



Mount Abu Public School

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Class XI Geography

Dear Students

Welcome to the New Academic session 2020-21

Before you go through this e-lesson, ensure that you have read the lesson. Mark the technical words ,Find out their meaning and note them in your register. The Various You tube links provide in the lesson will help in comprehending the concepts & make it easier for you .

Happy learning

Water in The Atmosphere

Humidity

➤ Water vapour present in the air is known as humidity. It is expressed quantitatively in different ways. It is expressed in terms of grams per cubic meter. It is of two types:

(a) Absolute Humidity: The actual amount of water vapour present in the atmosphere is known as absolute humidity.

(b) Relative humidity: The percentage of moisture present in the atmosphere as compared to its full capacity at a given temperature is known as the relative humidity.

➤ **Saturation:** The air containing moisture to its full capacity at given temperature is known as saturation.

➤ **Dew point:** The temperature at which saturation occurs in a given sample of air is known as dew point.

- Evaporation: It is a process by which water is transformed from liquid to gaseous state.
- Latent heat of Vapourisation: The temperature at which the water starts evaporating is referred to as the latent heat of vapourisation.
- Condensation: The transformation of water vapour into water is called condensation.

- Sublimation: The process by which water vapour changes directly to solid is called sublimation.
- Dew: When the moisture is deposited in the form of water droplets on cooler surfaces of solid objects such as stones, grass blades and plant leaves, it is known as *dew*.
- Frost: Frost forms on cold surfaces when condensation takes place below freezing point.

➤ Fog and Mist: The *fog* is a cloud with its base at or very near to the ground. The only difference between the mist and fog is that mist contains more moisture than the fog.

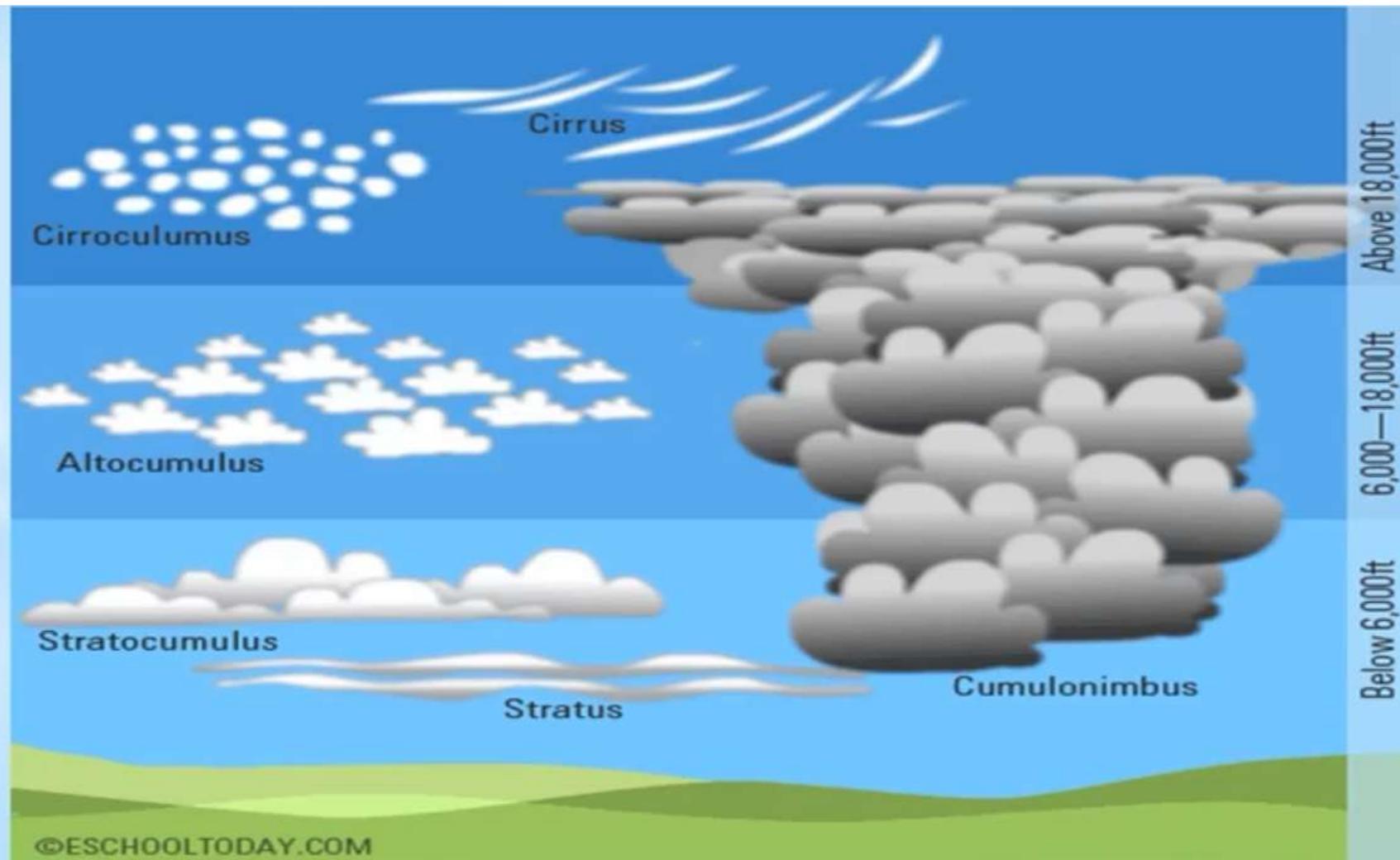
➤ Clouds: Clouds is a mass of minute water droplets formed by the condensation of the water vapour in free air at considerable elevations. According to their height, expanse, density and transparency or opaqueness clouds are grouped under four types :

(i) cirrus; (ii) cumulus; (iii) stratus; (iv) nimbus.

- Cirrus: Cirrus clouds are formed at high altitudes (8,000 - 12, 000 m). They are thin and detached clouds having a feathery appearance. They are always white in colour.
- Cumulus: Cumulus clouds look like cotton wool. They are generally formed at a height of 4,000 -7,000 m. They exist in patches and can be seen scattered here and there. They have a flat base.

➤ Stratus: As their name implies, these are layered clouds covering large portions of the sky. These clouds are generally formed either due to loss of heat or the mixing of air masses with different temperatures.

➤ Nimbus: Nimbus clouds are black or dark grey. They form at middle levels or very near to the surface of the earth. These are extremely dense and opaque to the rays of the sun. Nimbus clouds are shapeless masses of thick vapour.



This chapter deals with Humidity, types of humidity, relative humidity, absolute humidity, specific humidity, dew point, condensation, saturated air, types of precipitation -dew, frost, fog, mist, clouds cirrus, cumulus, stratus, nimbus, precipitation, types-(rainfall, sleet, snowfall, hailstones, rainfall types convective type, orographic rainfall, cyclonic rainfall, world distribution of rainfall.

Air contains water vapour. It varies from zero to four per cent by volume of the atmosphere and plays an important role in the weather phenomena. Water is present in the atmosphere in three forms namely - gaseous, liquid and solid. The moisture in the atmosphere is derived from water bodies through evaporation and from plants through transpiration. Thus, there is a continuous exchange of water between the atmosphere, the oceans and the continents through the processes of evaporation, transpiration, condensation and precipitation.

Water vapour present in the air is known as humidity. It is expressed quantitatively in different ways.

The actual amount of the water vapour present in the atmosphere is known as the **absolute humidity**. It is the weight of water vapour per unit volume of air and is expressed in terms of grams per cubic metre.

The ability of the air to hold water vapour depends entirely on its temperature. The absolute humidity differs from place to place on the surface of the earth.

The percentage of moisture present in the atmosphere as compared to its full capacity at a given temperature is known as the **relative humidity**.

The air containing moisture to its full capacity at a given temperature is said to be **saturated**.

The temperature at which saturation occurs in a given sample of air is known as **dew point**.

WATER IN THE ATMOSPHERE EVAPORATION AND CONDENSATION

The amount of water vapour in the atmosphere is added or withdrawn due to evaporation and condensation respectively.

Evaporation is a process by which water is transformed from liquid to gaseous state. Heat is the main cause for evaporation.

The temperature at which the water starts evaporating is referred to as the **latent heat of vaporization**.

Hence, the greater the movement of air, the greater is the evaporation.

The transformation of water vapour into water is called **condensation**. Condensation is caused by the loss of heat. When moist air is cooled, it may reach a level when its capacity to hold water vapour ceases. Then, the excess water vapour condenses into liquid form. If it directly condenses into solid form, it is known as **sublimation**.

In free air, condensation results from cooling around very small particles termed as hygroscopic condensation nuclei. Particles of dust, smoke and salt from the ocean are particularly good nuclei because they absorb water.

Condensation also takes place when the moist air comes in contact with some colder object and it may also take place when the temperature is close to the dew point.

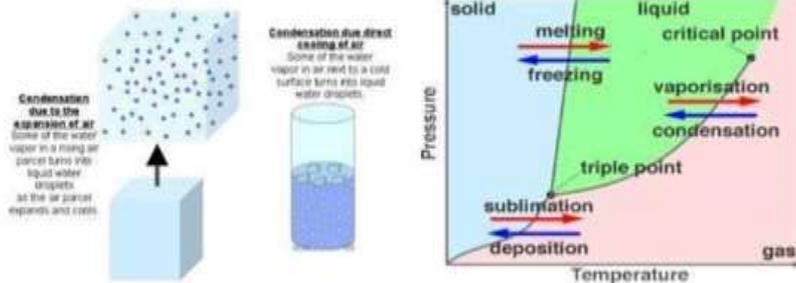
Condensation, therefore, depends upon the amount of cooling and the relative humidity of the air. Condensation is influenced by the volume of air, temperature, pressure and humidity. Condensation takes place:

- When the temperature of the air is reduced to dew point with its volume remaining constant;
- when both the volume and the temperature are reduced;
- when moisture is added to the air through evaporation. However, the most favourable condition for condensation is the decrease in air temperature.

After condensation the water vapour or the moisture in the atmosphere takes one of the following forms - dew, frost, fog and clouds.

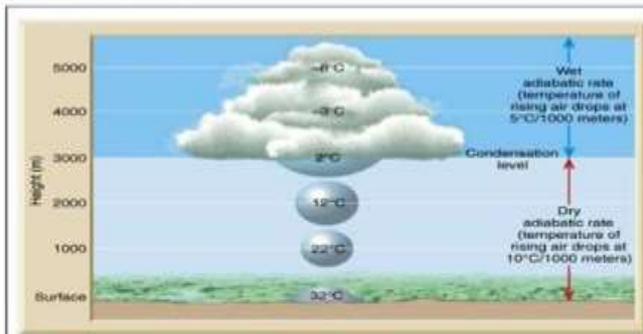
Forms of condensation can be classified on the basis of temperature and location.

Condensation takes place when the dew point is lower than the freezing point as well as higher than the freezing point.



Dew

- When the moisture is deposited in the form of water droplets on cooler surfaces of solid objects (rather than nuclei in air above the surface) such as stones, grass blades and plant leaves, it is known as **dew**.



The ideal conditions for its formation are 1. clear sky, 2. calm air, 3. high relative humidity, 4. cold and long nights.

For the formation of dew, it is necessary that the dew point is above the freezing point.

Frost

Frost forms on cold surfaces when condensation takes place below freezing point (0°C), i.e. the dew point is at or below the freezing point. The excess moisture is deposited in the form of minute ice

crystals instead of water droplets. The ideal conditions for the formation of white frost are the same as those for the formation of dew, except that the air temperature must be at or below the freezing point. 0

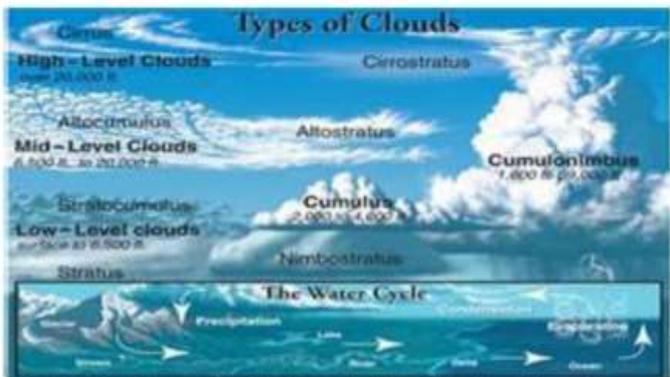
Fog and Mist

When the temperature of an air mass containing a large quantity of water vapour falls all of a sudden, condensation takes place within itself on fine dust particles. So, the **fog** is a cloud with its base at or very near to the ground. Because of the fog and mist, the visibility becomes poor to zero. In urban and industrial centres smoke provides plenty of nuclei which help the formation of fog and mist. Such a condition when fog is mixed with smoke, is described as **smog**.

The only difference between the mist and fog is that mist contains more moisture than the fog. In mist each nuclei contains a thicker layer of moisture. Mists are frequent over mountains as the rising warm air up the slopes meets a cold surface. Fogs are drier than mist and they are prevalent where warm currents of air come in contact with cold currents. Fogs are mini clouds in which condensation takes place around nuclei provided by the dust, smoke, and the salt particles.

Clouds

Cloud mass



is a of

minute water droplets or tiny crystals of ice formed by the condensation of the water vapour in free air at considerable elevations. As the clouds are formed at some height over the surface of the earth, they take

various shapes. According to their height, expanse, density and transparency or

opaqueness clouds are grouped under four types :

(i) cirrus; (ii) cumulus; (iii) stratus; (iv) nimbus.

Cirrus

Cirrus clouds are formed at high altitudes (8,000 - 12,000 m). They are thin and detached clouds having a feathery appearance. They are always white in colour.

Cumulus

Cumulus clouds look like cotton wool. They are generally formed at a height of 4,000 - 7,000 m. They exist in patches and can be seen scattered here and there. They have a flat base.

Stratus

As their name implies, these are layered clouds covering large portions of the sky. These clouds are generally formed either due to loss of heat or the mixing of air masses with different temperatures.

Nimbus

Nimbus clouds are black or dark gray. They form at middle levels or very near to the surface of the earth. These are extremely dense and opaque to the rays of the sun. Sometimes, the clouds are so low that they seem to touch the ground. Nimbus clouds are shapeless masses of thick vapour.

A combination of these four basic types can give rise to the following types of clouds: **high clouds** - cirrus, cirrostratus, cirrocumulus;

middle clouds - altostratus and altocumulus;

low clouds - stratocumulus and nimbostratus
and clouds with **extensive vertical development** - cumulus and cumulonimbus.

Precipitation

The process of continuous condensation in free air helps the condensed particles to grow in size. When the resistance of the air fails to hold them against the force of gravity, they fall on to the earth's surface. So after the condensation of water vapour, the release of moisture is known as **precipitation**. This may take place in liquid or solid form.

The precipitation in the form of water is called **rainfall**, when the temperature is lower than the 0°C, precipitation takes place in the form of fine flakes of snow and is called **snowfall**. Moisture is released in the form of hexagonal crystals. These crystals form flakes of snow. Besides rain and snow, other forms of precipitation are **sleet** and **hail**, though the latter are limited in occurrence and are sporadic in both time and space.

Sleet is frozen raindrops and refrozen melted snow-water. When a layer of air with the temperature above freezing point overlies a subfreezing layer near the ground, precipitation takes place in the form of sleet. Raindrops, which leave the warmer air, encounter the colder air below. As a result, they solidify and reach the ground as small pellets of ice not bigger than the raindrops from which they are formed.

Sometimes, drops of rain after being released by the clouds become solidified in to small rounded solid pieces of ice and which reach the surface of the earth are called **hailstones**.

These are formed by the rainwater passing through the colder layers. Hailstones have several concentric layers of ice one over the other.

Types of Rainfall

On the basis of origin, rainfall may be classified into three main types -

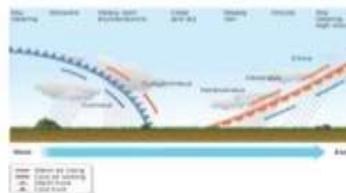
1. the **convective**, 2. **orographic or relief** and 3. the **cyclonic or frontal**.

