

Very Short Answer Questions

Q.1. In which hemisphere India is located?

Ans. India is located in northern hemisphere.

Q.2. What is the latitudinal extent of India?

Ans. The main land extends between latitudes $8^{\circ}4'N$ and $37^{\circ}6'N$.

Q.3. What is the longitudinal extent of India?

Ans. India lies between the longitudes of $68^{\circ}7'E$ and $97^{\circ}25'E$.

Q.4. Which tropic divides India into almost two equal parts?

Ans. The Tropics of Cancer ($23^{\circ}30'N$).

Q.5. Name the two Island groups of India.

Ans. Andaman and Nicobar Islands are located in Bay of Bengal and Lakshadweep Islands in Arabian Sea.

Q.6. What is total area of Indian landmass?

Ans. Total landmass of India has an area of 3.28 million square Kms.

Q.7. Which countries are bigger than India in size?

Ans. Russia, Canada, USA, China, Brazil and Australia.

Q.8. What is the total length of coastline of the mainland including Andaman & Nicobar & Lakshadweep Islands?

Ans. The total length of the coastline of India is 7,516.6 Kms.

Q.9. Which two seas are located around India?

Ans. The Arabian sea on the west and Bay of Bengal on the east of Peninsula.

Q.10. What is the time lag between Gujarat and Arunachal Pradesh?

Ans. There is a time lag of 2 hours.

Q.11. What is the standard meridian of India?

Ans. The standard Meridian of India is $82^{\circ}30'E$.

Q.12. From where does Standard Meridian pass in India?

Ans. The Standard Meridian of India passes through Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh.

Q.13. Why 82°30' E has been selected as the Standard Meridian of India?

Ans. 82°30'E has been selected as the Standard Meridian of India since it passes almost from the centre of India.

Q.14. Do you justify Indian Ocean's name after India?

Ans. Yes, as no other country has a longer coastline on the Indian Ocean as India has and indeed, it is India's eminent position in the Indian Ocean which justifies the naming of an ocean after it.

Q.15. How many states and union territories does India have?

Ans. India has 29 states and 7 union territories.

Q.16. Which is the smallest and the largest state of India areawise?

Ans. Smallest - Goa largest - Rajasthan.

Q.17. Name the states which do not have an international border or lie on the coast.

Ans. Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand.

Q.18. Name the states of India, sharing border with Pakistan.

Ans. Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir.

Q.19. Which states of India share border with China?

Ans. Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.

Q.20. Name the states sharing border with Myanmar.

Ans. Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh.

Q.21. Which states of India share border with Bangladesh?

Ans. West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

Q.22. Which countries share their borders with India?

Ans. India share its land boundaries with Pakistan and Afghanistan in the north west, China (Tibet), Nepal and Bhutan in the north, Myanmar and Bangladesh in the east.

Q.23. Which two Island countries are India's neighbours?

Ans. Sri Lanka and Maldives.

Q.24. Which water bodies separates Sri Lanka from India?

Ans. Sri Lanka is separated from India by a narrow channel of sea formed by the Palk Strait and the Gulf of Mannar.

Q.25. Name the Eastern coastal states of India.

Ans. Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa (Odisha) and West Bengal.

Q.26. Name the Western coastal states from South to North?

Ans. Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra and Gujarat.

Q.27. If you intend to visit Kavarati during summer vacation, which union territory you will be going to?

Ans. Lakshadweep Islands in Arabian Sea.

Q.28. With which country do states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Sikkim have common frontiers?

Ans. Nepal.

Q.29. Name the states through which the Tropic of Cancer passes.

Ans. Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, W. Bengal, Tripura and Mizoram.

Q.30. Name the place situated on three seas of India.

Ans. Kanyakumari.

Short Answer Questions

Q.1. What is India's latitudinal and longitudinal extent? What is the total area of India?

Ans. (i) Latitudinal extent: $8^{\circ}4'N$ to $37^{\circ}6'N$

(ii) Longitudinal extent: $68^{\circ}7'E$ to $97^{\circ}25'E$

(iii) The landmass of India has an area of 3.28 million sq km.

Q.2. What is the significance of India's central location?

Ans. India is a south west extension of the Asian continent. The trans Indian Ocean routes which connect the countries of Europe in the west and the countries of East Asia provide a strategic central location to India. The Deccan Plateau protrudes into the Indian Ocean, thus helping India to establish close contact with West Asia, Africa and Europe from the western coast and East Asia and Southeast from the eastern coast.

Q.3. What do you know about the size of India?

Ans. The land mass of India has an area of 3.28 million sq. kms. India's total area accounts for about 2.4 per cent of the total geographical area of the world. India is the seventh largest country of the world starting with Russia, Canada, USA, China, Brazil, Australia and India. India has a land boundary of about 15,200 km. The total length of the coastline of the mainland including Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep is 7,576.6 kms.

