

## Very Short Answer Questions

**Q.1. Give an idea about the area of India.**

**Ans.** India has an area of about 3.28 million sq. km. The north-south extent from Kashmir to Kanyakumari is about 3,200 km. And the east-west extent from Arunachal Pradesh to Gujarat is about 2,900 km.

**Q.2. What are alluvial deposits?**

**Ans.** These are very fine soils, brought down by rivers and deposited in the river basins.

**Q.3. What is a tributary?**

**Ans.** A river or stream which contributes its water to a main river by discharging it into Main River from either side.

**Q.4. Write a short note on coastal plains.**

**Ans.** The Peninsular Plateau is surrounded by the coastal plains from both eastern and western sides. The plains on the east coast are known as eastern coastal plains, whereas on the west side are known as western coastal plains.

**Q.5. Write a short note on Great Indian Desert.**

**Ans.** In the western part of India lies the Great Indian Desert. It is a very hot, dry and sandy stretch of land. It has very little vegetation.

**Q.6. Why are rivers lifeline of a country?**

**Ans.** They give us water for drinking, navigation, hydropower and other uses. If they end, life would cease to exist on the earth.

## Short Answer Questions

### Q.1. Describe the locational extent of India.

Ans.

- i. India, officially called the Republic of India is located in the southern part of Asia.
- ii. It has a vast geographical extent due to which it is also called 'Subcontinent'.
- iii. It is bounded by land on one side and water from the three sides.
- iv. This is the only country which lends its name to an ocean named 'Indian Ocean'.
- v. More specifically, it is bounded by Arabian Sea on the South-west, Bay of Bengal on the South-east.
- vi. Pakistan on the west, China and Nepal to the North-east and Bangladesh to the east.
- vii. The great Himalayas run from Nanga Parbat in the North to the Namcha Baruah in the North-east.
- viii. In the north-west lies Thar Desert.
- ix. To the foothills of Himalayas lies the Great Plains (Indus-Ganga Plain).
- x. To the south of the Great Plains is the Peninsular Plateau.

### Q.2. Give the latitudinal and longitudinal extent of India.

Ans.

- i. India is located in the northern hemisphere.
- ii. The Tropic of Cancer ( $23^{\circ}30' N$ ) passes almost halfway through the country.
- iii. From South to north, main land of India extends between  $8^{\circ}4' N$  and  $37^{\circ}6' N$  latitude.
- iv. From west to east, India extends between  $68^{\circ}7' E$  and  $97^{\circ}25' E$  longitude.

### Q.3. How is India divided? What is the Indian Standard Meridian?

Ans.

- i. There is a difference of almost 30 degrees in both latitudinal and longitudinal extent.
- ii. Indian Standard Meridian lies at  $82^{\circ}30' E$  longitude and passes from Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh.
- iii. It passes through five states namely Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh.

### Q.4. Write a note on India's neighbours.

Ans.

- i. India shares its land frontiers with seven neighbouring countries.
- ii. India's boundaries are natural.
- iii. Its neighbours are Pakistan and Afghanistan in the north-west, Myanmar and Bangladesh in the east.
- iv. Across the sea, Sri Lanka is the nearest neighbour which is separated by a narrow strait known as Palk Strait.

- v. In the Indian Ocean, there is another island country—Maldives—south of the Lakshadweep islands.
- vi. Bhutan is totally situated in the Himalayas. It is also called Himalayan Kingdom.
- vii. Nepal another neighbour is another Hindu nation, after India in the world.

**Q.5. Make a table list of States and Union Territories in India.**

**Ans.**

Andhra Pradesh	Haryana	Maharashtra	Rajasthan
Arunachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh	Maharashtra	Sikkim
Assam	Jammu and Kashmir	Manipur	Tamil Nadu Telangana
Bihar	Jharkhand	Meghalaya	Tripura
Chhattisgarh	Karnataka	Mizoram	Uttar Pradesh
Goa	Kerala	Nagaland	Uttarakhand
Gujarat	Madhya Pradesh	Odisha	West Bengal

Union Territories

1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
2. Chandigarh
3. Dadra and Nagar Haveli
4. Daman and Diu
5. Lakshadweep
6. National Capital Territory of Delhi
7. Puducherry

**Q.6. Name the physical divisions of India.**

**Ans. Physical Divisions of India:** India can be divided into five physical divisions which are as follows:

1. The Great Himalayan Mountain
2. The Great Indian Desert
3. The Northern Plains
4. The Peninsular Plateau
5. The Coastal Plains
6. The Islands

**Q.7. Which is the world’s largest delta?**

**Ans.**

- i. The Ganga and the Brahmaputra form the world’s largest delta—the Sunderban delta.
- ii. The delta is triangular in shape.
- iii. It is an area of land formed at the mouth of the river (where rivers enter into the sea, that point is called the mouth of the river).

**Q.8. How are coral islands formed?**

**Ans.**

- i. Coral and skeletons of tiny marine animals called polyps.
- ii. When the living polyps die their skeletons are left other polyps grow on top of the hard skeleton which grows higher and higher, thus forming the coral islands.
- iii. For example, Lakshadweep Islands in the Arabian Sea.

**Q.9. Write a short note on Great Himalayas.**

**Ans.** Great Himalayas are also known as Inner Himalayas or Himadri. This is the highest mountain range among the three parallel ranges. Its peaks are snow covered throughout the year hence, it has been lent the name “Himadri”. All the highest peaks are lying in this range.