Convective Rain

The air on being heated, becomes light and rises up in convection currents. As it rises, it expands and loses heat and consequently, condensation takes place and cumulus clouds are formed. With thunder and lightning, heavy rainfall takes place but this does not last long. Such rain is common in the summer or

in the hotter part of the day. It is very common in the equatorial regions and interior parts of the continents, particularly in the northern hemisphere.

cyclonic Rainfall

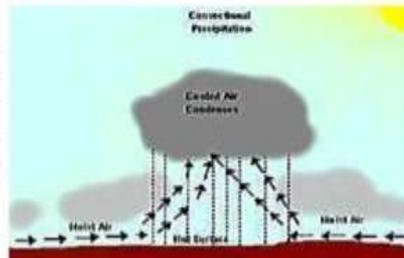


Orographic rainfall



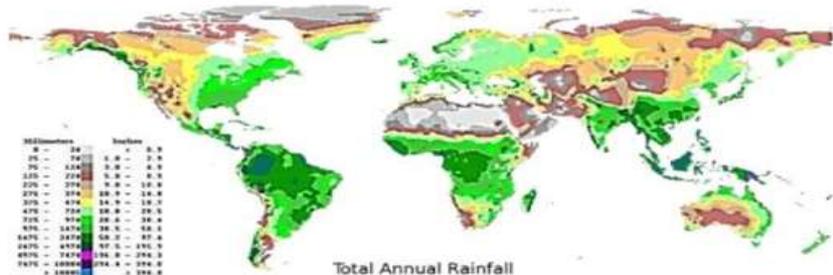
CONVECTIONAL RAIN FALL

When the saturated air mass comes across a mountain, it is forced to ascend and as it rises, it expands; the temperature falls, and the moisture is condensed. The chief characteristic of this sort of rain is that the windward slopes receive greater rainfall. After giving rain on the windward side, when these winds reach the other slope, they



descend, and their temperature rises. Then their capacity to take in moisture increases and hence, these leeward slopes remain rainless and dry. The area situated on the leeward side, which gets less rainfall is known as the **rain-shadow area**. It is also known as the **relief rain**. **Cyclonic Rain**

World Distribution of Rainfall



Different places on the earth's surface receive different amounts of rainfall in a year and that too in different seasons.

1. In general, as we proceed from the equator towards the poles, rainfall goes on decreasing steadily.
2. The coastal areas of the world receive greater amounts of rainfall than the interior of the continents.
3. The rainfall is more over the oceans than on the landmasses of the world because of being great sources of water.
4. Between the latitudes 35° and 40° N and S of the equator,
5. the rain is heavier on the eastern coasts and goes on decreasing towards the west.
6. But, between 45° and 65° N and S of equator, due to the westerlies, the rainfall is first received on the western margins of the continents and it goes on decreasing towards the east.
7. Wherever mountains run parallel to the coast, the rain is greater on the coastal plain, on the windward side and it decreases towards the leeward side.

ON THE BASIS OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ANNUAL PRECIPITATION, MAJOR PRECIPITATION REGIMES OF THE WORLD ARE IDENTIFIED AS FOLLOWS.

1. The equatorial belt, the windward slopes of the mountains along the western coasts in the cool temperate zone and the coastal areas of the monsoon land receive heavy rainfall of over 200 cm per annum.
2. Interior continental areas receive moderate rainfall varying from 100 - 200 cm per annum.
3. The coastal areas of the continents receive moderate amount of rainfall.
4. The central parts of the tropical land and the eastern and interior parts of the temperate lands receive rainfall varying between 50 - 100 cm per annum.
5. Areas lying in the rain shadow zone of the interior of the continents and high latitudes receive very low rainfall-less than 50 cm per annum.
6. Seasonal distribution of rainfall provides an important aspect to judge its effectiveness.
7. In some regions rainfall is distributed evenly throughout the year such as in the equatorial belt and in the western parts of cool temperate regions.

II. TOPICS –

Each topic has been converted into a concept map. It is a visual organization and representation of knowledge.

There are 10 concepts maps in all.

III. FURTHER REFERENCE –

Kindly watch the following videos for a better understanding.

<https://youtu.be/BIHyQD4S--A>

<https://youtu.be/4KWF1Vfjf2g>

<https://youtu.be/YV06KcP-poA>

Assignment

Q.1 Name three types of Precipitation.

Q.2 Explain relative humidity .

Q.3 Why does the amount of water vapour decreases rapidly with altitude?

Q.4 How are clouds formed ? Classify them .

Q.5 Discuss the salient features of the world distribution of precipitation.

Q.6 What are forms of condensation ?

Q.7 Describe the Process of Dew & Frost formation.

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Movement of Ocean Water

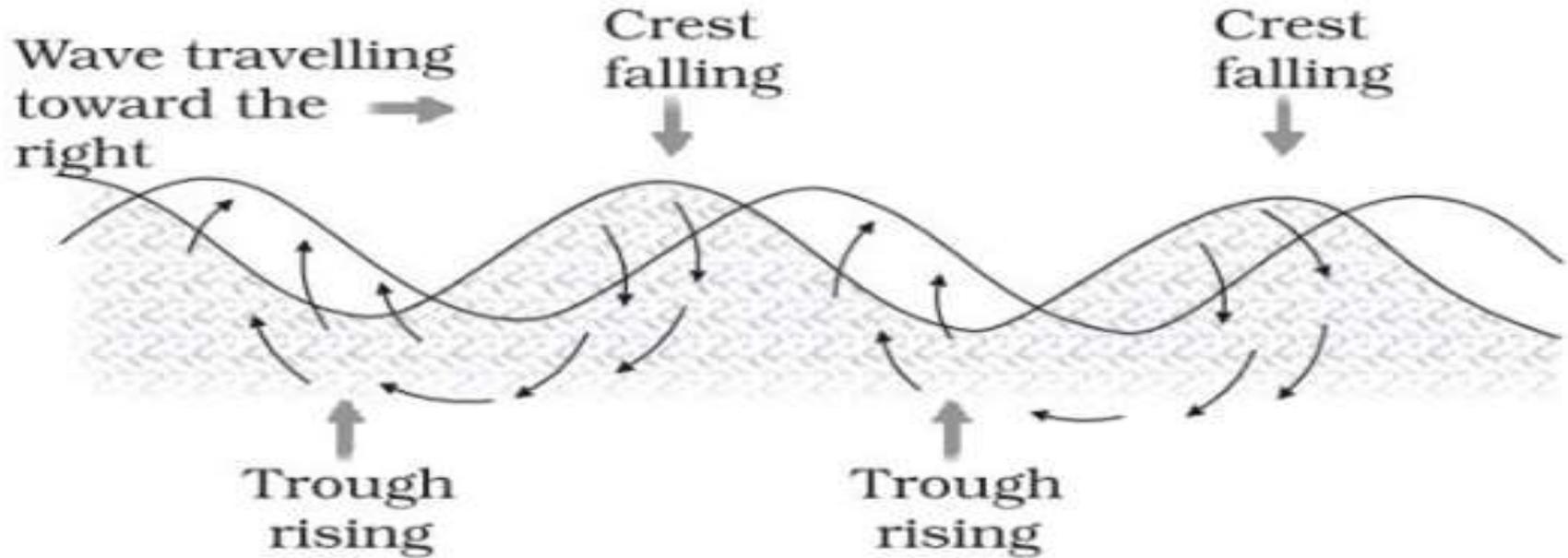


Figure 14.1 : Motion of waves and water molecules

Characteristics of Waves

Wave crest and trough : The highest and lowest points of a wave are called the crest and trough respectively.

Wave height : It is the vertical distance from the bottom of a trough to the top of a crest of a wave.

Wave amplitude : It is one-half of the wave height.

Wave period : It is merely the time interval between two successive wave crests or troughs as they pass a fixed point.

Wavelength : It is the horizontal distance between two successive crests.

Wave speed : It is the rate at which the wave moves through the water, and is measured in knots.

Wave frequency : It is the number of waves passing a given point during a one-second time interval.

Tides of Bay of Fundy, Canada

The highest tides in the world occur in the Bay of Fundy in Nova Scotia, Canada. The tidal bulge is 15 - 16 m. Because there are two high tides and two low tides every day (roughly a 24 hour period); then a tide must come in within about a six hour period. As a rough estimate, the tide rises about 240 cm an hour (1,440 cm divided by 6 hours). If you have walked down a beach with a steep cliff alongside (which is common there), make sure you watch the tides. If you walk for about an hour and then notice that the tide is coming in, the water will be over your head before you get back to where you started!

Movements of Ocean Water

The ocean water is dynamic. The horizontal and vertical motions are common in ocean water bodies.

The horizontal motion refers to the ocean currents and waves. The vertical motion refers to tides. Ocean currents are the continuous flow of huge amount of water in a definite direction while the waves are the horizontal motion of water.

Water moves ahead from one place to another through ocean currents while the water in the waves does not move, but the wave trains move ahead.

Water particles only travel in a small circle as a wave passes. Wind provides energy to the waves. Wind causes waves to travel in the ocean and the energy is released on shorelines.

The largest waves are found in the open oceans. Waves continue to grow larger as they move and absorb energy from the wind.

Most of the waves are caused by the wind driving against water. When a breeze of two knots or less blows over calm water, small ripples form and grow as the wind speed increases until white caps appear in the breaking waves. Waves may travel thousands of kilometers before rolling ashore, breaking and dissolving as surf. A wave's size and shape reveal its origin.

The moon's gravitational pull to a great extent and to a lesser extent the sun's gravitational pull, are the major causes for the occurrence of tides. Another factor is centrifugal force, which is the force that acts to counter balance the gravity.

Together, the gravitational pull and the centrifugal force are responsible for creating the two major tidal bulges on the earth.

On the side of the earth facing the moon, a tidal bulge occurs while on the opposite side though the gravitational attraction of the moon is less as it is farther away, the centrifugal force causes tidal bulge on the other side.

The highest tides in the world occur in the Bay of Fundy in Nova Scotia, Canada. The tidal bulge is 15 – 16 m. Because there are two high tides and two low tides every day (roughly a 24 hour period); then a tide must come in within about a six hour period. As a rough estimate, the tide rises about 240 cm an hour (1,440 cm divided by 6 hours).

The most common tidal pattern is semi-diurnal tide, featuring two high tides and two low tides each day. The successive high or low tides are approximately of the same height.

The height of rising water (high tide) varies appreciably depending upon the position of sun and moon with respect to the earth. When the sun, the moon and the earth are in a straight line, the height of the tide will be higher. These are called spring tides and they occur twice a month, one on full moon period and another during new moon period.

Normally, there is a seven day interval between the spring tides and neap tides. At this time the sun and moon are at right angles to each other and the forces of the sun and moon tend to counteract one another.

Once in a month, when the moon's orbit is closest to the earth (perigee), unusually high and low tides occur. During this time the tidal range is greater than normal.

When the earth is closest to the sun (perihelion), around 3rd January each year, tidal ranges are also much greater, with unusually high and unusually low tides. When the earth is farthest from the sun (aphelion), around 4th July each year, tidal ranges are much less than average.

Usually, the currents are strongest near the surface and may

Usually, the currents are strongest near the surface and may attain speeds over five knots. At depths, currents are generally slow with speeds less than 0.5 knots. We refer to the speed of a current as its “drift.” Drift is measured in terms of knots. The strength of a current refers to the speed of the current. A fast current is considered strong. A current is usually strongest at the surface and decreases in strength (speed) with depth. Most currents have speeds less than or equal to 5 knots.

Surface currents constitute about 10 per cent of all the water in the ocean, these waters are the upper 400 m of the ocean and deep water currents make up the other 90 per cent of the ocean water. These waters move around the ocean basins due to variations in the density and gravity.

Heating by solar energy causes the water to expand. That is

Heating by solar energy causes the water to expand. That is why, near the equator the ocean water is about 8 cm higher in level than in the middle latitudes. This causes a very slight gradient and water tends to flow down the slope. Wind blowing on the surface of the ocean pushes the water to move.

Ocean currents are classified into cold currents and warm currents on the basis of temperature. Cold-water ocean currents occur when the cold water at the poles sinks and slowly moves towards the equator. Warm-water currents travel out from the equator along the surface, flowing towards the poles to replace the sinking cold water.

The mixing of warm and cold currents help to replenish the oxygen and favour the growth of planktons, the primary food for fish population. The best fishing grounds of the world exist mainly in these mixing zones.

Class 11 Geography Notes Chapter 14 Important Terms:

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https://youtu.be/JXvuEoW_rOE

<https://youtu.be/HnAntnLFs7M>

Assignment

Q.1 What are waves?

Q.2 What are Tides?

Q.3 How are Tides caused?

Q.4 How are Tides related to Navigation .

Q.5 Define Gravitational Force.

Q.6 What are the causes of currents?

Q.7 Where do waves in the ocean get their energy from?

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Life on the Earth

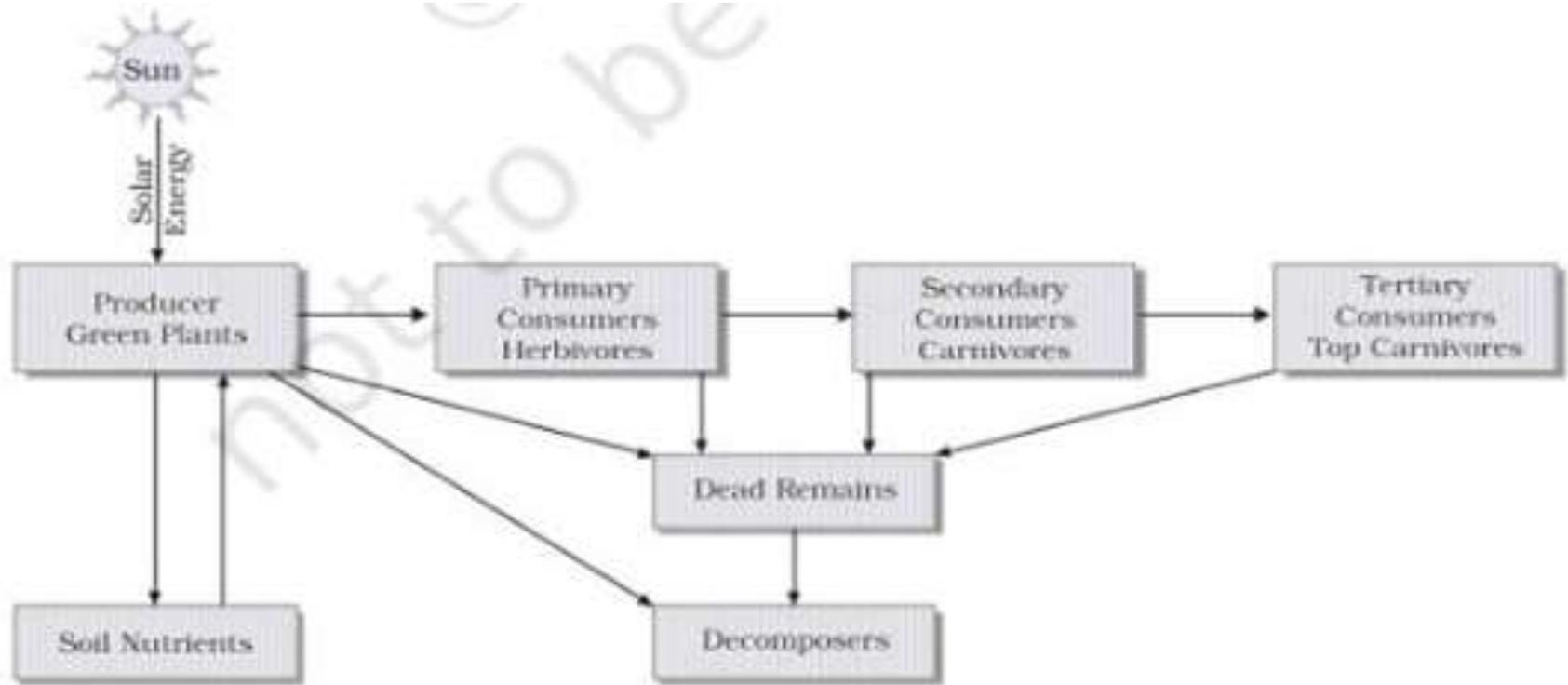


Figure 15.1 : Structure and functions of ecosystems

Table 15.1 : World Biomes

Biomes	Subtypes	Regions	Climatic Characteristics	Soil	Flora and Fauna
Forest	A. Tropical 1. Equatorial 2. Deciduous B. Temperate C. Boreal	A1. 10° N-S A2. 10° - 25° N-S B. Eastern North America, N.E. Asia, Western and Central Europe C. Broad belt of Eurasia and North America (parts of Siberia, Alaska, Canada and Scandinavia)	A1. Temp. 20-25°C, evenly distributed A2. Temp. 25-30°C, Rainfall, ave. ann. 1,000mm, seasonal B. Temp. 20-30° C, Rainfall evenly distributed 750-1,500mm, Well-defined seasons and distinct winter. C. Short moist moderately warm summers and long cold dry winter; very low temperatures. Precipitation mostly snowfall 400 -1,000mm	A1. Acidic, poor in nutrients A2. Rich in nutrients B. Fertile, enriched with decaying litter C. Acidic and poor in nutrients, thin soil cover	A1. Multi-layered canopy tall and large trees A2. Less dense, trees of medium height; many varieties co-exist. Insects, bats, birds and mammals are common species in both B. Moderately dense broad leaved trees. With less diversity of plant species. Oak, Beach, Maple etc. are some common species. Squirrels, rabbits, skunks, birds, black bears, mountain lions etc. C. Evergreen conifers like pine, fir and spruce etc. Wood peckers, hawks, bears, wolves, deer, hares and bats are common animals
Desert	A. Hot and Dry	A. S a h a r a	A. Temp. 20 - 45°C	Rich in	A-C. Scanty veget.

