

## Very Short Answer Questions

### Q.1. What is lithosphere?

**Ans.** Lithosphere is the solid portion of the earth. It comprises the rocks of the earth's crust and the thin layers of soil that contain nutrient elements which sustain organisms.

### Q.2. What are the two main divisions of the earth's surface?

**Ans.** There are two main divisions of the earth's surface. The large land masses are known as the continents and the huge water bodies are called the oceanbasins.

### Q.3. How is level of land measured?

**Ans.** Elevation of land is measured from the level of the sea which is taken as zero. The level of the seawater remains the same everywhere.

### Q.4. Name the highest mountain peak and the greater depth of sea.

**Ans.**

- i. The highest mountain peak Mt. Everest is 8,848 metres above sea level.
- ii. The greatest depth of 11,022 metres is recorded at Mariana Trench in the Pacific Ocean.

### Q.5. Name the seven continents of the world.

**Ans.** The seven continents of the world are: Asia, Europe, Africa, North America, South America, Australia and Antarctica.

### Q.6. What are the various forms of water?

**Ans.** The various forms of water include oceans, seas, rivers, lakes, ice in glaciers, underground water and the water vapour in atmosphere. All these make the hydrosphere.

### Q.7. What is Indian station in Antarctica called?

**Ans.** India has research stations in Antarctica named Maitri and Dakshin Gangotri.

### Q.8. Name the three chief movements of ocean waters.

**Ans.** The three chief movements of ocean waters are waves, tides and ocean currents.

### Q.9. Which coastline is indented? How is it useful?

**Ans.** The coastline of Atlantic Ocean is highly indented. This irregular and indented coastline provides ideal location for natural harbours and ports and makes it the busiest ocean in the world.

### Q.10. How does distribution of earth affect man?

**Ans.** All types of resources are not found in each continent. It helps man to coordinate and promote trade and exchange of resources.

## Short Answer Questions

**Q.1. What do you know about continent 'Asia'?**

**Ans.**

- i. Asia is the largest and the most populous continent.
- ii. It covers about 1/3rd of the total land area of the earth.
- iii. It lies in Eastern and Northern Hemisphere.
- iv. The Tropic of Cancer passes through this continent.
- v. Asia is separated from Europe by the Ural Mountains on the west.

**Q.2. How Africa is supposed to be the second largest continent after Asia?**

**Ans.**

- i. Africa is the second largest continent.
- ii. The equator or 0° latitude runs almost through the middle of the continent.
- iii. A large part of Africa lies in the Northern Hemisphere.
- iv. The interesting thing is that this is the only continent through which the Tropic of Cancer, Equator and Tropic of Capricorn also pass.
- v. The world's largest desert Sahara is also located in Africa.
- vi. The world's longest river Nile also flows through Africa.

**Q.3. Write a short note on North America.**

**Ans.**

- i. It is the third largest continent on earth.
- ii. This continent lies in the Northern and the Western Hemisphere. It is surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean on the east side, South America on the south, Pacific Ocean on the west and the Arctic Ocean on the north. It ranks fourth, population-wise after Asia, Africa and Europe.

**Q.4. Write a short note on Europe.**

**Ans.** It is the second smallest continent on the earth. It lies in the northern and eastern hemisphere. It is bordered by the Arctic Ocean in the north, Asia in the south, Pacific Ocean in the east and by the Atlantic Ocean in the west.

Arctic Circle passes through it. Europe has five countries, Russia is the largest of all and Vatican City is the smallest. Most of the world's developed nations lie in this continent.

**Q.5. Write a short note on Arctic Ocean.**

**Ans.**

- i. It is the smallest and the shallowest of all the oceans in the world.

- ii. It is bordered by Europe, Asia and North America.
- iii. It lies mostly north of the Arctic Circle. It is connected to the Pacific Ocean by Bering Strait.
- iv. For most part of the year, the Arctic Ocean remains frozen.