Q.4. Why is the difference between the durations of day and night hardly felt at Kanyakumari but not so in Kashmir?

Ans. These places do not have the same duration of day and night. The circle of illumination divides the Equator into two equal parts. The days and nights are, therefore, of the same duration at the equator. As Kanyakumari is quite near the equator, the day-night difference is hardly one hour there. But as we move away from the equator towards the poles, the variations in the duration of day and night becomes greater. It is because of the unequal division of the parallels of latitude by the circle of illumination. Kashmir is over 30° away from the equator and so the difference in duration of day and night is over four hours there.

Q.5. What are India's unique locational features?

Ans. (i) India lies completely on the north of the equator. So it is situated in the Northern Hemisphere.

(ii) The Tropic of Cancer passes through the middle of India. While its southern part (i.e., the peninsular India) falls in the tropical zone, the northern half lies in the subtropical zone or warm temperate zone.

(iii) India is also situated to the east of the Prime Meridian. It lies not only in the Eastern Hemisphere but also has central position in it.

(iv) India occupies the South-Central peninsula of the world's largest and the most popular continent, Asia.

(v) It also lies at the head of the Indian Ocean. It has the longest coastline on this ocean.

Q.6. Name the Union Territories of India.

Ans. (i) Delhi

(ii) Daman and Diu

(iii) Dader and Nagar Haveli

(iv) Puducherry (Pondicherry)

(v) Chandigarh

(vi) Lakshadweep

(vii) Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Long Answer Questions

Q.1. Classify the states into five groups each having common frontiers with Pakistan, China, Myanmar, Bangladesh and Nepal.

Ans. (i) Pakistan: Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat.

(ii) China: Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.

(iii) Myanmar: Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram.

(iv) Bangladesh: Bihar, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura.

(v) Nepal: Uttarakhand, U.P., Bihar, West Bengal and Sikkim.

Q.2. How has India developed relationships with the world through the land route?

Ans. The passes across the mountains in the north have provided passages to the ancient travellers. These routes have contributed in the exchange of ideas and commodities since ancient times. The ideas of Upanishads, Ramayana, the stories of Panchtantra, the Indian numerals and the decimal system could thus, reach many parts of the world. The spices, muslin and other merchandise were taken from India to different countries. On the other hand, influence of Greek sculpture, their architectural styles of domes and minarets can be seen in India.

Q.3. Throw more light on India occupying an important and strategic position in South Asia.

Ans. (i) India has 29 States and 7 Union Territories.

(ii) India shares its land boundaries with Pakistan and Afghanistan in the north-west, China (Tibet), Nepal and Bhutan in the north and Myanmar and Bangladesh in the east.

(iii) Our southern neighbours across the sea consist of the two island countries, namely Sri Lanka and Maldives.

(iv) Sri Lanka is separated from India by a narrow channel of sea formed by the Palk Strait and the Gulf of Mannar while Maldives Islands are situated to the South of the Lakshadweep Islands.

India has had strong geographical and historical links with her neighbours.

Q.4. Why 82°30' E has been as the standard meridian of India?

Ans. 82°30' E meridian has been selected as the standard meridian of India for the following reasons:

(i) This is a general understanding among the countries of the world to select a Standard Meridian in multiples of 7°30' east and west of Prime Meridian. It is equal to half an hour.

(ii) A country's standard time is derived from such a central meridian. The minimum difference of time between two consecutive standard meridians should be half an hour.

(iii) From Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh, there is a time lag of two hours. Hence, time along the standard meridian of India (82°30'E) passing through Mirzapur (U.P.) is taken as the standard time for the whole country.

HOTS (Higher Order Thinking Skills)

Q.1. “India has a large coastline which is advantageous”. Explain.

Ans. (i) India has a large coastline on the Indian ocean.

(ii) Its central location and long coastline enable many countries to pass through India’s ports during their sea route.

(iii) Major ports on Eastern and Western Coast help in import and export of goods from India, developing its trade.

Q.2. Justify the naming of Indian ocean after India?

Ans. (i) No other country has as long coastline on the Indian ocean as India has.

(ii) India’s location is also in the centre of Asia approximately the centre of ocean too.

(iii) India is strategically centrally located enroute to the merchants travelling from West Asia to East Asia or European countries to South Eastern Asian countries.

Therefore, Indian ocean is the suitable name given to this ocean.

Q.3. What is meant by Indian standard time? Why do we need a standard meridian in India?

Ans. Indian standard time is the uniform time calculated by the Standard Meridian of India. It is called as IST.

(i) India is a large country, almost 30 degrees are passing from westernmost state, Gujarat to easternmost state, Arunachal Pradesh.

(ii) Due to that, here is a difference of two zones.

(iii) To avoid confusion or chaos for having different timings in different states, one standard meridian is taken to have a uniform time for the entire country.

(iv) Therefore, at 82°30'E has been taken as standard meridian of India, passing through Mirzapur (Uttar Pradesh).