purvachal or the Eastern hills are composed of _____ .

Answer:

Sedimentary rocks

Question 9.

Due to the deposition of silt, the rivers in their lower course split into numerous channels, known as _____ .

Answer:

Distributaries

Question 10.

Which is the highest peak in India?

Answer:

Kanchenjunga

Question 11.

The largest delta in the world is _____ .

Answer:

Sunderban Delta

Question 12.

What do we mean by the term 'Bhangar'?

Answer:

Bhangar is the older alluvial soil region lying above the floodplains and presenting a terrace like feature.

Question 13.

What is the name of the part of the Himalayas lying between the Kali and the Teesta rivers?

Answer:

The part of the Himalayas lying between the Kali and the Teesta rivers is called Nepal Himalayas.

Question 14.

What do you understand by the term "peninsula"?

Answer:

Peninsula is a landmass that is bounded by sea on three sides.

Question 15.

What do you understand by 'duns'?

Answer:

The longitudinal valley lying between lesser Himalayas and the Shiwaliks are known as duns.

Question 16.

What is the Peninsular Plateau composed of?

Answer:

The Peninsular Plateau is composed of igneous and metamorphic rocks.

Question 17.

Which is the largest inhabited riverine island in the world?

Answer:

Majuli, in the Brahmaputra river, is the largest inhabited riverine island in the world.

Question 18.

What is the shape of the Peninsular Plateau?

Answer:

The Deccan Plateau is a triangular landmass that lies to the south of the river Narmada.

Question 19.

The newer, younger deposits of the flood plains are called _____ .

Answer:

Khadar

Question 20.

The Indian Desert lies towards the western margin of _____ .

Answer:

Aravalli hills

Question 21.

How long and wide are the Himalayas?

Answer:

The Himalayan region extends along the north of India. The Himalayas are the longest and the highest mountain range in the world. The Himalayas are 2400 km long, 400 to 150 km wide from Kashmir to Arunachal Pradesh respectively.

Question 22.

Which range of the Himalayas has hill stations?

Answer:

The lower ranges or the Lesser Himalayas have beautiful hill stations such as Srinagar, Shimla, Mussoorie, Nainital and Darjeeling. Many people visit these hill stations in summer, because these places are cooler than the plains.

Physical Features of India Class 9 Extra Questions Short Answer Type Questions

Question 1.

How the Himalayas have been divided on the basis of regions from west to east?

Answer:

- Punjab Himalayas: These divisions have been demarcated by river valleys. The part of Himalayas lying between Indus and Satluj has been traditionally known as Punjab Himalaya, but it is also known regionally as Kashmir and Himachal Himalaya from west to east respectively.
- Kumaon Himalayas: The part of the Himalayas lying between Satluj and Kali rivers is known as Kumaon Himalayas.
- Nepal Himalayas: The Kali and Teesta rivers demarcate the Nepal Himalayas.
- Assam Himalayas: the part lying between Teesta and Dihang rivers is known as Assam Himalayas.

Question 2.

Which are the three main ranges of the Himalayas?

Answer:

The Himalayas have three ranges which run almost parallel to each other. The distance between these ranges is wider in the west and becomes narrow in the east.

These ranges are—

- the Outer Himalayas or the Shiwalik Range
- the Middle Himalayas or the Himachal Range and
- the Inner or Great Himalayas or the Himadri.

Question 3.

Why is the soil in the Northern Plain fertile?

Answer:

The soil of this plain has been formed by the sediments brought down by the rivers from the Himalayas. Such plain is called an alluvial plain and it is very fertile. This plain is one of the largest and most fertile plains of world. It is the most thickly populated plain. This is also the major crop growing area in India. This plain is drained by river Ganga, Brahmaputra and their tributaries. The slope of this plain in the west is south-west and in the east is south-east.

Question 4.

What do you mean Great Himalayas? Write its two characteristics.

Answer:

The northern most range of the Himalayas is known as the Great or Inner Himalayas or the Himadri.

- (a) It is the most continuous range consisting of the loftiest peaks with an average height of 6000 metres. It contains all prominent Himalayan peaks.
- (b) Its folds are asymmetrical in nature and its core is composed of granite rock. It is perennially snow bound, and several glaciers descend from this range.

Question 5.

How was the Great Northern Plains of India formed?

Answer:

The formation of the Himalayas due to upliftment of sediments out of the Tethys Sea and subsidence of the northern flank of the Peninsular Plateau resulted in the formation of a large basin. In due course of time this depression, gradually got filled with deposition of sediments by the rivers flowing from the

mountains in the north and the peninsular plateau in the south. A flat land of extensive alluvial deposits led to the formation of the northern plains of India.

Question 6.

Write a short note on the Western Coastal Plains.