**Q.6. What is global warming?**

**Or**

**How can we maintain balance on earth?**

**Ans.**

- i. Emissions from industries, thermal power plant and vehicles, pollute the air.
- ii. Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is an important constituent of air.
- iii. The increase in the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> leads to increase in global temperature.
- iv. It is called global warming.
- v. There is a need to limit the use of resources of the earth to maintain the balance of nature between the domains of the lithosphere, the atmosphere and the hydrosphere.

## Long Answer Questions

**Q.1. Write a short note on South America.**

**Ans.**

- i. South America lies mostly in the Southern Hemisphere.
- ii. The Andes, the world's largest mountain range, runs through its length from north to south.
- iii. It has world's largest river, the Amazon.

**Q.2. Write a short note on Australia.**

**Ans.**

- i. Australia is the smallest continent that lies entirely in the Southern Hemisphere.
- ii. It is surrounded on all sides by the Oceans and seas.
- iii. It is called the 'Island Continent'.

**Q.3. Write a short note on Antarctica.**

**Ans.**

- i. It is the southernmost continent of the earth (on the South Pole).
- ii. It is actually the fifth largest continent which is covered with thick layer of ice, due to which extreme cold conditions prevail there.
- iii. For the purpose of exploration, many countries including India have established the base camps there. India's camps are named as Dakshin Gangotri and Maitri.

**Q.4. What do you understand by the term 'Hydrosphere'?**

**Ans.**

- i. Hydrosphere on the earth refers to the water domain in all the states: solid, liquid and gaseous.
- ii. It includes the water present in rivers, lakes, oceans, ice caps and glaciers, etc.
- iii. It extends several kilometres below and above the earth's surface.
- iv. Ninety-seven per cent of water is present in the ocean, whereas rest three per cent is fresh water which is present in the form of ice caps on the mountain tops, as glaciers in the Polar Regions and lakes in underground reservoirs.

**Q.5. What is the location of Pacific Ocean?**

**Ans.**

- i. Pacific Ocean is the largest and the deepest ocean.
- ii. It is spread over one-third of the total area of the earth.
- iii. Mariana Trench, the deepest point on the earth lies in the Pacific.

- iv. Asia, Australia, North and South America surround it.

**Q.6. Write a short note on Atlantic Ocean.**

**Ans.** It is the second largest ocean in the world. In the north of Atlantic Ocean lies Greenland and Antarctic continent in the south. Its eastern margins are touching the Europe and the Africa whereas western flanks are touching the North and South America. This ocean is not very deep as compared to other oceans. It is the busiest ocean with regard to shipping.

**Q.7. Describe the Indian Ocean.**

**Ans.**

- i. The Indian Ocean is the third largest ocean.
- ii. It is the only ocean named after a country that is India.
- iii. The shape of the ocean is almost triangular.
- iv. In the north, it is bound by Asia, in the west by Africa and in the east by Australia.

## HOTS (Higher Order Thinking Skills)

**Q.1. Describe the composition of biosphere.**

**Ans.**

- i. The word 'biosphere' has been derived from the Greek word 'bio' which means 'life'.
- ii. The narrow zone of contact between the land, water and air is biosphere.
- iii. It is in this zone that life, which is unique to the Earth, exists.
- iv. There are several species of organism that vary in size from minute bacteria to huge mammals like whale.
- v. All the living organisms including humans are linked to each other in the biosphere for survival.

**Q.2. Examine the composition of atmosphere.**

**Ans.**

- i. The atmosphere is composed mainly of nitrogen and oxygen, which make up about 99 per cent of clean, dry air.
- ii. Nitrogen 78 per cent, oxygen 21 per cent and other gases like carbon dioxide, argon and others comprise 1 per cent.
- iii. Oxygen is the life-giving gas, nitrogen helps in the growth of living organisms.
- iv. Carbon dioxide is important as it absorbs heat radiated by earth, thereby keeping the planet warm.

**Q.3. How does atmospheric pressure affect us?**

**Ans.**

- i. The density of the atmosphere varies with height.
- ii. It is maximum at the sea level and decrease rapidly as we go up.
- iii. The temperature also decreases as we go upwards.
- iv. The atmosphere exerts pressure on the earth.
- v. This varies from place to place.
- vi. Some areas experience high pressure and same areas low pressure.
- vii. Air moves from high pressure to low pressure.