					animals
Desert	<p>A. Hot and Dry desert</p> <p>B. Semi arid desert</p> <p>C. Coastal desert</p> <p>D. Cold desert</p>	<p>A. Sahara, Kalahari, Marushtali, Rub-el-Khali</p> <p>B. Marginal areas of hot deserts</p> <p>C. Atacama</p> <p>D. Tundra climatic regions</p>	<p>A. Temp. 20 - 45°C.</p> <p>B. 21 - 38°C.</p> <p>C. 15 - 35°C.</p> <p>D. 2 - 25°C</p> <p>A-D Rainfall is less than 50 mm</p>	<p>Rich in nutrients with little or no organic matter</p>	<p>A-C. Scanty vegetation; few large mammals, insects, reptiles and birds</p> <p>D. Rabbits, rats, antelopes and ground squirrels</p>
grassland	<p>A. Tropical Savannah</p> <p>B. Temperate Steppe</p>	<p>A. Large areas of Africa, Australia, South America and India</p> <p>B. Parts of Eurasia and North America</p>	<p>A. Warm hot climates, Rainfall 500-1,250 mm</p> <p>B. Hot summers and cold winter. Rainfall 500 - 900 mm</p>	<p>A. Porous with thin layer of humus.</p> <p>B. Thin flocculated soil, rich in bases</p>	<p>A. Grasses; trees and large shrubs absent; giraffes, zebras, buffaloes, leopards, hyenas, elephants, mice, moles, snakes and worms etc., are common animals</p> <p>B. Grasses; occasional trees such as cottonwoods, oaks and willows; gazelles, zebras, rhin-</p>

					oceros, wild horses, lions, varieties of birds, worms, snakes etc., are common animals
Aquatic	A. Freshwater B. Marine	A. Lakes, streams, rivers and wetlands B. Oceans, coral reefs, lagoons and estuaries	A-B Temperatures vary widely with cooler air temperatures and high humidity	A. Water, swamps and marshes B. Water, tidal swamps and marshes	Algal and other aquatic and marine plant communities with varieties of water dwelling animals
Altitudinal	—	Slopes of high mountain ranges like the Himalayas, the Andes and the Rockies	Temperature and precipitation vary depending upon latitudinal zone	Regolith over slopes	Deciduous to tundra vegetation varying according to altitude

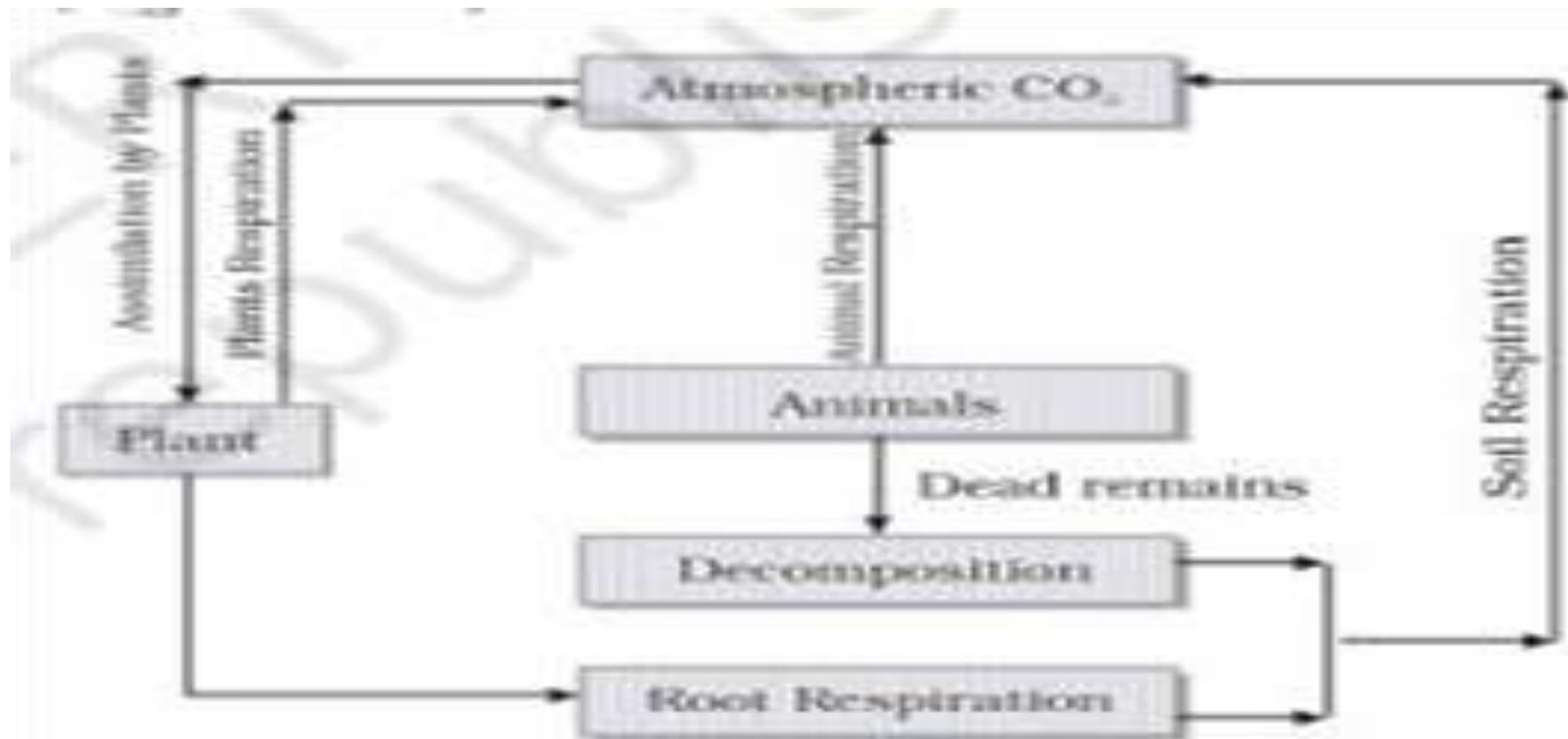


Figure 15.2 : Carbon Cycle

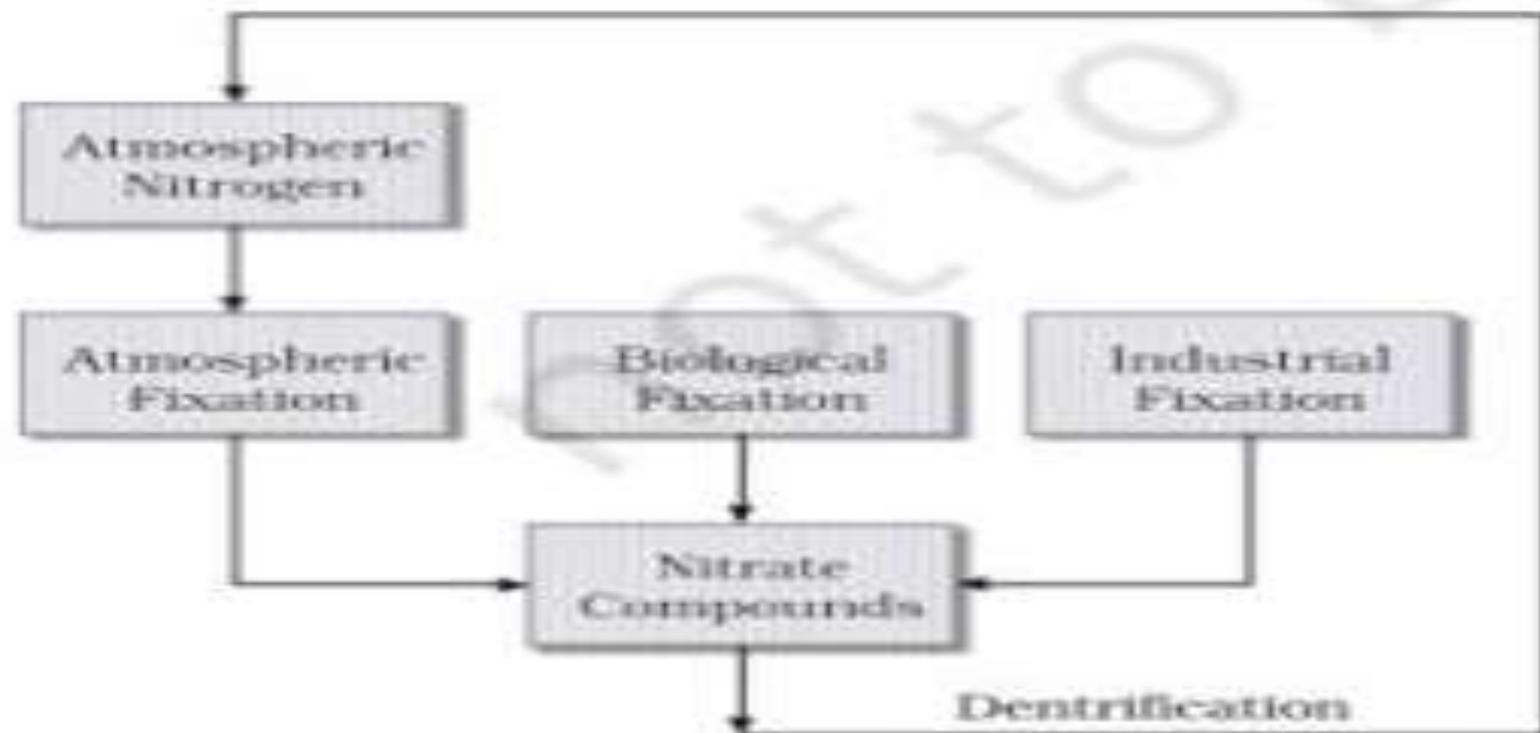


Figure 15.3 : Nitrogen Cycle

Life on the Earth

Life on the earth is found almost everywhere. Living organisms are found from the poles to the equator, from the bottom of the sea to several km in the air, from freezing waters to dry valleys, from under the sea to underground water lying below the earth's surface.

The biosphere includes all the living components of the earth. It consists of all plants and animals, including all the micro-organisms that live on the planet earth and their interactions with the surrounding environment.

The biosphere and its components are very significant elements of the environment. These elements interact with other components of the natural landscape such as land, water and soil.

as land, water and soil.

They are also influenced by the atmospheric elements such as the temperature, rainfall, moisture and sunlight. The interactions of biosphere with land, air and water are important to the growth, development and evolution of the organism.

The term ecology is derived from the Greek word 'oikos' meaning 'house', combined with the word 'logy' meaning the 'science of or 'the study of. Literally, ecology is the study of the earth as a 'household', of plants, human beings, animals and micro-organisms.

A German zoologist Ernst Haeckel, who used the term

A German zoologist Ernst Haeckel, who used the term as 'oekologie' in 1869, became the first person to use the term 'ecology'. The study of interactions between life forms (biotic) and the physical environment (abiotic) is the science of ecology. Hence, ecology can be defined as a scientific study of the interactions of organisms with their physical environment and with each other.

Ecosystems are of two major types: terrestrial and aquatic. Terrestrial ecosystem can be further be classified into 'biomes'.

A biome is a plant and animal community that

A biome is a plant and animal community that covers a large geographical area. The boundaries of different biomes on land are determined mainly by climate.

From a structural point of view, all ecosystems consist of abiotic and biotic factors. Abiotic factors include rainfall, temperature, sunlight, atmospheric humidity, soil conditions, inorganic substances (carbon dioxide, water, nitrogen, calcium, phosphorus, potassium, etc.).

Biotic factors include the producers, the consumers (primary, secondary, tertiary) and the decomposers. The producers include all the green plants, which manufacture their own food through photosynthesis.

manufacture their own food through photosynthesis.

The primary consumers include herbivorous animals like deer, goats, mice and all plant-eating animals.

The carnivores include all the flesh-eating animals like snakes, tigers and lions. Certain carnivores that feed also on carnivores are known as top carnivores like hawks and mongooses.

Decomposers are those that feed on dead organisms (for example, scavengers like vultures and crows), and further breaking down of the dead matter by other decomposing agents like bacteria and various micro-organisms.

Generally, two types of food-chains are recognised: grazing food-chain and detritus food-chain. In a grazing food-chain, the first level starts with plants as producers and ends with carnivores as consumers at the last level, with the herbivores being at the intermediate level.

There are five major biomes – forest, desert, grassland, aquatic and altitudinal biomes.

The sun is the basic source of energy on which all life depends. This energy' initiates life processes in the biosphere through photosynthesis, the main source of food and energy for green plants.

During photosynthesis, carbon dioxide is converted

The sun is the basic source of energy on which all life depends. This energy' initiates life processes in the biosphere through photosynthesis, the main source of food and energy for green plants.

During photosynthesis, carbon dioxide is converted into organic compounds and oxygen. Out of the total solar insolation that reaches the earth's surface, only a very small fraction (0.1 per cent) is fixed in photosynthesis. More than half is used for plant respiration and the remaining part is temporarily stored or is shifted to other portions of the plant.

Oxygen is the main by-product of photosynthesis. Oxygen occurs in a number of chemical forms and combinations. It combines with nitrogen to form nitrates and with many other minerals and elements to form various oxides such as the iron oxide, aluminium oxide and others. Much of oxygen is produced from the decomposition of water molecules by sunlight during photosynthesis and is released in the atmosphere through transpiration and respiration processes of plants.

Other than carbon, oxygen, nitrogen and hydrogen being the principal geochemical components of the biosphere, many other minerals also occur as critical nutrients for plant and animal life. These mineral elements required by living organisms are obtained initially from inorganic sources such as phosphorus, sulphur, calcium and potassium.

Class 11 Geography Notes Chapter 15 Important Terms:

II. TOPICS –

Each topic has been converted into a concept map. It is a visual organization and representation of knowledge.

There are 10 concepts maps in all.

III. FURTHER REFERENCE –

Kindly watch the following videos for a better understanding.

https://youtu.be/DYo2O_eQK9U

https://youtu.be/P8OCPfv0P_I

https://youtu.be/pn8_liHxqug

Assignment

Q.1 What do you understand by the term ‘ Ecology’?

Q.2 What is Ecological system?

Q.3 What is Food chain?

Q.4 What do you understand by the Term ‘Food Web’?

Q.5 What is Biome?

Q.6 What are Biogeochemical Cycles?

Q.7 What is an Ecological balance?

Q.8 Identify the major types of ecosystem in the World .

Q.9 Explain how Nitrogen is fixed in the Atmosphere.

Q.10 Discuss the Important measures needed to prevent ecological imbalances .

