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CLASS: VI

SUB: SOCIAL SCIENCE

TOPIC:  
GEOGRAPHY

CH-5

2025-26

FROM PEAKS TO PLAINS

A. Tick() the correct option.

1. Which one of the following is not located in India? Mt Everest
2. Which plateau is often called the 'Roof of the World?' Tibetan Plateau
3. How many islands does India have? 1,300
4. The famous hill stations such as Shimla, Dalhousie and Darjeeling are located in Himachal
5. The average height of mountains in the greater Himalayas is about above sea level. 5500 m

B. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words.

1. Mt Everest and Kanchenjunga lie in Himadri.
2. The Lesser Himalayas are also known as Himachal.
3. The Great Indian Desert is also called Thar Desert.
4. Delta is a triangular-shaped depositional feature at the mouth of a river.
5. The slope of the Peninsular Plateau is from west to east.

C. Write 'T' for true or 'F' false for the following statements.

1. Mountains are often called 'storehouses of minerals.' False
2. Plains are large, flat areas of land with no big hills or deep valleys. True
3. The Ganges basin covers a major portion of the southern Plains. False
4. Krishna is a river that flows through the Thar Desert. False
5. Mountains provide valuable resources such as timber, herbs and minerals. True

D. Short answer questions.

1. What are mountains?

Mountains are tall landforms that rise much higher than the areas around them.

2. Write the names of trees and animals found in montane forests.

The names of trees found in montane forests are pine and deodars.

The names of animals found in montane forests are snow leopards, yaks and golden eagles.

3. Name the rivers flowing through the Indus Basin.

The rivers flowing through the Indus Basin are Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas and Sutlej.

4. What are the weather conditions in the Thar Desert?

The Thar Desert experiences extreme weather conditions with very hot summers, cold winters & low rainfall.

5. In how many parts are the northern mountains divided? Write their names.

The northern mountains are divided into three parts, namely:-

1. Himadri

2. Himachal

3. Shivalik

E. Long answer questions.

1. Explain the three parts of the Northern Plains.

The Northern Plains are divided into three parts:

1. Indus Basin - The Indus Basin lies in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Punjab. Rivers like Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas and Sutlej along with their tributaries flow through these states. Indus River originates in the Himalayas near Lake Mansarovar and drains into the Arabian Sea. Only a small portion of this basin lies in India while the bulk of it lies in Pakistan.

2. Ganges Basin - The Ganges basin covers a major portion of the Northern Plains. River Ganga originates from the Gangotri glacier in the Himalayas. Yamuna is its main tributary.

3. Brahmaputra Basin - The Brahmaputra originates very close to Lake Mansarovar. It enters India through Arunachal Pradesh and flows through Assam to meet Ganga in Bangladesh. It drains into the Bay of Bengal.

2. Write a short note on the Peninsular Plateau.

The Peninsular Plateau is the oldest landmass in India and lies to the south of the Northern Plains. It has a triangular shape and is surrounded by hills on three sides: the Aravallis, Vindhyas, Satpura and Rajmahal to the north and the Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats to the west and east. The plateau's average height ranges from 600 to 900 meters and it slopes from west to east. The plateau is divided into two parts: the Central Highlands and the Deccan Plateau. These are separated by the Vindhya and Satpura Ranges.

3. Write a short note on the Great Indian Desert.

The Great Indian Desert covers the western part of Rajasthan and extends into Pakistan. This region is dry, rocky and sandy and gets very little rainfall. This region also has very few seasonal streams. Luni is a river that flows through this desert. This region has little vegetation and the people mainly depend on cattle rearing, trading and irrigation-based agriculture.

4. What is a landform? Write the names of all landforms of India.

A landform is a natural feature of the Earth's surface that shapes the landscape. India has diverse landforms, each with unique characteristics:

1. Mountains – The Himalayas in the north act as a natural barrier and influence the climate.

2. Plateaus – The Deccan Plateau is a vast elevated region in southern India, rich in minerals and biodiversity.

3. Plains – The Plains are fertile lowlands formed by rivers like the Ganga, Yamuna, and Brahmaputra, making them ideal for agriculture.

4. Deserts – The Thar Desert, located in Rajasthan, has an arid climate with sand dunes and scarce vegetation.

5. Coastal Plains – The Eastern and Western Coastal Plains stretch along the eastern and western coasts of India, supporting fishing and trade.

6. Islands – The Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the Bay of Bengal and Lakshadweep Islands in the Arabian Sea are known for their unique ecosystems and marine life.

5. Distinguish between the following:

(i) Himadri and Himachal

Himadri - They lie in the extreme north of India. They remain covered with snow for most part of the year. The average height of these mountains is about 6000 m above the sea level. The world's highest peaks, Mt Everest and Kanchenjunga, lie in this region.

Himachal - They lie to the south of Himadri. Their slopes remain covered with forests. These mountain ranges are 4,000 to 5,000 m above sea level. Many important hill stations like Shimla, Dalhousie, Kullu, Manali, Mussoorie and Darjeeling are located in these ranges. Dhauladhar and Pir Panjal are the important mountain ranges in the Lesser Himalayas.

(ii) Central Highlands and Deccan Plateau

Central Highlands: Located in the north, this region includes the Malwa Plateau and slopes towards the Ganga Basin, passing through areas like Bundelkhand and Chhota Nagpur.

Deccan Plateau: Found south of the Vindhyas, this triangular, volcanic plateau slopes eastward, with rivers like the Godavari and Krishna flowing toward the eastern coast. It is bordered by the Eastern and Western Ghats which meet at the Nilgiri Hills.

6. Explain the significance of plains for humans.

Plains are significant for humans as they support farming and fishing, which are major occupations in regions like the Ganga Plain. Fertile soil helps grow crops like rice, wheat, maize, and cotton. Flat land makes transportation and trade easier, with rivers still used for travel. Rivers also have cultural importance, with festivals like the Kumbh Mela held at confluences. However, challenges like groundwater depletion and pollution affect sustainability, making careful resource management essential for the future.