The highest peaks of the world are, Mount Everest (8,850 metres), Makalu, Dhaulagiri, Nanga Parbat, Annapurna, Nanda Devi, and Namcha Barmae.

**Q.10. Write a short note on Middle Himalayas.**

**Ans.** Also known as Himachal Himalayas, it is located south of the Great Himalayas. Pir Panjal and Dhauladhar ranges are its two important branches. It is home to the beautiful valleys. Some of them are the famous Kullu valley, Kashmir valley, etc.

**Q.11. Write a short note on Shiwalik.**

**Ans.** It is the southernmost range of the Himalayas. It is the youngest of all the three ranges (recent origin) and it is still rising in height. It is famous for longitudinal valleys which are called “Duns”. Dehradun and Kothridun are the best examples.

**Q.12. Write a short note on western coastal plains.**

**Ans.**

- i. These plains lie in the western part of the South India, which extend from Gujarat to Kanyakumari.
- ii. These are divided into three parts:
  - a. Konkan coast—Mumbai to Goa
  - b. Kannad coast—Goa to Mangalore
  - c. Malabar coast—Mangalore to Kanniyakumari

**Q.13. Write a short note on Eastern Ghats.**

**Ans.**

- i. The Eastern Ghats are most discontinuous.
- ii. They are broken by rivers flowing from west to east into Bay of Bengal.
- iii. The prominent rivers include the Godavari, Mahanadi, Krishna and Kaveri.
- iv. The Godavari basin is next only to the Ganga basin.

## Long Answer Questions

**Q.1. Give a brief description of the peninsular plateau of India.**

**Ans.**

- i. To the south of Northern Plains lies the Peninsular Plateau.
- ii. It is triangular in shape.
- iii. The relief is highly uneven.
- iv. This is a region with numerous hill ranges and valleys. Aravali hills, one of the oldest ranges of the world, border it on the north-west side.
- v. The Vindhya and the Satpuras are the important ranges.
- vi. The Western Ghats or Sahyadri border the plateau in the west and the Eastern Ghats provide the Eastern boundary.

**Q.2. Write a short note on Western Ghats.**

**Ans.**

- i. The Western Ghats are also called Sahyadri.
- ii. The southern parts are known as the Nilgiri, Annamalai, and the Cardamom Hills.
- iii. The height of the hill ranges decreases from south to north.
- iv. Anaimudi (2,695 m) is the highest peak in the region.

**Q.3. What is Himalaya? How are they divided?**

**Ans.**

- i. Standing tall in the north are the snow-capped Himalayas. Himalaya mean the 'abode of snow'.
- ii. The Himalayan Mountains are divided into three main parallel ranges.
- iii. The northernmost is the Great Himalaya or Himadri.
- iv. The world's highest peaks are located in this range.
- v. To the south of Himadri lies the Middle Himalaya or Himachal.
- vi. The Southernmost range is of Shivalik.

**Q.4. Explain the distribution of Northern Plains.**

**Ans.**

- i. The Northern Plains lie to the south of Himalayas.
- ii. They are generally level and flat.
- iii. These are formed by alluvial deposits laid down by rivers—the Indus, the Ganga, the Brahmaputra and their tributaries.
- iv. These river plains provide fertile land for cultivation.
- v. That is the reason for high concentration of population on these plains.

**Q.5. Write a short note on the islands.**

**Ans.**

- i. There are two main groups of islands on both sides of India, the Lakshadweep Islands and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- ii. The Lakshadweep Islands are in the Arabian Sea and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands are located in the Bay of Bengal.
- iii. Andaman and Nicobar Island group are more in number and are fairly large and extensive as compared to the Lakshadweep Islands.
- iv. Lakshadweep Islands are located north of Maldives. They are only 27 in number and out of these only 17 are inhabited.

**Q.6. Write a short note on east coastal plains.**

**Ans.**

- i. These plains run continuously from Odisha in the north to the Kanyakumari in the south.
- ii. These are further divided into two parts: the part lying between Mahanadi and Krishna is called "Northern Circars".
- iii. The part that lies between Krishna and Kavery is known as "Coromandel Coast".
- iv. Numerous lagoons can be found along these plains. For example, Chilika Lake in Odisha and Pulicat in Tamil Nadu.

## **HOTS (Higher Order Thinking Skills)**

**Q.1. Give an account of administrative divisions in India.**

**Ans.**

- i. The whole of the India is divided into 29 States and 7 Union Territories.
- ii. The Union Territories are governed by the administrators, who are appointed by the supreme commander (President).
- iii. The two territories namely Delhi and the Puducherry have been given partial statehood.
- iv. Rajasthan is the largest state area wise (prior to the division it was Madhya Pradesh), and Goa on the western coast is the smallest state.

**Q.2. What is the significance of the physiographic divisions in India?**

**Ans.**

- i. Himalayas protect India from cold Siberian winds. If Himalayas were not there, India would have been frozen by the cold and severe winds coming from Central Asia.
- ii. Himalayas provide passes to move into India or to move out of India to some other country.
- iii. The North Indian Plains provide a base for life, i.e., agriculture. It is one of the most densely-populated regions of the world. It contains fertile alluvial soil.
- iv. The Himalayan and the Peninsular Rivers are source of hydroelectricity