

Very Short Answer Questions

Q. 1. What do you mean by agriculture?

Ans. Agriculture means cultivation on field. The term “agriculture’ is derived from latin words ‘ager’ or ‘agri’ meaning soil and ‘culture’ meaning cultivation.

Q. 2. What is primary activity?

Ans. Primary activities are those activities which are connected with extraction and production of natural resources like agriculture, fishing, etc.

Q. 3. Define secondary activities.

Ans. Secondary activities are concerned with the processing of primary or natural products, i.e., manufacturing of the products like baking of bread, weaving of cloth, etc.

Q. 4. What is tertiary activity?

Ans. Tertiary activities provide support to the primary and secondary sectors through their services. It includes trade, transport, banking, insurance, etc.

Q. 5. What is arable land?

Ans. Favourable topography of soil and climate are vital for agricultural activity. The land on which the crops are grown is known as arable land.

Q. 6. Explain how intensive subsistence farming is done?

Ans. In intensive subsistence farming, the farmer uses simple tools and more labour to cultivate a small plot of land. Rice is the main crop which is produced under this farming.

Q. 7. What do you mean by organic farming?

Ans. In organic farming, organic manure and natural pesticides are used instead of chemicals. No genetic modification is done to increase the yield of the crops.

Q. 8. Name the classification of primitive subsistence agriculture.

Ans. The classification of primitive subsistence agriculture are:

- (i) Shifting cultivation
- (ii) Nomadic cultivation–herding.

Q. 9. Define commercial farming.

Ans. In commercial farming, crops are grown and animals are reared for sale in the market. The area cultivated and the amount of capital used is large. Machines are used to do most of the farming work.

Q. 10. Give examples of major plantations found in the world.

Ans. The major plantations are found in the tropical regions of the world like rubber in Malaysia, coffee in Brazil, tea in India and Sri Lanka.

Q. 11. What do you mean by major crops?

Ans. The large variety of crops that are grown to meet the requirement of the growing population are called major crops. Major crops are: food crops, fibre crops and beverage crops.

Q. 12. Name some of the major food crops.

Ans. The major food crops are rice, wheat, millets and maize.

Short Answer Questions

Q. 1. What climatic conditions are needed for rice production?

Ans. (i) Rice is the staple diet of the tropical and subtropical region.

(ii) Rice needs high temperature, high humidity and rainfall.

(iii) It grows best in alluvial clayey soils which can retain water.

Q. 2. What conditions are required for wheat production?

Ans. (i) Wheat requires moderate temperature and rainfall during growing season.

(ii) It needs bright sunshine at the time of harvest.

(iii) It thrives best in well drained loamy soil.

Q. 3. Why cotton is suitably grown in India?

Ans. (i) Cotton requires high temperature, light rainfall, two hundred and ten frost free days and bright sunshine for its growth.

(ii) It grows best on black and alluvial soil.

(iii) It is one of the main raw materials for the cotton textile industry.

Q. 4. What do you know about 'Golden Fibre' of India?

Ans. (i) Jute is also known as the 'Golden Fibre'.

(ii) It grows well on alluvial soil and requires high temperature, heavy rainfall and humid climate.

(iii) The crop is grown in the tropical areas. India and Bangladesh are the leading producers of jute.

Q. 5. In which kind of regions coffee is grown?

Ans. (i) Coffee requires warm and wet climate and well drained loamy soil.

(ii) Hill slopes are more suitable for growth of this crop.

(iii) Brazil is the leading producer followed by Columbia and India.

Q. 6. Under what conditions tea is grown in India?

Ans. (i) Tea is a beverage crop grown on plantations.

(ii) This requires cool climatic and well distributed high rainfall throughout the year for growth of its tender leaves.

(iii) It needs well drained loamy soils and gentle slopes.

(iv) Labour in large number is required to pick the leaves.

Q. 7. Write a short note on subsistence farming.

Ans. The form of agriculture which is done solely to meet the needs of the farmer's family is called subsistence farming. Low level of technology and household labour are used to produce on small scale.

Q. 8. Name the types of subsistence farming.

Ans. There are two types of subsistence farming:

- (i) Intensive subsistence farming
- (ii) Primitive subsistence farming

Q. 9. Name the types of commercial farming.

Ans. The types of commercial farming are:

- (i) Commercial grain farming
- (ii) Mixed farming
- (iii) Plantation agriculture.

Q. 10. Define commercial grain farming.

Ans. In commercial grain farming crops like wheat and maize are grown for commercial purpose. Temperate grasslands of North America, Europe and Asia are major areas of commercial grain farming.

Q. 11. Explain mixed farming.

Ans. In mixed farming, the land is used for growing food and fodder crops and rearing livestock. It is practised in Europe, eastern USA, Argentina, southeast Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

Long Answer Questions

Q. 1. Briefly describe primitive subsistence agriculture.

Ans. Primitive subsistence agriculture includes shifting cultivation and nomadic herding.

Shifting cultivation: This cultivation is practised in the thickly forested areas of Amazon basin, tropical Africa, parts of Southeast Asia and Northeast India. A plot of land is cleared by felling the trees and burning them. The ashes are then mixed with the soil and crops like maize, yam, potatoes and cassava are grown. After sometime, the land is abandoned and the farmers move to a different place.

Nomadic herding: Nomadic herding is practised in the semi-arid and arid regions of Sahara, Central Asia and some parts of India like Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir. In this type of farming, herdsman move from place to place with their animals for fodder and water along defined routes. Sheep, camel, yak and goats are the herding animals. They provide milk, meat, wool, hides and other products to the herders and their families.

Q. 2. Explain the agricultural development.

Ans. Agricultural Development refers to efforts made to increase farm production in order to meet the growing demand of increasing population. Increasing the cropped area, the number of crops grown, improving irrigation facilities, use of fertilisers and high yielding variety of seeds are the ways to develop agriculture. The another aspect of agriculture development is mechanisation of agriculture. The main aim of agricultural development is to increase food security.

Hots (Higher Order Thinking Skills)

Q. 1. Name the different types of culture.

Ans. The different types of culture are as follows:

(i) **Agriculture:** Cultivation on the soil, i.e., raising crops and rearing livestock.

(ii) **Sericulture:** It is commercial rearing of silk worms.

(iii) **Pisciculture:** It is breeding of fish in specially constructed tanks and ponds.

(iv) **Viticulture:** It is cultivation of grapes.

(v) **Horticulture:** Growing of vegetables, flowers and fruits for commercial use.

Q. 2. What is farm system?

Ans. When agriculture or farming is looked at as a system is called farm system. It includes three steps—Input, processing and output.

(i) **Inputs:** Seeds, fertilisers, machinery land and labour are important inputs.

(ii) **Processing:** It involves ploughing, sowing, irrigation, weeding and harvesting.

(iii) **Outputs:** It includes crops, dairy, fibre and poultry products.

Q. 3. Compare farming in India and USA.

Ans. In India, a typical Indian farm is about 1.5 hectares in area. The farmer takes a tractor on rent for ploughing his field, or some farmers use old methods to plough the field by using bullocks. All the members of the farmer family help in various farm activities. They buy HYV seeds and implements from the bank or Agricultural Co-operative Society. They sell the produced crop in the market even at unfavourable prices.

In USA, the average size of a farm is about 250 hectares. The farmers reside in the farm. Adequate measures are taken to control pests that can damage the crop. Soil samples are sent to soil testing laboratory from time to time to check the nutrient contents of the soil. Tractors, seed drills, leveller, combined harvester and thresher are used to perform various agricultural operations. A farmer in USA works like a businessman and not a peasant farmer.