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Happy learning

Biodiversity & Conservation



Figure 16.2 : Red Panda — an endangered species

Vulnerable Species

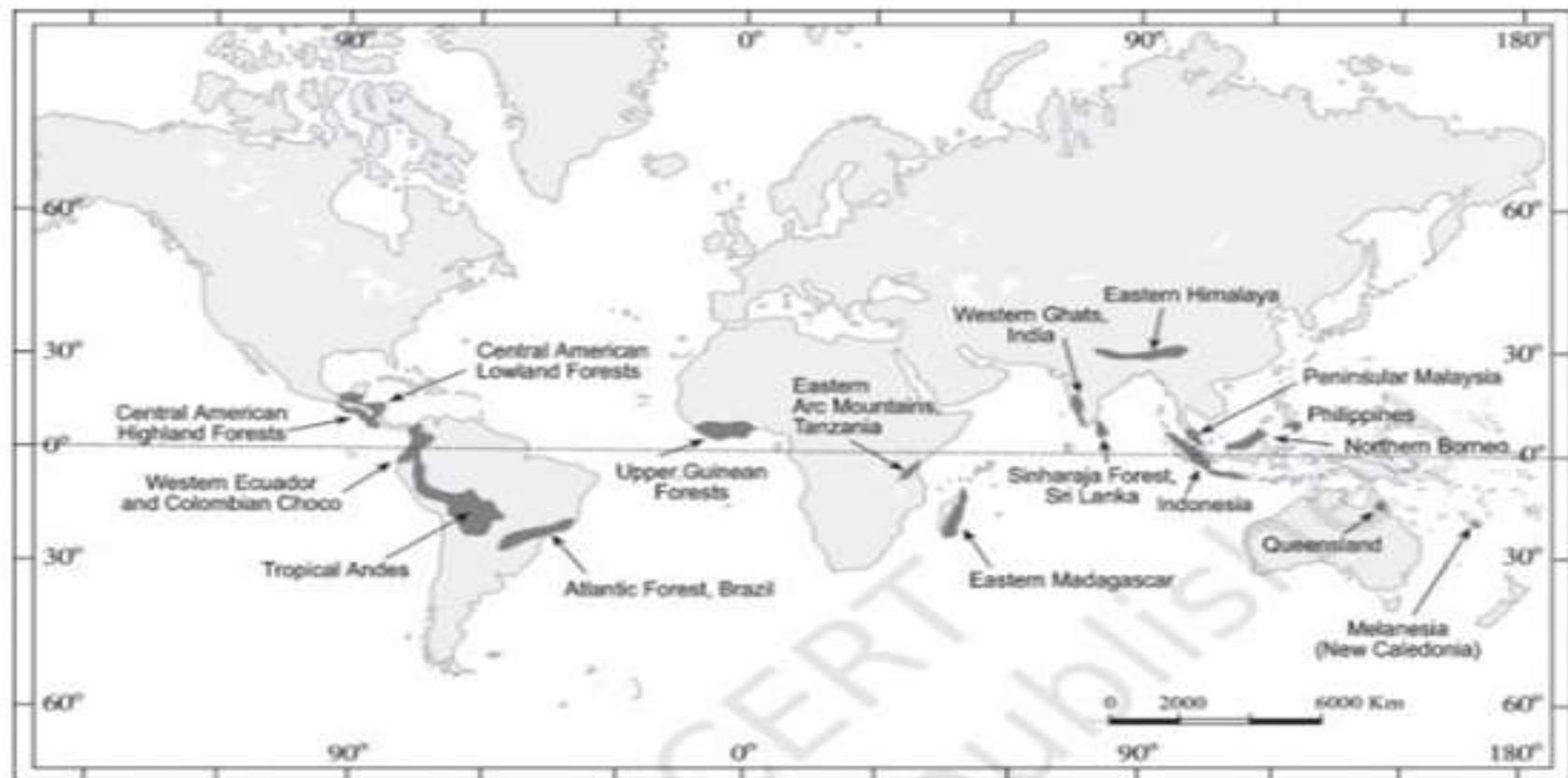


Figure 16.5 : Some ecological 'hotspots' in the world

Biodiversity and Conversation

The average half-life of a species is estimated at between one and four million years, and 99 per cent of the species that have ever lived on the earth are today extinct.

Biodiversity is not found evenly on the earth. It is consistently richer in the tropics. As one approaches the polar regions, one finds larger and larger populations of fewer and fewer species.

Human beings genetically belong to the homo sapiens group and also differ in their characteristics such as height, colour, physical appearance, etc., considerably. This is due to genetic diversity. This genetic diversity is essential for a healthy breeding of population of species.

Genetic diversity has given a great contribution in development of human culture. In a similar way human species has also contributed in maintaining natural diversity at genetic, species and ecosystem level.

Different species of ecosystem are busy in one activity or the other. Without activities they can neither survive nor develop.

Different species of ecosystem are busy in one activity or the other. Without activities they can neither survive nor develop.

Ecosystem evolves and sustains without any reason. That means, every organism, besides extracting its needs, also contributes something of useful to other organisms.

Ecological functions are important for ecosystem function and human survival. The more diverse an ecosystem, better are the chances for the species to survive through adversities and

an ecosystem, better are the chances for the species to survive through adversities and attacks, and consequently, is more productive. Just like a species with a high genetic diversity, an ecosystem with high biodiversity may have a greater chance of adapting to environmental change. In other words, the more the variety of species in an ecosystem, the more stable the ecosystem is likely to be.

Biodiversity as we have today is the result of 2.5-3.5 billion years of evolution. Before the advent of humans, our earth supported more biodiversity than in any other period.

Since, the emergence of humans, however, biodiversity has begun a rapid decline, with one species after another bearing the brunt of extinction due to overuse. The number of species globally vary from 2 million to 100 million, with 10 million being the best estimate.

For all humans, biodiversity is an important resource in their day-to-day life. One important part of biodiversity is ‘crop diversity’, which is also called agro-biodiversity. Biodiversity is seen as a reservoir of resources to be drawn upon for the manufacture of food, pharmaceutical, and cosmetic products.

Since the last few decades, growth in human population has increased the rate of consumption of natural resources. It has accelerated the loss of species and habitation in different parts of the world.

Tropical regions which occupy only about one-fourth of the total area of the world, contain about three-fourth of the world human population. Over-exploitation of resources and deforestation have become rampant to fulfil the needs of large population. As these tropical rain forests contain 50 per cent of the species on the earth, destruction of natural habitats have proved disastrous for the entire biosphere.

cause damage to the flora and fauna of the earth, bringing change to the biodiversity of respective affected regions. Pesticides and other pollutants such as hydrocarbons and toxic heavy metals destroy the weak and sensitive species.

The International Union of Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) has classified the threatened species of plants and animals into three categories for the purpose of their conservation: (a) Endangered species (b) Vulnerable species and (c) Rare species.

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Biodiversity is important for human existence. All forms of life are so closely interlinked that disturbance in one gives rise to imbalance in the others. If species of plants and animals become endangered, they cause degradation in the environment, which may threaten human being's own existence.

Janeiro, Brazil in June 1992.

Government of India passed the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, under which national parks and sanctuaries were established and biosphere reserves declared.

There are some countries which are situated in the tropical region; they possess a large number of the world's species diversity. They are called mega diversity centers. There are 12 such countries, namely Mexico, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, China, India, Malaysia, Indonesia and Australia in which these centers are located.

Hotspots are defined according to their vegetation. Plants are important because these determine the primary productivity of an ecosystem. Most, but not all, of the hotspots rely on species-rich ecosystems for food, firewood, cropland, and income from timber. In Madagascar, for example, about 85 per cent of the plants and animals are found nowhere else in the world. Other hotspots in wealthy countries are facing different types of dangers.

II. TOPICS –

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III. FURTHER REFERENCE –

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https://youtu.be/gUDDT4vFT_g

<https://youtu.be/4y1EXPx6Pjg>

<https://youtu.be/0F-9ZrT5Zxc>

Assignment

Q.1 What is Biodiversity ?

Q.2 What are different levels of Biodiversity ?

Q.3 What do you understand by 'Hotspots'?

Q.4 Discuss briefly the importance of animals to human kind .

Q.5 What do you understand by 'Exotic Species'?

Q.6 What are the roles played by Biodiversity in the shaping of nature. ?

Q.7 What are the major factors that are responsible for the loss of Biodiversity ?

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Happy learning

This unit deals with

1. Geography as an Integrating discipline; as a science of spatial attributes
2. Branches of geography; importance of physical geography
3. What is geography?
4. Relation between man and nature?
5. Development of geography
6. Relation between geography and other subjects
7. Geography answers the questions where? What? & Why?
8. Relation between Physical Geography and Natural Science?
9. Geography and social science relation.
10. Branches of Geography Based on Systematic Approach and Regional Approach
11. Physical geography and its importance.

WHY SHOULD WE STUDY GEOGRAPHY?

1. We live on the earth's surface
 2. Our lives are affected many ways by our surroundings
 3. We depend on the resources available from the earth surface
 4. Primitive societies substituted on the plants and animals
 5. Food, shelter, and dress are depending on the climate
 6. Cropping pattern is based on climate of the place
 7. To know the changes taken place throughout the geological time
 8. To know the lands and people
 9. Develop skills to convert globe to map
 10. To have visual sense of the earth surface
2. What are the recent techniques that helped the geographer to understand the earth's surface better?
1. GIS & GPS
 2. COMPUTER CARTOGRAPHY

3. WHAT IS GEOGRAPHY?

The earth consists of physical and cultural features. They are different from one place to another. This difference helped to understand the relation between physical and cultural features. Physical features provided the stage and human societies enacted the drama to

1 ERATOSTHENES



develop their skills. With the use of skills and tools, he modified the nature

"GEOGRAPHY IS THE DESCRIPTION OF THE EARTH"

Who coined the term 'Geography' first?

ERATOSTHENES, A GREEK SCHOLAR (276-194 BC)

What is the origin of the word 'Geography'?

The word derived from Greek language geo- earth, graphos-description.

Some scholars defined geography as the description of the earth as the abode of human beings.

How can we say that the earth is 'multidimensional'?

Many Sciences developed to describe the physical features of the earth such as Geology, Pedology, Oceanography Botany

Zoology and Meteorology & Cultural features of the earth such as Economics, History, Sociology Political Science, Anthropology,

How does Geography differ from other subjects?

Geography differs from other subjects in terms of matter and methodology. Geography derives its data from Social Sciences and Natural Sciences.

What do you mean by 'areal differentiation'?

When there is similarity and dissimilarity among the physical and cultural features on the earth surface, it is called areal differentiation.

What do Geographers study?

They study the variations and association of the features on the earth surface e.g. Cropping pattern differs from place to place and it is due to difference in the climate, soil, demand, transport facility, capacity of the farmer.

A geographer also studies the cause and effect relationships.

The interaction between man and nature is highly dynamic and not static; so it is also called as the study of the relation between unstable earth and untrusting man.

What is the relation between man and nature?

Human is an integral part of nature and nature has imprints of man.

What is the effect of nature on man?

Food clothing, shelter and occupation of man are decided by the nature

How does technology help man?

- to loosen the shackles of the physical conditions.
- to develop resources and utilize them.
- to reach the higher needs of the life. It increased the production of the crops & mobility of labor.

Describe the dialogue between nature and man.

You created the soil, I created the cup,

You created night, I created the lamp.

You created wilderness, hilly terrains and deserts;

I created flower beds and gardens.

Explain the changes occurred in the civilization of man in course of time?

1. Man moved from stage of necessity to stage of freedom.
2. Created new possibilities from the nature
3. We find now humanized nature and naturalized man
4. Space got organized with the help of transport and communication.

What does Geography study?

Geography studies spatial organization and spatial integration.

Which are the three questions concerned with Geography?

What are the natural and cultural features found on the earth surface?

Where are these features found?

Why are these features found there?

How can we say that Geography is an integrated discipline?

It is a discipline of synthesis; it includes spatial and temporal synthesis.

Its approach is holistic in nature. It recognizes the fact that the world is a system of interdependence. The present world is a global village. The efficient transport and communication helped the world to become unified village. The audiovisual media helped the data to be enriched. Technology provided better chances of monitoring natural phenomena as well as the economic and social parameters.

What is the basic objective of Sciences & Social Sciences?

The basic aim of Science and Social Science is to understand the reality of the nature.

Explain the relationship of Geography with other subjects?

2. RELATION WITH OTHER SUBJECTS



How do other subjects help Geography as an integrated subject?

History helps in knowing the man-made activities; Physics helps to calculate the effect of climate on man. Economics helps to understand the effect of human activities on the development of the country. The geographical factors modified the course of history. The change in the climate has influence on the occupation.

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY AND NATURAL SCIENCE

Define the relation of geography with Natural Science

All branches of physical Geography have close relation with Natural Sciences. Biogeography has close link with Zoology and Botany.

ALEXANDER VAN HUMBOLDT

Mathematics and Arts also have contributed to the development of Geography to measure the area and dimensions of the earth. Cartography and projections are based on mathematics.

Explain the contribution of social science to the Human geography.

History of geographical thought is the mother of all branches of geography. Sociology, political science, economics provide the aspects of social reality. Population geography has close link with demography.



BRANCHES OF GEOGRAPHY

BASED ON SYSTEMATIC APPROACH INTRODUCED BY Alexander Von Humboldt, a German geographer (1769-1859)

ALEXANDER VAN HUMBOLDT

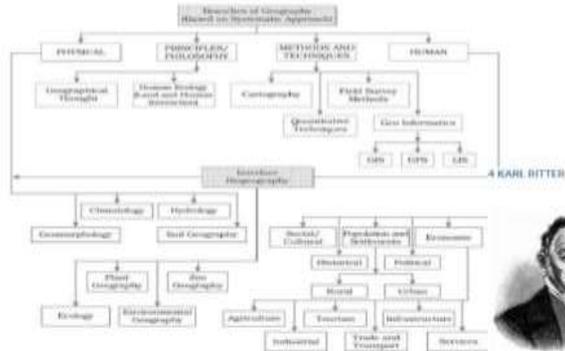


Figure 1.4 Branches of geography based on systematic approach

KARL RITTER (1779-1859)

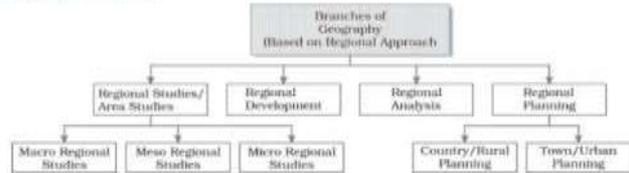


Figure 1.5 Branches of geography based on regional approach

What is the importance of PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY?

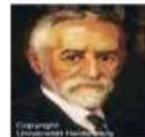
Physical geography includes study of Lithosphere, Atmosphere, Hydrosphere & Biosphere- each element is very important for human beings.

Landforms provide base for agriculture, industries, transport and communication, and settlements. Mountains provide water to rivers, forests-center for tourist spots.

Climate influences on the cropping pattern, livestock, food and clothes of the people.

Latitude and precipitation influence the type of forests. Oceans provide food, water transport, and influence the climate; they are the source of hydrological cycle

S RICHARD HARTSHORNE



What is Geography?

Geography is concerned with the description and explanation of the areal differentiation of the earth's surface

Richard Hartshorne

Geography studies the differences of phenomena usually related in different parts of the earth's surface.

Hettner

R HETTNER



II. TOPICS –

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III. FURTHER REFERENCE –

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https://youtu.be/_zr3Hzpr0JE

<https://youtu.be/kj1m3Ema9Pc>

Q.1 Why should we study Geography?

Q.2 What is Geography?

Q.3 Who coined the term Geography first?

Q.4 How can we say that Earth is multidimensional?

Q.5 What do you mean by Areal differentiation?

Q.6 How can we say that Earth is an Integrated Discipline?

Q.7 What is the importance of Physical Geography?

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Happy learning

CHAPTER -3 INTERIOR OF THE EARTH

This chapter deals with

1. Sources of information about the earth interior
2. Direct sources
3. Indirect sources
4. Earth quake
5. Earth quake waves
6. Propagation of earthquake waves
7. emergence of shadow zone
8. types of earthquakes
9. effects of earthquakes
10. structure of the earth
11. the crust
12. The mantle
13. the core
14. volcanoes and volcanic landforms
15. types of volcanoes
16. shield volcano
17. composite volcanoes
18. caldera
19. flood basalt provinces
20. mid ocean ridge volcanoes
21. volcanic landforms intrusive forms, plutonic rocks, batholiths, laccoliths, lapolith, phacolith, sills & dykes

Sources of information about the Earth's interior

- There are two sources for information about interior of the earth - a) Direct Sources and b) Indirect Sources:
- **Direct Sources:** Mining, drilling and volcanic eruption are examples of direct sources. During the process of mining and drilling rocks and minerals are extracted which gives information that there are layer system in the crust. Crust is made of many kinds of rocks and minerals. Volcanic eruption suggests that there is some zone inside the earth which is very hot and in liquid condition. Direct sources are not very reliable because mining and drilling can be done only up to some depth only.
- **Indirect Sources:** Seismic waves, gravitational field, magnetic field, falling meteors etc are example of indirect sources. They are very important for know about earth's interior. Movement of seismic wave suggests that there are three layers in the earth and each layer has different density. Density increases toward the center of the earth. Movement of seismic wave suggests two things: a) There are three layers in the earth and b) Each layer has different density which increases toward the center of the earth.

EARTH QUAKE

It is the shaking of the earth, natural event. It is caused due to release of energy which generates waves that travel to all directions.

WHY DOES EARTH SHAKE?

The release of energy occurs along the fault line. Rocks along the fault, tend to move in opposite directions as the overlying strata press them the friction locks them together.

However, the tendency of movement overcome the friction. As a result, blocks get deformed. They slide over another: as a result energy releases.

Energy waves travel in all directions.

The point where energy releases is called focus/hypocenter

Above the focus point on the surface it is called epicenter

EARTH QUAKE WAVES

All earth quakes take place in the lithosphere (200 km depth)

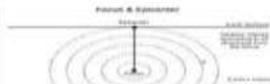
An instrument called **Seismograph** records the waves.