Answer:

The Peninsular plateau is flanked by stretch of narrow coastal strips, running along the Arabian Sea on the west and the Bay of Bengal on the east. The western coast, sandwiched between the Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea, is a narrow plain. It consists of three sections. The northern part of the coast is called the Konkan (Mumbai-Goa), the central stretch is called the Kannad Plain while the southern stretch is referred to as the Malabar coast.

Question 7.

Write any three features of the Shiwalik range.

Answer:

The three features of the Shiwalik range are :

- (a) This is the outermost range of the Himalayas.
- (b) The average altitude varies from 900 to 1100 metres.
- (c) These ranges are composed of unconsolidated sediments brought down by rivers from the main Himalayan ranges.

Question 8.

“The northern plains have diverse relief features”. Explain.

Answer:

Northern plains have great diverse relief features. According to the variations in relief features, the Northern plains can be divided into four regions. The rivers, after descending from the mountains deposit pebbles in a narrow belt of about 8 to 16 km in width lying parallel to the slopes of the Shiwaliks. It is known as bhabar. All the streams disappear in this bhabar belt. South of this belt, the streams and rivers re-emerge and create a wet, swampy and marshy region known as terai. The largest part of the northern plain is formed of older alluvium. It lies above the floodplains of the rivers and presents a terrace like feature. This part is known as bhangar. The soil in this region contains calcareous deposits, locally known as kankar. The newer, younger deposits of the flood plains are called khadar.

Physical Features of India Class 9 Extra Questions Long Answer Type Questions

Question 1.

Write in detail about the Himalayan mountains.

Answer:

- The Himalaya mountains lie between the Indus river and the Brahmaputra river which covers a distance of about 2,400 kilometres. They consist of three parallel ranges-the Himadri, the Himachal and the Shiwaliks from north to south. The Himadri or the Great Himalayas is the highest of all with an average height of more than 6,000 metres above sea level. It contains some of the world's highest peaks, such as Mt. Everest in Nepal (8,848 metres high, the highest peak in the world), Kanchanjunga, Nanga Parbat, Nanda Devi, Dhaulagiri, Makalu and Annapurna. Kanchenjunga (8,598 metres) in Sikkim is the highest peak of the Himalayas in India.
- To the south of the Himadri is the Himachal, also called the Middle or Lesser Himalayas. The range is mainly composed of highly compressed and altered rocks. The altitude varies between 3,600 and 4,500 metres and the average width is of 50 km. Many important hill stations such as Shimla, Manali, Kullu, Mussourie, Nainital and Darjeeling are situated in the Himachal range.
- The southern-most range, which is rather discontinuous, is the Shiwalik. They extend over a width of 10-50 km and have an altitude varying between 900 and 1100 metres. There are a number of broad longitudinal valleys called duns, especially in the Kumaon Himalayas of Uttarakhand. Dehradun is situated in one such valley. There are many passes like the Shipki La, Nathu La and the Bomdi La in the Himalayas.

Question 2.

What is the significance of the Northern Plains?

Answer:

The significance of the Northern Plain are :

- This plain is made up of the alluvial soil brought down by the rivers. This soil is very soft and fertile. Major crops such as wheat, rice,

sugarcane, pulses, oil seeds, etc. are grown here. This plain is the 'food bowl' of India.

- The land of this plain is soft, levelled and flat. Therefore, wells, tubewells and canals can be dug for irrigation. Due to proper irrigation, it is the largest producer of foodgrains in India.
- This plain gets sufficient rainfall. There are many rivers, streams and lakes. There is also rich vegetation. These factors affect the climate. The climate of the Northern Plains is very cold in winter and very hot in summer.
- This is one of the most thickly populated plain of the world. The most thickly populated states of India, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, lie in this plain.

Question 3.

What is the significance of Himalayas?

Answer:

The significance of Himalayas is as follows :

(a) The Himalayas stand like a mighty mountain wall in the north of India. They 'separate the Indian subcontinent from the rest of Asia.

(b) They have vast snowfields and glaciers which are the source of numerous perennial rivers. These rivers provide water for irrigation, navigation and generation of hydel power.

(c) The Himalayas act as a climatic barrier. They protect the Northern Plains from freezing cold winds. They also stop and deflect the rain-bearing winds.

(d) The forests in the Himalayas provide a suitable habitat for wildlife. They also have many wildlife sanctuaries.

(e) The Himalayas also have many beautiful hill stations like Shimla, Mussoorie, Nainital and Darjeeling, which attract tourists.

Question 4.

How do different physiographic regions of India complement each other?

Answer:

A detailed account of the different physiographic units highlights the unique features of each region :

(a) Each region complements the other and makes the country richer in its natural resources.

(b) The mountains are the major source of water and forest wealth.

(c) The Northern Plains are the granaries of the country. They provided the base for early civilizations.

(d) The plateau is a storehouse of minerals, which has played a crucial role in

the industrialization of the country.

(e) The coastal region and island groups provide sites for fishing and port activities. Thus, the diverse physical features of the land have immense future possibilities of development.
