Very Short Answer Questions

Q.1. What is diversity?

Ans. By nature, mankind inherits a variety of things. Seasonal cycle of summer, monsoon, autumn, winter and spring reflects the diversity of nature. Nature thus provides diversity. Human beings also reflect different kinds of traits or attributes. This difference is termed as diversity.

Q.2. What is the food of Ladakh people? What do they own?

Ans. The staple food of people living here is meat and milk products like cheese and butter. Goats, cows and dogs (Yak-cows) are owned by each family.

Q.3. What are the different kinds of religions in Kerala?

Ans. As a result of several historical influences, people of Kerala practise different religions such as Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Hinduism and Buddhism.

Q.4. Examine the main occupations practised in Kerala.

Ans.

The main occupations are cultivation and fishing.

They grow spices like pepper, cloves and cardamoms.

They are good traders also.

Q.5. How is India a diverse land?

Ans. India is a vast country with a variety of geographical and climatic conditions. People of different regions have their own food habits, language, ways of life and so on.

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Q.1. Where is Ladakh? How is its landscape?

Ans.

- i. Towards the eastern part of Jammu and Kashmir lies Ladakh, a cold desert in the mountains.
- ii. Since it is surrounded by snow-covered mountain peaks throughout the year and no rainfall is received, very little agriculture is possible in this region and very few trees are found in this region.
- iii. Even for the drinking water, people have to depend on the melting snow during the summer months.

Q.2. Why is sheep domesticated in Ladakh?

Ans. Mostly sheep is domesticated by the people here. The sheep is of a special quality because it produces Pashmina wool. All this wool is carefully collected by the Ladakhis and sold to traders from Kashmir where it is woven into shawls for sale and export.

Q.3. How does Ladakh attract tourists?

Ans. In spite of having a desert landscape, Ladakh has been able to attract tourists and traders because of the many mountain passes and scenic beauty through which the caravans travelled to what is today called Little Tibet. It was considered a good trade route.

Q.4. Examine the religious composition of Ladakh.

Ans. Buddhism also reached Tibet through Ladakh which is also called 'Little Tibet'. With the introduction of Islam, nearly four hundred years ago, there is a significant Muslim population living in Ladakh. Both Muslims and Buddhists perform the local versions of the Tibetan national epic 'The Kesar Saga'.

Q.5. What attracted foreign traders to Kerala?

Ans. On the hills, a number of spices like black pepper, cloves and cardamoms are cultivated. This small place came on the world trade map because of these spices. It attracted people from far and wide—the Romans, the Jews and the Arabs were the first to come here. Romans carried out trade in early ancient times. It is said that St. Thomas, came here nearly 2,000 years ago bringing along Christianity with him to India.

Long Answer Questions

Q.1. Examine the distribution of social groups.

Ans.

- i. The first group in which a human being lives is his family which consists of his parents, siblings and relatives.
- ii. A group of family living in same area or having any linkage with others is called the second group–community.
- iii. And the community living in a huge geographical area with a common territory and government is called state or a nation.

Q.2. How can diversity be reflected? Can people with different background become friends?

Ans. Yes, people who are different from each other can be friends. The Right to Education (RTE) has made a provision that children of poor family in India would study in public schools. In these schools, children from well-off or rich families are also studying. It is very likely that these children with different backgrounds would sit together and may even become friends. So, while children may come from different backgrounds nothing stops them from becoming friends. They may be rich or poor and may belong to different caste, religion, creed, culture, race or colour. Diversity may even be reflected in their language, food habits, quality of dress or shoes and so on.

Q.3. How can we explain diversity?

Ans.

- i. Man initially led a nomadic life roaming around in search of food and shelter.
- ii. In later stages, man began to cooperate with each other.
- iii. This led to development of common language, culture and religious beliefs.
- iv. Historical proofs show that life and culture of mankind evolved in different manners with diverse cultures at different places.
- v. Diversity also made its pressure felt when people adopted to the particular geographical area where they lived.

Q.4. How did foreigners settle in Kerala?

- i. Arab traders came to India and settled down at Kerala.
- ii. The Portuguese also discovered the sea route to India from Europe when Vasco da Gama landed on his ship here.
- iii. Ibn Battuta, who visited India a little less than 700 years ago, in his travelogue, describes the lives of Muslims.
- iv. He states that they were a highly respected community out there.

Q.5. How is India diverse in terms of religion?

- i. In terms of religion, India is a multi-religious country with diverse groups—Hindus, Muslims, Jains, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhist and Zoroastrians.
- ii. Each of this religion has its own customs, festivals and rituals.
- iii. Festivals like Holi, Diwali, Id and Christmas are celebrated together.
- iv. Hindus go to a temple, Muslims to a mosque, Sikhs to Gurudwara. But they all go there for one purpose—to pray.

HOTS (Higher Order Thinking Skills)

Q.1. How is diversity related to interdependence?

Ans.

- i. Within a social group, diverse types of activities are performed depending on their skills, interests and education.
- ii. For example, a farmer grows crop not only for his family but for the entire nation.
- iii. In a family also some members work to earn a living for the family.
- iv. They provide money from which goods and services are bought from traders, educational institutions, doctors and so on.
- v. All this is due to concept of interdependence between different people and areas cutting across different regions, states and boundaries.

Q.2. How is unity in diversity reflected in India's traditions?

- i. India is a land where unity and diversity go hand in hand.
- ii. Diversity is a source of strength to people.
- iii. Under colonial rule, people of diverse backgrounds united under one banner to oppose the British.
- iv. The dictum of 'unity in diversity' was able to drive away the 'Phirangi Sahebs' from our country.

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