Earthquake and Seismic Waves

Meaning of Earthquake: Sudden movement or vibration on the earth surface is called earthquake. In other words, sudden release of energy due to tectonic activity is called earthquake. An earthquake may be produced due to: a) movement of plates, b) rising of magma, c) folding and faulting, d) violent volcanic eruption etc. When earthquake occurs, three types of wave are produced called as seismic waves. These are: a) P or Primary Wave, b) S or Secondary Wave, and c) L or Long or Surface Wave.

- P and S waves are combinly called as "body Wave" as they move inside the body of the earth.

- P wave is the fastest wave. It is also called as longitudinal wave. These waves move forth and back. In other words, P waves move parallel to the direction of wave. These waves can move in both solid and liquid.
- S wave is slower than P wave. It is also called as transverse wave. It moves perpendicular to the direction of the wave. These waves move only in solid and disappear in liquid.
- L wave is the slowest wave. It moves on the earth surface. It causes maximum destruction on the earth surface.



- **Focus:** It is point inside the earth surface from where an earthquake starts. It is always hidden inside the earth. Focus of an earthquake may be found at the depth of 100-200 km.
- **Epicenter:** It is a point on the earth surface which records the seismic waves for the first time. Maximum destruction from an earthquake is caused on the epicenter. Epicenter is located just perpendicular to the focus.
- P and S waves are called as body wave.
- P wave can pass through both solid and liquid. But S wave can pass only through solid.
- **Seismograph:** It is an instrument which record seismic waves on a paper.
- **Richter Scale:** It is an scale which measures the magnitude of an earthquake. In other words, energy released by an earthquake is measured on Richter Scale. Generally, it is from 0 to 10. An earthquake measuring 6 on Richter Scale is 10 times more stronger than 5 and 100 times more stronger than 4.
- Crust and upper part of the mantle is called "lithosphere".
- The opening through with magma comes out from a volcano is called as "mouth" or "crater". When crater is collapsed due to a violent explosion it is called as "caldera".
- **Mid-Oceanic Ridge:** When plates move away from each other under the water of the ocean and magma rises up, it form a long hill like landform called as mid-oceanic ridge. Mid-oceanic ridge of Atlantic Ocean is the best example.
- **Mercalli Scale:** It was developed by an Italian seismologist. It measures the destruction caused by an earthquake. It ranges from 1 to 12.

Effects of Earthquake

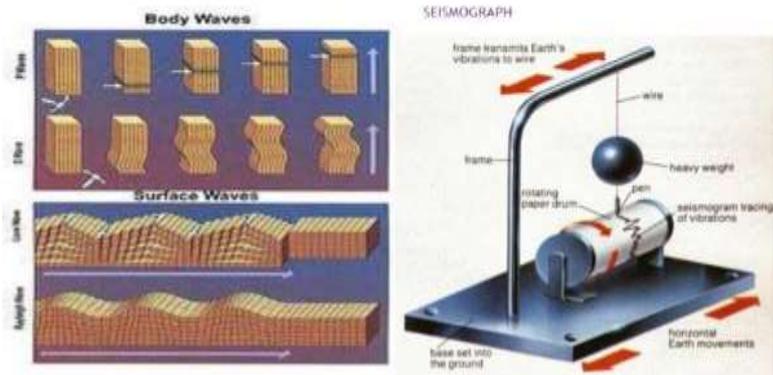
- a) Ground shaking
- b) Destruction to houses and buildings
- c) Land slide and tsunami
- d) Soil liquefaction [solid soil becomes liquid]
- e) Damage to dams and reservoirs
- f) Fire accidents
- g) Destruction to transport and communication lines.

Shadow Zones and Their Formation

Meaning of Shadow Zone: When earthquake takes place, all the places on the earth surface do not record the seismic waves. There are some zones where seismic waves [P and S waves] do not reach during an earthquake. It is called as shadow zone. Shadow zones are formed due to two reasons:

- a) Three layers in the earth
- b) Varying density of each layer
- c) Liquid condition of the mantle

- **P Wave Shadow Zone:** Ideally seismic waves should move in straight line but due to varying density of layer P wave moves in a curved path. Due to this an area around the earth does not record P wave. This zone is from 105° to 145° from the focus.
- **S Wave Shadow Zone:** It is larger zone than P wave shadow zone. It developed because S wave does not pass through liquid mantle of the earth. Therefore, the zone from 105° all around the earth from the focus is called as S wave shadow zone.



TYPES OF EARTH QUAKE WAVES



BODY WAVES GENERATED DUE TO ENERGY GENERATED IN THE EARTH'S INTERIOR

They interact with the surface rocks and generate other waves called surface waves
 The velocity of the waves changes along with the density of material, denser the material higher the velocity
 Their direction also changes according to the density of the material

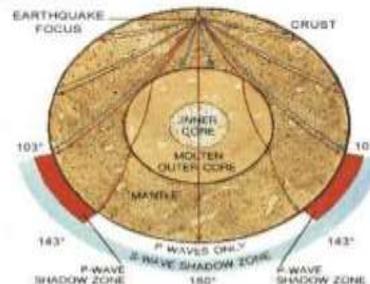
PROPAGATION OF EARTHQUAKE WAVES

When they travel in the body they vibrate the bodies of the rocks
 P waves vibrate parallel to their direction of the movement

It led to the density difference in the material due to stretching and squeezing
 Other three waves vibrate perpendicular to their direction

They create troughs and crests over the surface

EMERGENCE OF SHADOW ZONE



Where earthquake waves are not reported, such zones are called earthquake shadow zones.
 It is observed that seismographs located beyond 103° from the epicenter do not record the earthquakes.

Seismographs located beyond 142° again record 'p' waves only.
 The entire zone beyond 142° do not receive 's' waves.

The shadow zone of 's' waves is much larger than the 'p' waves it is equal to 40% of the earth surface

TYPES OF EARTHQUAKES

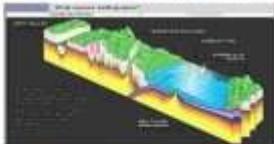
INDONE



MINING EARTH QUAKE - SOUTH AFRI



TECTONIC EARTH QUAKE GILANAT



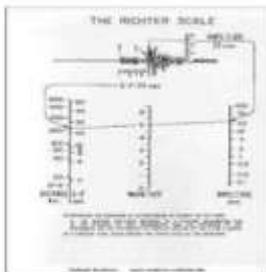
NUCLEAR EXPLOSION EARTH QUAKE JAPAN



RESERVOIR IMPOUND EARTHQUAKE TENRI DAM



HOW IS EARTH QUAKE MEASURED-RICHTER SCALE



The magnitude of most earthquakes is measured on the **Richter scale**, invented by Charles F. Richter in 1934. The Richter magnitude is calculated from the amplitude of the largest seismic wave recorded for the earthquake, no matter what type of wave was the strongest.

The Richter magnitudes are based on a logarithmic scale (base 10). What this means is that for each whole number you go up on the Richter scale, the amplitude of the ground motion recorded by a seismograph goes up ten times. Using this scale, a magnitude 5 earthquake would result in ten times the level of ground shaking as a magnitude 4 earthquake (and 32 times as much energy would be released). To give you an idea how these numbers can add up, think of it in terms of the energy released by explosives: a magnitude 1 seismic wave releases as much energy as blowing up 6 ounces of TNT. A magnitude 8 earthquake releases as much energy as detonating **6 million tons** of TNT. Pretty impressive, huh? Fortunately, most of the earthquakes that occur each year are magnitude 2.5 or less, too small to be felt by most people.

The Richter magnitude scale can be used to describe earthquakes so small that they are expressed in negative numbers. The scale also has no upper limit, so it can describe earthquakes of unimaginable and (so far) inexperienced intensity, such as magnitude 10.0 and beyond.

Although Richter originally proposed this way of measuring an earthquake's "size," he only used a certain type of seismograph and measured shallow earthquakes in Southern California. Scientists have now made other "magnitude" scales, all calibrated to Richter's original method, to use a variety of seismographs and measure the depths of earthquakes of all sizes.

The Mercalli Scale

Here's a [table](#) describing the magnitudes of earthquakes, their effects, and the estimated number of those earthquakes that occur each year.



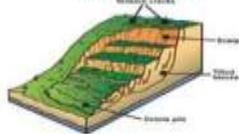
	Modified Mercalli Scale	Richter Magnitude Scale
I	Only felt by sensitive instruments	1.5
	Felt by few persons at rest, especially on upper floors, delicate suspended objects may swing	2.0
II		2.5
	Felt indoors, but may not be recognized as earthquake, vibrations like large passing truck	3.0
III		3.5
	Felt indoors by many, some outdoors, may awaken some sleeping persons, dishes, windows, doors may move, cars start	4.0
IV		4.5
	Felt by most; some windows, dishes break; tall objects may fall	5.0
V		5.5
	Felt by all, falling plaster and chimneys, light damage but some fear	6.0
VI		6.5
	Very noticeable, damage to weaker buildings on fill, driving automobiles notice	7.0
VII		7.5
	Walls, monuments, chimneys, bookcases fall; infiltration; driving is difficult	8.0
VIII		
	Buildings shift out of foundations, cracked and twisted ground is cracked and underground pipes are broken	
IX		
	Most structures severely damaged to destroyed; ground is cracked, hills are bent, landslides on steep slopes	
X		
	Few structures standing; bridges and roads severely damaged or destroyed; large fissures in ground	
XI		
	Total damage; can see the earthquake some miles through the ground; gravity overcomes and objects thrown into the air	
XII		

EFFECTS OF EARTH QUAKE

GROUND SHAKING



LAND & MUD SLIDES



AVALANCHES

SOIL LIQUEFACTION



FLOODS FROM DAMS



STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE



GROUND LURCHING

GROUND DISPLACEMENT



FIRES



TSUNAMI



First six listed above have some bearings upon landforms while others may be considered the effects causing immediate concern to the life and properties of people in the region.

Tsunami occurs when the epicenter is below the ocean floor with sufficient magnitude. Tsunamis are waves generated by the tremors not by the earthquake. The magnitude should be more than 5 in Richter scale.

The earthquakes of magnitude 8+ are rare occurs once in 1-2 years .tiny types occur every minute.

The structure of the Earth

Imagine a Scotch egg.....

1. The outer shell of the Earth is called the **CRUST** (breadcrumbs)
2. The next layer is called the **MANTLE** (sausage meat)
3. The next layer is the liquid **OUTER CORE** (egg white)
4. The middle bit is called the solid **INNER CORE** (egg yolk)

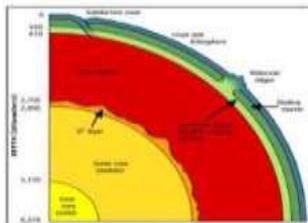
The deepest anyone has drilled into the earth is around 12 kilometers, we've only scratched the surface. How do we know what's going on **deep** underground?

There are lots of clues:

- 1. The overall density of the Earth is much higher than the density of the rocks we find in the crust. This tells us that the inside must be made of something **much** denser than rock.
- 2. Meteorites (created at the same time as the Earth, 4.6 billion years ago) have been analyzed. The commonest type is called a chondrite and they contain iron, silicon, magnesium and oxygen (Others contain iron and nickel). A meteorite has roughly the same density as the whole earth. A meteorite minus its iron has a density roughly the same as Mantle rock (e.g. the mineral called olivine).
- 3. Iron and Nickel are both dense and magnetic.
- 4. Scientists can follow the path of seismic waves from earthquakes as they travel through the Earth. The inner core of the Earth appears to be solid whilst the outer core is liquid (s waves do not travel through liquids). The mantle is mainly solid as it is under extreme pressure (see below). We know that the mantle rocks are under extreme pressure, diamond is made from carbon deposits and is created in rocks that come from depths of 150-300 kilometers that have been squeezed under massive pressures.
- 5. The Earth is sphere (as is the scotch egg!) with a diameter of about 12,700 Kilometers. As we go deeper and deeper into the earth the temperature and pressure rises. The core temperature is believed to be an incredible 5000-6000° c.
- 6. The crust is very thin (average 20km). This does not sound very thin but if you were to imagine the Earth as a football, the crust would be about 1/3 millimeter thick. The thinnest parts are under the oceans (OCEANIC CRUST) and go to a depth of roughly 10 kilometers. The thickest parts are the continents (CONTINENTAL CRUST) which extend down to 35 kilometers on average. The continental crust in the Himalayas is some 75 kilometers deep.
- 7. The mantle is the layer beneath the crust which extends about half way to the centre, it's made of solid rock and behaves like an extremely viscous liquid - (This is the tricky bit... the mantle is a **solid which flows**???) The convection of heat from the center of the Earth is what ultimately drives the movement of the **tectonic plates** and cause mountains to rise. Click [here](#) for more details

The outer core is the layer beneath the mantle. It is made of **liquid** iron and nickel. Complex convection currents give rise to a dynamo effect which is responsible for the Earth's magnetic field.

8. The inner core is the bit in the middle! It is made of **solid** iron and nickel. Temperatures in the core are thought to be in the region of 5000- 6000° c and it's solid due to the massive pressure.



EARTH STRUCTURE

The crust - the Outer most solid part

1. Brittle in nature
2. Thickness is 5 km. thin under the oceans and thick under the continents
3. 10 km under oceans and 70 km under mountains
- Density in the ocean floor is $3g/cm^3$ (basalt) mean density is $2.7g/cm^3$

The mantle

1. Second layer from the top of the earth
2. It extends from Moho-discontinuity to a depth of 2900 km.
3. the upper portion of the mantle is called ASTHENOSPHERE (Astheno= weak it extends up to 400 km)
4. It is the source of magma
5. average density is $3.4g/cm^3$
6. crust and upper most part of the mantle is called Lithosphere. Its thickness is 10 -200km
7. Lower mantle is in solid state

The core

1. It extends from 2900 km to 6300 km depth
2. Outer core is liquid while inner core is solid
3. outer core density is $5g/cm^3$ inner core is $13g/cm^3$
4. made of heavy metals such as Nickel and Iron
5. It is also called as **Nife**

VOLCANOES AND VOLCANIC LANDFORMS



A volcano is place where gases, ashes and or molten rock material lava escape to the ground.

Active volcano Mount Pinatubo, Philippines in 1991.

Lava from Mt. Kilauea pouring into the ocean during the sunset

The Differences between Active, Dormant and Extinct volcanoes

Active Volcano: Is a volcano that is currently erupting or shows signs of unrest activities, like earthquake activity or significant amounts of gas discharged. It is a volcano that is not presently erupting, but has erupted in the past is considered likely to do erupt in the future again.

One of the dormant volcanoes in the Cascades in the "Three Sister Area."

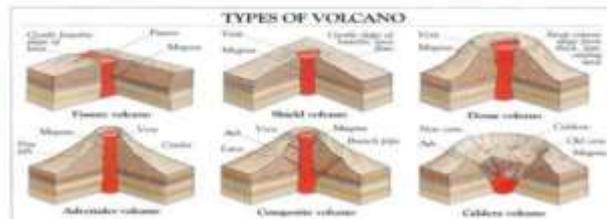


Dormant: These volcanoes are also called "Sleeping" volcanoes because it is presently inactive, but could erupt again. For example, the majority of the Cascade volcanoes are believed to be dormant rather than extinct.

This is an Aerial view of Crater Lake in Oregon.



Extinct: Is a volcano that is presently not erupting, that is unlikely to do so for a very long time in the future.



Classification of volcanoes based on nature of eruption and land forms developed on the surface.

SHIELD VOLCANO

1. Largest of volcanoes
2. Hawaiian Islands are best examples
3. Basalt lava flow
4. Lava is very fluid
5. They are not steep
6. They become explosive when water is held in cones
7. Develops in to cinder cone

COMPOSITE VOLCANOES

1. Cool and more viscous lava
2. Explosive eruptions
3. They erupt pyroclastic and ashes along with lava
4. Layers are formed

CALDERA

1. These are the most explosive type of volcanoes

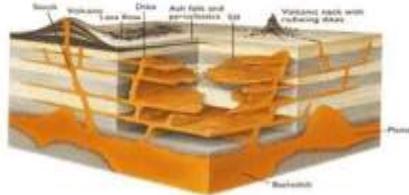
2. They collapse themselves and form into lakes.
3. The magma chamber is huge and found nearby.

FLOOD BASALT PROVINCES

1. Consists of highly fluid lava.
2. Some parts of the world are covered by thousands of sq.km of basalt.
3. there can be series of flows
4. Average thickness is more than 50 km
5. Individual flow is 100 of sq.km
6. Ex. Deccan plateau

MID OCEANIC RIDGES VOLCANOES

1. Found in oceanic surfaces.
2. More than 70,000 km length
3. Frequent volcanic eruptions.
4. Ex. Mid Atlantic ridge



INTRUSIVE VOLCANIC LANDFORMS

1. when volcanic eruption takes place some lava comes out and some settle down in the lithosphere.
2. when lava comes out forms volcanic rocks, some part cools down in the lower portion forms plutonic rocks

INTRUSIVE FORMS OCCUR INSIDE THE CRUST.

BATHOLITH:

A large part of the magma material that cools in the deeper depth of the crust. They are dome shaped, cover large areas.

They come out when erosion takes place they are granite bodies.

LACOLITHS: large dome shaped intrusive bodies. Consists of level bodies connected through pipe like conduit from below it resembles composite volcanoes found deeper depth they are localised source of lava.

Ex. Karnataka plateau

LAPOLITHS: concave shaped lava formation **phacoliths:** wave typed lava formation

SILL: horizontal sheet of lava

DYKES: vertical lava formation

GIST OF THE LESSON: CONTINENTAL DRIFT, EVIDENCES TO SUPPORT CONTINENTAL DRIFT, FORCES OF DRIFTING, POST DRIFT STUDIES, OCEAN FLOOR CONFIGURATION, DISTRIBUTION OF VOLCANOES AND EARTHQUAKES, CONCEPT OF SEA FLOOR SPREADING, PLATE TECTONICS, MAJOR AND MINOR PLATES, TYPES OF PATE BOUNDARIES RATES OF PLATE MOVEMENT, FORCES OF PLATE MOVEMENTS MOVEMENT OF THE INDIAN PLATE.

CONTINENTAL DRIFT: ABRAHAM ORTELIUS a Dutch map maker 1596 first proposed the possibility of joining the continents such as America with Europe and Africa
ANTONIO PELLEGRINI draw the map showing the three continents together.
ALFRED WEGENER a German meteorologist put forth THE CONTINENTAL DRIFT THEORY. According to him,

All continents formed a single continental mass called **PANGAEA**
 All oceans formed a single universal ocean called **PANTHALASSA**
 AROUND 200 mya THE PANGAEA BEGAN TO SPLIT INTO TWO LARGE MASSES CALLED **LAURASIA** and **GONDWANA LAND**
 By further splitting Laurasia formed northern continents and Gondwana land formed southern continents.

EVIDENCES TO SUPPORT THE CONTINENTAL DRIFT

1. The matching of continents (jig-saw fit)

- A. the shorelines of S. America and Africa have remarkable match
- B. a map was produced by Bullard in 1964 to show the jigsaw fit of these two continents.
- C. it was fit around 1000 fathom line of the shoreline

2. ROCKS OF SAME AGE ACROSS THE OCEANS

- A. the belt of ancient rocks of 2000 my from Brazil coast matches with those of Western Africa
- B. Marine deposits of South America and Africa belong to Jurassic age.

3. TILLITE

- A. sedimentary rock formed out of glacial deposits
- B. sediments from India have similar counter parts at different continents of south.
- C. tillite indicates prolonged glaciations
- D. The same glaciations is found in Africa, Falklands, Madagascar, Antarctica and Australia
- E. the glacial tillite indicates that unambiguous evidence of palaeo climates and drifting of continents.

4. PLACER DEPOSITS

- a. Formation of placer deposits of gold in Ghana coast has no source rock.
- a. The gold bearing veins of rocks are found in Brazil

5. DISTRIBUTION OF FOSSILS

- Identical species of animals and plants are found along the coastal regions of the different continents.
- lemurs occurs in India , Madagascar and Africa.
- The contiguous land mass was called **LEMURIA**
- the fossils of mesosaurus were found in only South Africa and Brazil.

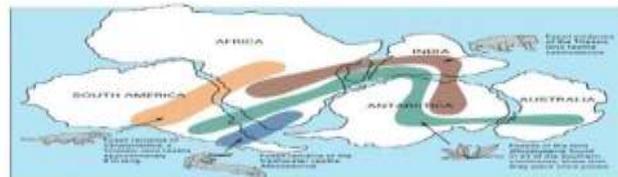


LEMURIA

MESOSAURUS



DISTRIBUTION OF FOSSILS



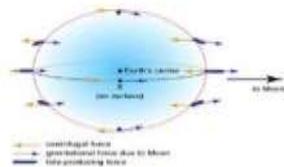
FORCES FOR DRIFTING THE CONTINENTS

1. **Wegener suggested that the movement responsible for the drifting of the continents was caused by**

- A. POLAR FLEEING FORCE
- B. TIDAL FORCE

Possible driving forces for plate tectonics:

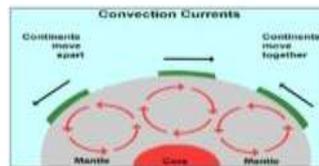
2. bottom lithosphere fractions by convection currents,
3. trench pull (covered earlier),
4. ridge push (sliding off a high, crust in compression),
5. trench suck (rollback),
6. global expanding or contracting forces,
7. membrane forces on spinning ellipsoid (e.g. variants of polar fleeing forces).



TIDAL FORCE

Wegener suggested that these two forces are responsible for the movement of plates.

Most of the scholars consider that these forces are not sufficient to move the plates.

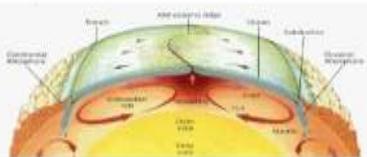


POST DRIFT STUDIES

Information collected from the ocean mapping is more useful to study the continental drift.

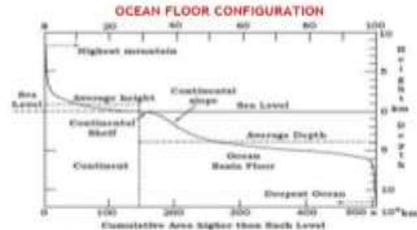
Convectional current theory

It was proposed by **ARTHUR HOLMES** IN 1930
 Due to difference in the temperature currents are formed due to disintegration of radioactive materials inside the earth. These currents are found entire mantle portion



MAPPING OCEAN FLOOR

1. Existence of ridges and deep trenches nearby continental margins
2. Mid oceanic ridge is the most active for volcanic eruptions
3. The ocean floor is much younger than the continents
4. Rocks of equal distance of the ridge have similar chemical composition and age

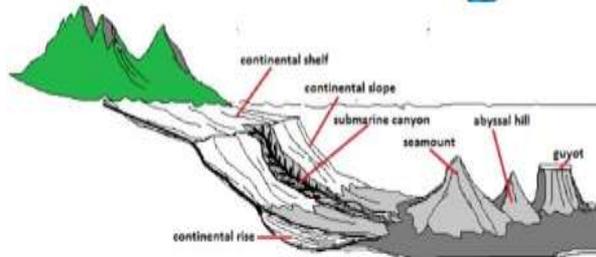
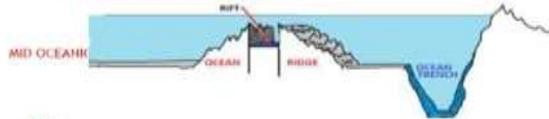


OCEAN FLOOR CONFIGURATION

The ocean floor is segmented into three major divisions
Based on depth and configuration

1. **CONTINENTAL MARGINS**
 - a. Form transitional zone between continental shore and deep sea basins
 - b. They include continental slope, shelf, continental rise and deep oceanic trenches

1. EXTENSIVE PLAINS
2. FOUND BETWEEN CONTINENTAL MARGIN AND MID OCEANIC RIDGE
3. CONTINENTAL SEDIMENTS GET DEPOSITED



DISTRIBUTION OF VOLCANOES AND EARTHQUAKES

1. All volcanoes and earthquakes are parallel to the coast
2. this line also coincides with mid- atlantic ridge
3. alpine hymalaayan system
4. around the pacific ocean it is called **ring of fire** Mid oceanic ridges

1. Interconnected mountain system within the ocean
2. Longest mountain chain. in the ocean floor
3. Consist of central rift system at the crust
4. Intense volcanic activity is found

CONCEPT OF SEA FLOOR SPREADING

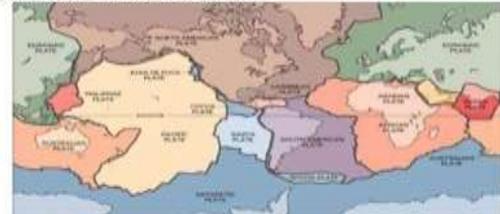
1. it was proposed by **Hess** in 1961
2. he believed that new lava pushes out the plates from the mid oceanic ridge
3. paleo magnetic studies of the ocean floor reveals that
4. along the mid oceanic ridge there is intense volcanic eruption
5. huge amount of lava comes out along the mid atlantic ridges
6. the equidistant rock formations have similar age and chemical compositions & magnetic properties
7. rocks closer to the mid oceanic ridges are young and normal polarity
8. The age of rocks increases as the distance increases from the mid oceanic ridge
9. Oceanic crust is much younger (200my) than continental crust (3200my)
10. the sediments of ocean floor is very thin
11. earth quakes are common along the deep sea trenches

Positions of continents through geological past

PLATE TECTONICS

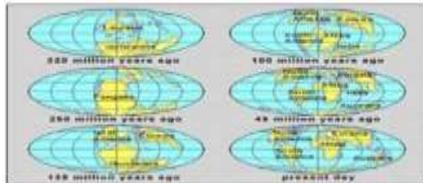
1. The theory of plate tectonics was introduced by **McKenzie, parker and Morgan** in 1967
2. A tectonic plate is also called as **lithosphere plate**
3. It is a massive irregularly shaped slab of solid rock
4. Consists of oceanic and continental sphere
5. Plates move horizontally over the **Asthenosphere**
6. Average thickness is 100 km of oceanic part and 200 km continental part
7. It may be oceanic or continental
8. Pacific plate is largest oceanic plate where as Eurasian plate is the largest continental plate

MAJOR PLATES OF THE EARTH CRUST



MAJOR PLATES

MAJOR PLATES



1. Antarctica And Surrounding Oceanic Plate
2. North American Plate
3. South American Plate Pacific Plate
4. India-Australia-New Zealand PLATE
5. African Plate
6. Eurasian Plate

MINOR PLATES

1. Cocos Plate
2. Nazca Plate
3. Arabian Plate
4. Philippine Plate
5. Caroline Plate
6. Fuzji Plate

These plates are moving constantly throughout geological time not the continent believed by Wegener. Pangaea was the convergent of all the plates. Position of Indian subcontinent is traced with the help of rocks analyzed from Nagpur area.



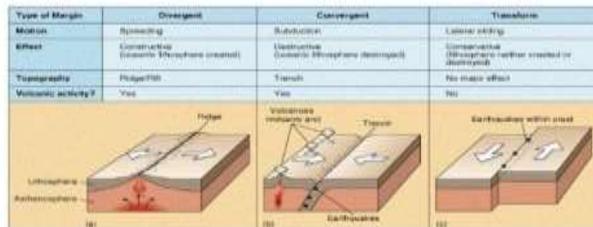
TYPES OF PLATE BOUNDARIES

I. DIVERGENT BOUNDARIES

1. New crust is generated
2. plates move away from each other
3. These are called spreading sites
3. Ex. Mid Atlantic ridge

II. CONVERGENT BOUNDARY

1. Crust is destroyed
2. sinking of plate is called 'subduction zone'
3. There are three ways in which subduction occurs
 - i. Ocean and continent
 - ii. Ocean and ocean
 - iii. continent and continent plates



III TRANSFORM BOUNDARIES

1. Crust is neither produced nor destroyed
2. Plates slide horizontally
3. Perpendicular to the mid oceanic ridges
4. Differential movement of a plate at the same time
5. Rotation of the earth has its effect on this movement

RATES OF PLATE MOVEMENT

1. The strips of normal and reverse magnetic field helped the scientists to study the rate of plate movement
2. Arctic ridge has the slowest rate less than 2.5 cm /year
3. east pacific rise has more than 15 cm/year

FORCES OF THE PLATE MOVEMENT

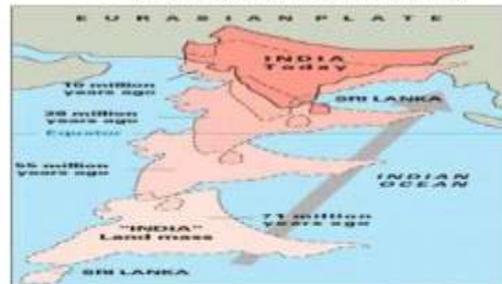
1. Surface of the earth is dynamic
2. Interior is always mobile
3. Beneath the lithosphere there is always movement of magma horizontally
4. Heated material rises to the top and cooled material sinks down
5. This cycle is repeated over the time and form convection cells

SOURCES OF HEAT

- A. Residual heat
- b. Radioactive decay
6. It was first considered by Arthur Holmes in 1930
7. Later it also influenced Harry Hess

MOVEMENT OF INDIAN PLATE

1. Indian plate includes India and Australia
2. Northern boundary is along the Himalayas
3. It is the place of continental convergence
4. In the east it extends up to Rakinomya mountains of Myanmar
5. Eastern margin is spreading site
6. Western margin extends along Kirithar mountains, Makran coast red sea rift.
7. The boundary between India and Antarctica is called divergent boundary
8. Till 225 m y a India was separated by Tethys sea
9. About 200 m y a India started its journey towards north
10. India collided with Asia about 40-50 m y a and caused the upliftment of Himalayas
11. About 140 m y a the position of Indian plate is at 50° latitude
12. During the movement of Indian plate two events occurred in India
 - A. out pouring of lava and formation of Deccan plateau
 - B. Subsidence of west coast
14. The Himalayas started rising about 40 m y a



STAGES OF MOVEMENT OF INDIAN PLATE TO WARDS ASIAN PLATE AT DIFFERENT AGES

II. TOPICS –

Each topic has been converted into a concept map. It is a visual organization and representation of knowledge.

There are 10 concepts maps in all.

III. FURTHER REFERENCE –

Kindly watch the following videos for a better understanding.

<https://youtu.be/ZymhmV-X-T4>

<https://youtu.be/KFkzjILgRQI>

<https://youtu.be/sXtmvKYYTwU>

<https://youtu.be/Zil6lrS4nes>

Q.1 What are Bodywaves ?

Q.2 Name the Direct source of information about the Interior of the Earth .

Q.3 Why do earthquake wave develop shadow zone?

Q.4 What do you understand by Intrusive forms?

Q.5 Explain the distribution of earthquake & volcanic plate on the Earth .

Q.6 What are the evidence in the support of Continental drift theory?

Q.7 What are Mid Oceanic ridges?

Q.8 Bring about the basic difference between the drift theory & plate tectonic .

Dear Students

Welcome to the New Academic session 2020-21

Before you go through this e-lesson,ensure that you have read the lesson. Mark the technical words ,Find out their meaning and note them in your register. The Various You tube links provide in the lesson will help in comprehending the concepts & make it easier for you .

Happy learning

UNIT III LAND FORMS

CHAPTER-5 MINERALS AND ROCKS

This unit deals with

Minerals, elements, characteristics of minerals such as crystal form, cleavage, fracture, lustre, colour, streak, transparency, structure, hardness, specific gravity, important minerals such as feldspar, quartz, pyroxene, amphibole, mica, olivine and their characteristics, classification of minerals, rocks, igneous, sedimentary, metamorphic rocks, rock cycle.

Minerals found in the crust are in solid form whereas in the interior they are in liquid form. 98% of the crust consists of eight elements.

1. Oxygen 2. Silicon 3. Aluminium 4. Iron 5. Calcium 6. Sodium 7. Potassium 8. Magnesium

The rest is constituted by titanium, hydrogen, phosphorus, manganese, sulphur, carbon, nickel & other elements.



Table 5.1 : The Major Elements of the Earth's Crust

Sr. No.	Elements	Dry Weight%
1.	Oxygen	46.60
2.	Silicon	27.72
3.	Aluminium	8.13
4.	Iron	5.00
5.	Calcium	3.63
6.	Sodium	2.83
7.	Potassium	2.59
8.	Magnesium	2.09
9.	Others	1.41

Many elements found in combination with other elements. These substances are called minerals.

Mineral: naturally occurring inorganic substance having an orderly atomic structure and a definite chemical composition and physical properties.

It is composed of two or three minerals / single element ex. S, Cu, Ag, Au, Graphite.

There are at least 2000 minerals in the crust. There are at least six mineral groups which form rocks in the crust.

The basic source of all minerals is the hot magma in the interior of the earth. Coal, petroleum and natural gas are organic minerals.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF MINERALS

(I) EXTERNAL CRYSTAL FORM: Internal arrangement of molecules: cube, octahedron, hexagonal, prisms.



Figure 8 CUBE



Figure 9 HEXAGONAL



Figure 10 OCTAHEDRONS

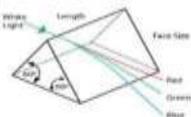


Figure 7 PRISM

(II) CLEAVAGE:



Tendency to break in given directions producing relatively plane surfaces, it may any direction

Obsidian



Conchoidal fracture is a curved breakage that resembles the concentric ripples of a mussel shell. It often occurs in amorphous or fine-grained minerals such as flint, lignite or obsidian, but may also occur in crystalline minerals such as quartz. **Sub conchoidal fracture** is similar to conchoidal fracture, but not as curved. (Note that obsidian is an igneous rock, not a mineral, but it does illustrate conchoidal fracture well.)

Earthy fracture



Limonite

Earthy fracture is reminiscent of freshly broken soil. It is frequently seen in relatively soft, loosely bound minerals, such as limonite, kaolinite and alunite.

Hackly fracture



Native copper

Hackly fracture (also known as **jagged fracture**) is jagged, sharp and uneven. It occurs when metals are torn, and so is often encountered in native metals such as copper and silver.

Splintery fracture



Chrysotile

Splintery fracture comprises sharp elongated points. It is particularly seen in fibrous minerals such as chrysotile, but may also occur in non-fibrous minerals such as kyanite.

Uneven fracture



Magnetite

Uneven fracture is self descriptive. It occurs in a wide range of minerals including arsenopyrite, pyrite and magnetite. The crystal breaks in an irregular manner not along the planes.

LUSTURE: Adamantine lustre



Cut diamonds

Adamantine minerals possess a superlative lustre, which is most notably seen in **diamond**.^[1] Such minerals are transparent or translucent, and have a high **refractive index** (of 1.9 or more).^[2] Minerals with a true adamantine lustre are uncommon, with examples being **calcite** and **zircon**.^[3]

Minerals with a lesser (but still relatively high) degree of lustre are referred to as **subadamantine**, with some examples being **garnet** and **cordierite**.

Dull lustre

Keatite



Dull (or **earthy**) minerals exhibit little to no lustre, due to coarse granulation which scatters light in all directions, approximating a **Laplace-Laguerre lustre**. An example is **keatite**.^[1] A distinction is sometimes drawn between dull minerals and earthy minerals,^[2] with the latter being coarser, and having even less lustre.

Greasy lustre



Moss opal

Greasy minerals resemble fat or grease. A greasy lustre often occurs in minerals containing a great abundance of microscopic inclusions, with examples including **opal** and **cordierite**.^[1] Many minerals with a greasy lustre also feel greasy to the touch.^[2]

Metallic lustre



Pyrite

Metallic (or **splendent**) minerals have the lustre of polished metal, and with ideal surfaces will work as a **reflective surface**. Examples include **galena**,^[1] **quartz**^[2] and **pyrite**.^[3]

Pearly lustre



Muscovite

Pearly minerals consist of thin transparent co-planar sheets. Light reflecting from these layers give them a lustre reminiscent of **pearls**.^[1] Such minerals possess **perfect cleavage**, with examples including **muscovite** and **illite**.^[2]

Resinous lustre



Amber

Resinous minerals have the appearance of **resin**, **clawed gum** or (smooth surfaced) plastic. A principal example is **amber**, which is a form of fossilized resin.^[1]

Silky lustre

Satin spar variety of gypsum



Silky minerals have a parallel arrangement of extremely fine fibres,^[1] giving them a lustre reminiscent of **silk**. Examples include **asbestos**, **diexite** and the **satin spar** variety of **gypsum**. A **fibrous** lustre is similar, but has a coarser texture.

Submetallic lustre



Sphalerite **Submetallic** minerals have similar lustre to metal, but are duller and less reflective. A submetallic lustre often occurs in near-opaque minerals with very high refractive indices,^[1] such as **sphalerite**, **cinnabar** and **cuprite**.

Vitreous lustre



Quartz

Vitreous minerals have the lustre of **glass**. (The term is derived from the Latin for glass, *vitrum*.) This type of lustre is one of the most commonly seen,^[1] and occurs in transparent or translucent minerals with relatively low refractive indices.^[2] Common examples include **calcite**, **quartz**, **topaz**, **beryl**, **tourmaline** and **fluorite**, among others.

Waxy lustre



[Jade](#)

Waxy minerals have a lustre resembling [wax](#). Examples include [jade](#)^[10] and [chalcedony](#)^[11]

Optical phenomena

Asterism



[Sapphire cat's paw](#)

Asterism is the display of a star-shaped luminous area. It is seen in some [sapphires](#) and [rubies](#), where it is caused by inclusions of rutile.^{[12][13]} It can also occur in garnet, diopside and spinel.

Aventurescence



Aventurine **Aventurescence** (or **aventurization**) is a reflectance effect like that of [quartz](#). It arises from minute, preferentially oriented mineral platelets within the material. These platelets are so numerous that they also influence the material's body colour. In [aventurine quartz](#), chrome-bearing [fuchsite](#) makes for a green stone and various [iron oxides](#) make for a red stone.^[14]

Chatoyancy



[Tiger's eye](#)

Chatoyant minerals display luminous bands, which appear to move as the specimen is rotated. Such minerals are composed of parallel fibers (or contain fibrous voids or inclusions), which reflect light into a direction perpendicular to their orientation, thus forming narrow bands of light. The most famous examples are [tiger's eye](#) and [cat's paw](#), but the effect may also occur in other minerals such as [aquamarine](#), [moonstone](#) and [tourmaline](#).

Colour change



[Alexandrite](#)

Color change is most commonly found in Alexandrite, a variety of [chrysoberyl](#) gemstones. Other gems also occur in color-change varieties, including (but not limited to) [sapphire](#), [garnet](#), [spinel](#). Alexandrite displays a color change dependent upon light, along with strong [pleochroism](#). The gem results from small scale replacement of aluminum by chromium oxide, which is responsible for alexandrite's characteristic green to red color change. Alexandrite from the [Ural Mountains](#) in Russia is green by daylight and red by incandescent light. Other varieties of alexandrite may be yellowish or pink in daylight and a columbine or raspberry red by incandescent light. The optimum or "ideal" color change would be fine emerald green to fine purplish red, but this is exceedingly rare.

[Schiller Labradorite](#)



glossy

Schiller, from German for "twinkle", is a term used to describe the metallic iridescence originating from below the surface of a stone, that occurs when light is reflected between layers of minerals. It is seen in [moonstone](#) and [labradorite](#) and is very similar to [adularescence](#) and [aventurescence](#).^[15]

appearance of material without regard to colour-metallic silky



COLOUR : some colours determined by molecular structure ex. malachite, azurite, chalcocite some because of impurities found the crystal.
STREAK : colour of the ground powder of any mineral Ex. Malachite -green, fluorite - purple/white



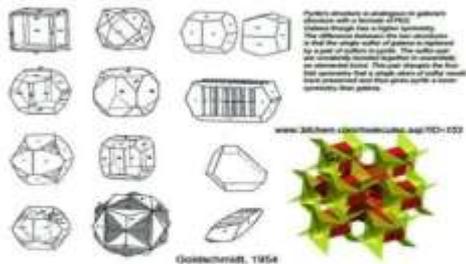
TRANSPARENCY: Transparency **Definition:** Transparency refers to the degree to which light can pass through a mineral.

Terminology: Opaque - no light can pass through the mineral;
Translucent - light can pass through the mineral but is diffused so that images cannot be seen clearly;

Transparent- light can pass through the mineral and images can be seen clearly.



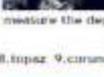
1. Transparency -light rays pass through 2. translucent-light pass through but diffused 3. opaque-light doesnot pass through.



Magnetite
(III) **STRUCTURE**: particular arrangement of the individual crystals - fine medium, or coarse, coarse grained fibrous, separable divergent radiating

HARDNESS: as corundum. The table below shows comparison with absolute hardness measured by a sclerosimeter, with pictorial examples. (IV)

Mohs hardness	Mineral	Chemical formula	Absolute hardness	Image
1	Talc	$Mg_3Si_2O_5(OH)_2$	1	
2	Gypsum	$CaSO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$	3	
3	Calcite	$CaCO_3$	4	
4	Fluorite	CaF_2	21	
5	Apatite	$Ca_5(PO_4)_3(OH, Cl, F)$	48	

Mohs hardness	Mineral	Chemical formula	Absolute hardness	Image
6	Orthoclase Feldspar	$KAlSi_3O_8$	72	
7	Quartz	SiO_2	100	
8	Topaz	$Al_2SiO_5(OH, F)_2$	200	
9	Corundum	Al_2O_3	400	
10	Diamond	C	1600	

(IV) Relative resistance being scratched ten minerals are selected to measure the degree of hardness from 1 to 10

1. Talc 2. gypsum 3. calcite 4. fluorite 5. apatite 6. feldspar 7. quartz 8. topaz 9. corundum 10. diamond, ex. fingernail has 2.5 hardness knife has 5.5 hardness



(V) **SPECIFIC GRAVITY**: The ratio between the weight of a given object and the weight of an equal volume of water; object weighed in air and then weighed in water and divide weight in air by the difference of its own weights.

CHAPTER -6 GEOMORPHIC PROCESSES

This chapter deals with Geomorphic process, exogenic, endogenic processes, diastrophism, volcanism, weathering, types of weathering (mechanical (unloading), expansion, temperature change expansion (freezing thawing frost wedging salt weathering), chemical (solution, carbonation, hydration oxidation and reduction), biological (plants, animals man), biological activity and weathering, special effects of weathering, significance of weathering, mass movement, slow movement, rapid movement, landslide, erosion, deposition, soil formation, process of soil formation soil forming factors, parent material, topography, climate, biological activity, time.

1. Why earth is uneven?

Due to internal and external forces earth is changing its surface conditions.

The earth crust is always dynamic.

It moves vertically and horizontally.

The differences in the internal forces making the surface uneven Wearing down of relief features. It is called gradation.

The endogenic forces always elevate parts of the earth's surface and hence the endogenic processes fail to even out the relief variations of the surface of the earth.

Variations remain as long as there is difference between endogenic and exogenic forces. The surface of the earth is sensitive. Human being is using the surface intensively and extensively.

GEOMORPHIC PROCESSES

The endogenic and exogenic forces cause physical stress and chemical actions on the earth material and bring the changes in the configuration of the earth surface is called

GEOMORPHIC PROCESSES

Diastrophism and volcanism are endogenic processes

Weathering, Masswasting, Erosion & Deposition Are Exogenic Processes

Any Exogenic Element Of Nature Capable Of Acquiring And Transporting Earth Materials Can Be Called A Geomorphologic Agent.

They Become Mobile When There Is Gradient The Erosional Agents Are

1. Running Water
2. Moving ice
3. Wind
4. Underground Water
5. Waves

A process is a force applied on earth materials affecting the same

agent is a mobile medium which removes

transports and deposits earth materials.

avity also causes directional forces activating

downdslope movements of matter

aves and tides are indirect movements of the earth



caused by gravitation

With out gravity and gradient there is no mobility for erosional agents as a result there is no erosion

transportation, and deposition on the earth surface

All the movements on/in the earth are due to gravitation and gradient. from higher level to lower level and high pressure to low pressure areas

ENDOGENIC PROCESS: the energy generating from with in the earth is the main force behind the endogenic geomorphologic processes.

The energy generated due to

1. Radioactivity
2. Rotational Force
3. Tidal Friction
4. Primordial Heat From The Origin Of The Earth.

Diastrophism And Volcanism Are Due To Geothermal Gradients And Heat Flow From Within The Earth.

Crustal Thickness, Strength, Action Of Endogenic Forces Are Due To Variations In Geothermal Gradients And Heat Flow Are Uneven.

DIASTROPHISM : All process that move elevate or build up portions of the earth's crust come under DIASTROPHISM

THEY ARE TWO TYPES

1. OROGENIC PROCESSES : mountain building through folding
2. EPIEROGENIC PROCESS: uplifting large part of earth crust
3. EARTH QUAKES
4. PLATE TECTONICS: involve horizontal movements

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OROGENY AND EPIEROGENY

OROGENY	EPIEROGENY
Crust is severely damaged	simple deformation
Mountain building process	continental formation
Folding and faulting	upliftment of landmass
Cause: tension and compression	vertical force

VOLCANISM: Movement of molten rock towards the earth's surface and also formation of many intrusive and extrusive volcanic forms.

Volcanism: It is the process in which volcanoes takes place

Volcanoes are the land forms formed due to volcanic process

EXOGENIC PROCESSES: They derive their energy from atmosphere determined by the prime source The sun and also gradients created by the tectonic factors.

Gravitational force create gradient towards down slope direction.

Force applied per unit area is called

STRESS. Stress can be produced in a solid body pushing or pulling

This includes deformation. Forces acting along the faces of earth materials are shear stresses (shearing forces). It is this stress that breaks rocks and other earth materials. the shear stress result in angular displacement/slippage. Besides gravitational stress there is molecular

stress which is caused by temperature change, crystallization and melting, chemical processes normally lead to loosening of bonds between grains, dissolving of soluble minerals or cementing materials.

The basic reason for weathering, mass movement erosion and deposition is the development of stress in the earth materials.

Since there are different climatic regions there is variation in the exogenic process from region to region. Temperature and precipitation are the two major elements that control various processes.

All the exogenic process are covered under general term DENUDATION.

The word denude means uncover. Weathering, masswasting erosion and transportation are included in denudation.

DENUDATIONAL PROCESSES AND THEIR Driving Forces

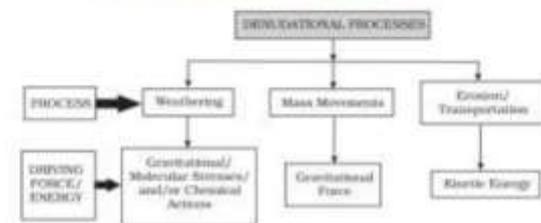


Figure 6.1 : Denudational processes and their driving forces

This Chart We Observe That For Each Process There is Driving Force Called Energy On The Earth Surface Thermal Gradient Is Caused By

1. Latitude 2. Seasons 3. Land And Water Distribution 4. Angle Of Earth's Inclination The Density of Natural Vegetation is Greatly Influenced By The Temperature And Precipitation Helps Indirectly The Exogenic Processes.

THE OTHER FACTORS OF CLIMATIC VARIATIONS ARE 1. Altitude 2. Angle Of Slope 3. Ocean Currents 4. Amount Of Insolation Received By The Region 5. Wind Velocity And Direction 6. Direction Of The Slope 7. Amount And Kind Of Precipitation 8. Relation Between Precipitation And Evaporation 9. Daily Range Of Temperature 10. Freezing And Thawing Frequency 11. Depth Of Frost Penetration

The Sole Driving Force Behind All The Exogenic Process Is The Sun

When Climatic Factors Are Common The Intensity Of Action Depend On Type And Structure Of Rocks

STRUCTURE INCLUDES folds, faults, orientation inclination of beds, presence or absence of joints, bedding planes, hardness, softness of constituent minerals, chemical susceptibility of mineral constituents, the permeability or impermeability.

Different types of rocks offer varying resistances to various geomorphic processes.

Particular rock may be resistant to one process and non resistant to other process

As a result there is varied relief over the earth surface

The effects of exogenic forces may be small and slow but in long run they have greater effects

Finally the surface of the earth is operated by different geomorphic processes and at varying rates

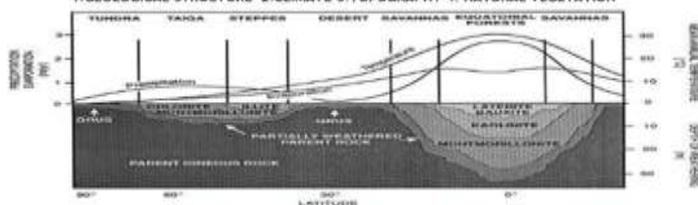
WEATHERING: It is the action of elements of weather on earth materials

Weathering is defined as mechanical disintegration and chemical decomposition of rocks through the actions of various elements so weather and climate

In weathering there is no motion of materials takes place so it is in-situ or on site process

FACTORS INFLUENCING THE WEATHERING & DEPTH OF WEATHERING

1. GEOLOGICAL STRUCTURE 2. CLIMATE 3. TOPOGRAPHY 4. NATURAL VEGETATION



(i) CHEMICAL (ii) PHYSICAL/MECHANICAL (iii) BIOLOGICAL WEATHERING

CHEMICAL WEATHERING PROCESSES

A group of weathering processes viz: solution, carbonation, hydration, oxidation and reduction act on the rocks to decompose, dissolve or reduce them to a fine clastic state through chemical reactions by oxygen, surface/soil water and other acids. Water and air along with heat must be present to speed up all chemical reactions.

Over and above the carbon dioxide present in the air, decomposition of plants and animals increases the quantity of carbon dioxide underground. These chemical reactions on various minerals are very much reactions on various minerals are very much similar to the chemical reactions in a laboratory.

SOLUTION: the water /acid with dissolved content is called solution. This process involves removal of solids in solution and depends upon solubility of mineral in water or weak acids. When water reacts with any solid many solids may become solution. Ex. Sulphates, nitrates, potassium.

When rain comes these solids dissolve into solution with out leaving any residue.

Calcium carbonate, magnesium bicarbonate present in the lime stone, are dissolved in and form carbonic acid, CO_2 produced by decaying organic matter along with soil water greatly aids in this reaction. Common salt is also susceptible to this process.

CARBONATION: It is the reaction of carbonate and bicarbonate with minerals such as feldspar, & carbonate minerals. CO_2 from atmosphere and soil air is absorbed by water to form carbonic acid. $CaCO_3$ & $MgCO_3$ are dissolved in carbonic acid and washed away to form the caves in lime stone region.

Clay minerals are easily eroded due to the presence of minerals which can exchange the ions with the water.

HYDRATION: It is the chemical addition of water. Minerals take up water and expand, this expansion increases the volume of material. ex. calcium sulphate takes water and convert into gypsum. It is unstable than calcium sulphate. It is reversible reaction and when this process continues for longer time the materials disintegrate.

Many clay minerals swell and contract during wetting and drying and a repetition of this process results in cracking of overlying materials. Salts in pores undergo rapid and repeated hydration and help in physical weathering through exfoliation and granular disintegration

OXIDATION AND REDUCTION

Oxidation means combination of minerals with oxygen to form oxides and hydroxides.

Oxidation occurs when there is sufficient water and atmosphere. Ex. Iron, manganese, sulphur. In the process of oxidation breakdown occurs due the addition of oxygen. red colour of iron becomes into yellow colour. when oxidised minerals are kept in the places where there is no oxygen reduction takes place. ex. such conditions occurs below water table waterlogged areas.

Red colour of iron becomes greenish or bluish grey.

PHYSICAL WEATHERING PROCESSES

Factors Influencing The Physical Weathering

1. Gravitational Force Overburden Pressure, Load And Shearing Stress

2. Expansion Forces Due To Temperature Changes, Crystal Growth Or Animal Activity

3. Water Pressure Controlled By Wetting And Drying Cycles.

They are mostly due to thermal expansion, and pressure release. The repeated action of these processes cause damage to the rocks

UNLOADING AND EXPANSION: Removal of overlying rock load because of continued erosion causes vertical pressure release with the result that the upper layers of the rock expand producing disintegration of rock masses. Fractures will develop parallel to the ground surface. In areas of curved ground surface arched fractures tend to produce massive sheets or exfoliation slabs of rock. exfoliation sheets result from expansion due to unloading and pressure release may measure hundreds or even thousands of metres in horizontal extent. large smooth rounded domes called exfoliation domes result due to this process

TEMPERATURE CHANGES AND EXPANSION: Various minerals found in the rocks expand at different rates. when temperature increases. Each one pushes others. When temperature falls contraction takes place. because of diurnal changes in temperature the effects is mostly on superficial layers of the rocks. the effects of this process is significant in hot deserts and cold deserts. though it is small the continuous process for longer time and larger area the effect is greater. The effect is greater at the depth of the rocks. fractures occur parallel to the surface. due continuous expansion and contraction the rock layers become loose and exfoliation takes place. a large dome shaped structures are formed due to this process. Tors which are large boulders also form due this process. exfoliated domes are big in size where as exfoliated tors are varied sizes.

FREEZING THAWING AND FROST WEDGING: due to repeated freezing and melting frost weathering occurs in the pores and cracks of rocks. it is most effective in higher elevations of the midlatitudes.

Glacial areas are subjected to frost wedging daily. In this process the rate of freezing is more important. Rapid freezing causes sudden expansion and high pressure. Finally this process makes the rock to break into pieces.

SALT WEATHERING: salts in the rocks expand due to thermal action hydration and crystallisation. ex. Calcium sodium magnesium potassium and barium. high temperature between 30°C to 50°C of surface temperature in deserts favour such salt expansion.

Salt crystals in near surface pores cause splitting of individual grains within rocks, which eventually fall off. This process of falling off of individual grains may result in granular disintegration or granular foliation.

Salt crystallisation is most effective of all salt weathering processes, in areas with alternating wetting and drying conditions salt crystal growth is favoured and the neighbouring grains are pushed aside. sodium chloride and gypsum crystals in desert areas heave up overlying layers of materials and with the result polygonal cracks develop all over the heaved surface. With salt crystal growth, chalk breaks down most readily followed by limestone, Sandstone, Chalk, Gneiss And Granite.

BIOLOGICAL WEATHERING: Removal or contribution of ions to the environment due to biological activity is called biological weathering burrowing and wedging by organism like earthworms termites, rodents help in exposing the new surfaces to chemical attack and assists in the penetration of moisture and air.

SOME SPECIAL EFFECTS OF WEATHERING: Exfoliation is a result but not a process. Removal of layers from curved surfaces result into rounded surfaces. It occurs due to expansion and contraction induced by temperature changes. exfoliation domes occur due to unloading where as tors occur due to thermal expansion.

SIGNIFICANCE OF WEATHERING: Responsible for the formation of soils and erosion and deposition. biodiversity is basically depending on depth of weathering, erosion may not be significant when there is no weathering. weathering aids mass wasting, erosion and reduction of relief and changes in landforms. weathering of rocks and deposition helps in the enrichment and concentrations of certain valuable ores of iron manganese, aluminium copper. It is an important process of soil formation.

ENRICHMENT: when rocks undergo weathering some materials are removed through chemical or physical leaching. By ground water and thereby the concentration of remaining materials increases. Without such a weathering taking place, the concentration of the same valuable material may not be sufficient and economically viable to exploit, process and refine, this is what is called enrichment.

MASS MOVEMENT: these movements transfer the mass of rock debris down the slopes under the direct influence of gravity. air water ice don't carry debris, but debris carry them, the movements of mass may range from slow to rapid.

TYPES OF MASS MOVEMENTS: creep, flow, slide and fall. mass movements are active over weathered slopes than unweathered slopes, mass movements are aided by gravity not any erosional agent. mass movements do not come under erosion though there is shift of material.

When force is greater than resistance mass movement occurs. Ex. Weak unconsolidated material, thinly bedded rocks, faults, steeply dipping beds, vertical cliffs, steep slopes, abundant precipitation and torrential rains and scarcity of vegetation.

Activating causes precede mass movements:

- (i) removal of support from below to materials above through natural or artificial means
- (ii) increase in gradient and height of slopes
- (iii) overloading through additional materials naturally or by artificial filling

(iv) overloading due to heavy rainfall saturation and lubrication of slope materials

(v) removal of material or load from over the original slope surfaces.

(vi) occurrence of earthquakes, explosions or machinery

(vii) excessive natural seepage

(viii) heavy draw down of water from lakes, reservoirs and rivers

(ix) indiscriminate removal of natural vegetation

CLASSIFICATION OF MASS MOVEMENTS

Type of Movement	Type of Material	Speed	Relative Hazard					
Fall	Rock	Extremely rapid	Highly Hazardous (see also Landslide)					
	Rock Fall	Extremely rapid	Extremely Rapid					
Slide	Extremely rapid	Rapid to extremely rapid						
	Rock Slide	Extremely rapid	Extremely Hazardous					
	Very slow to extremely rapid	Very slow to very rapid						
Flow	Rock Slump	Extremely slow to moderate	Extremely Hazardous					
	Very slow to very rapid	Very slow to very rapid						
Velocity scale		Extremely slow	Very slow	Slow	Moderate	Rapid	Very rapid	Extremely rapid
		0.01 cm/yr	0.1 cm/yr	1 cm/yr	1.5 m/yr	1.5 m/yr	1.5 m/yr	1.5 m/yr

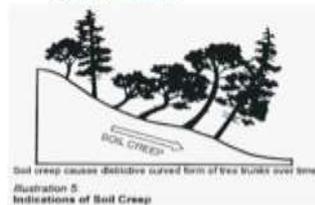
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Heave, flow and slide are the three forms of movements the relationship is shown in the figure no.

The mass movements can be grouped into three types

1. slow movements
2. Rapid movements
3. Land slide

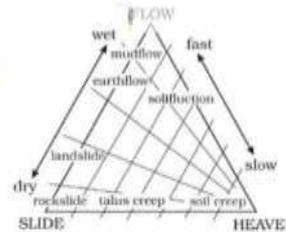
SLOW MOVEMENTS

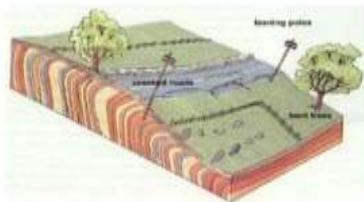


CREEP: It generally occurs on moderately steep, soil covered slopes.

Movement of material is extremely slow. Material may be rock debris or soil

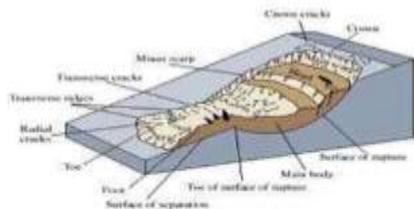
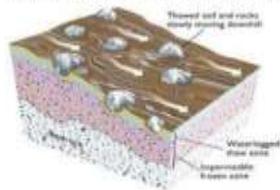
Ex. Bending of telephone pole, and fence poles.





Types of creep : soil creep, talus creep rock creep glacier creep

Soilflowction: slow down slope flowing soil mass or fine grained rock debris saturated or lubricated with water. It is common in moist temperate areas where surface melting of deeply frozen ground and long continued rain respectively occur frequently.



MUD FLOW

RAPID MOVEMENTS

CONDITIONS: 1. humid climatic regions
2. gentle to steep slopes 3. Heavy rain 4. Loose soils

EARTH FLOW: movements of water saturated clayey or silty with materials down low angle terraces or hillsides.

EARTH FLOW



In the absence of vegetation cover and with heavy rainfall, thick layers of weathered materials get saturated with water and either slowly or rapidly flow down along definite channels. It looks like a channel of mud when they overflow the channels they engulf the roads and rail bridges.

They generally occur due to volcanic eruptions. Volcanic ash dust and other fragments turn into mud due to heavy rains and flow down as tongues or streams of mud causing great

destruction in the human settlements.



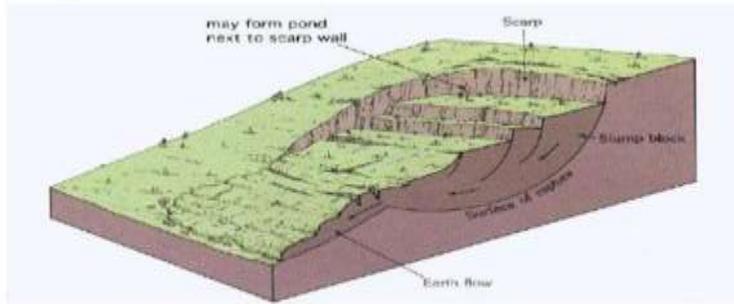
DEBRIS AVALANCHES:

Found in humid regions with or without vegetation in narrow tracks of steep slopes. It is much faster than mud flow, it is similar to snow avalanches.



LANDSLIDES: these are rapid and perceptible movements. dry materials are found. The size and shape of the materials are depending on the nature of the rock, degree of weathering, steepness of slope.

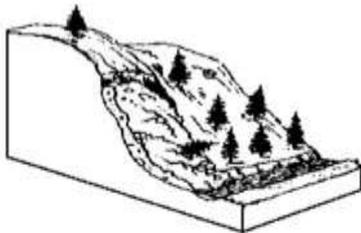
SLUMP:



slipping of one or several units of rock debris with a backward rotation with respect to the slope over which the movement takes place

DEBRIS SLIDE: rapid rolling or sliding of earth debris without backward rotation of mass is known as debris slide.

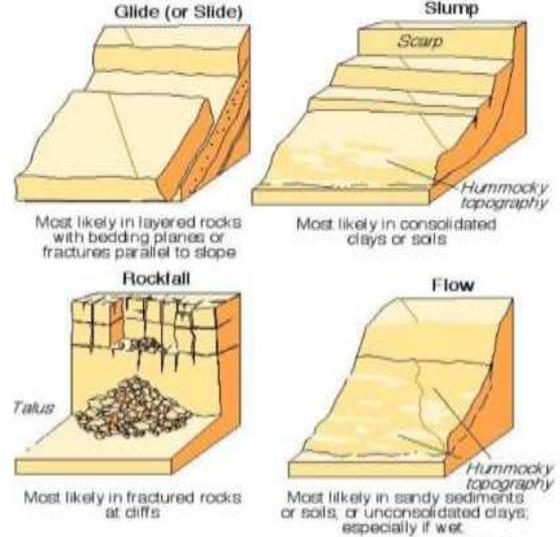
Debris slide



ROCK FALL



Styles of Mass Wasting



Most likely in layered rocks with bedding planes or fractures parallel to slope

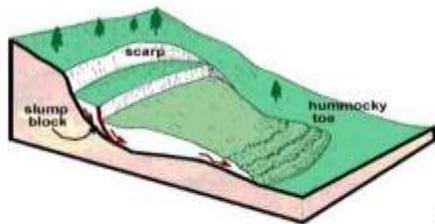
Most likely in consolidated clays or soils

Most likely in fractured rocks at cliffs

Most likely in sandy sediments or soils, or unconsolidated clays, especially if wet.

LEH 3/2002 rev 12/2002

Rockslide sliding of individual rock masses down bedding joint or fault surfaces . it generally occurs at the steep slopes. Superficial layers of the rock generally fall.



mass movement

Reasons for land slides along the Himalayas

1. Tectonically active
2. Made of sedimentary rocks
3. Steep slopes
4. Heavy rains
5. Unconsolidated material is found

EROSION AND DEPOSITION

Erosion involves acquisition and transportation of rock debris

Abration by rock debris carried by geomorphic agents also aids erosion

By erosion relief degrades, the landscape is worn down. Weathering may not be pre condition for erosion.

Weathering, mass wasting, and erosion are degradational processes. It is the erosion largely responsible for continuous changes that the earth surface is undergoing.

Erosion and transportation are controlled by kinetic energy. wind running water and glaciers are controlled by climate.

Comparison of wind running water and glacier

wind	Running water	glacier
Predominant in hot deserts	Found most parts of the earth	Found only in high latitude and altitude
Sand dunes are common features	Valleys and deltas are common features	U shaped valleys and moraines are common
Ex. Sahara, atacama kalahari	Amazon,Nile, Brahmaputra	Greenland, Antarctica
Air is gas	Water is liquid	Glacier is solid
Limited land forms	Extensive land forms	Limited land forms
High speed	Normal speed	Very slow movement

EROSION: "application of kinetic energy associated with the agent to the surface of the land along which it moves". It is computed as $KE = \frac{1}{2} mv^2$

M=mass v= velocity KE= kinetic energy

SOIL FORMATION: Soil is the collection natural bodies on the earth's surface containing living matter and supporting or capable of supporting plants.

Soil is a dynamic material in which many chemical, biological, and physical activities go on constantly. It is the result of decay, it is also a medium of growth. It is changing and developing body. Characteristics are changing from season to season.

Too cold, too hot, and dry areas biological activity stops. organic matter increases when leaves fall and decompose.

PROCESS OF SOIL FORMATION: weathering is basic process for soil formation. The weathered material is transported and decomposed due to bacteria, lichens and moss. The dead remains increases the humus of the soil. minor grasses and ferns can grow. Bushes, trees also grow. plants roots and burrowing animals help the soil formation.

PEDOGY: is Science of soil formation

PEDOLOGIST: is the scientist of soil formation

SOIL FORMING FACTORS: 1. Parent material 2. Topography 3. Climate 4. Biological activity, 5. time

PARENT MATERIAL: passive control factor, it is insitu, onsite, or transported. it depends on texture, structure, chemical composition of the soil. Nature and depth of weathering is an important factor. chemical composition, texture are the characteristics derived from parent material

TOPOGRAPHY: passive control factor, amount of exposure to the sun light, drainage system, steep slopes have less deposition, gentle slopes have thick soils. Plains have thick and dark coloured soils. In mid latitude southern slopes expose to the sun light and get decomposed more.

CLIMATE: it is an active factor in soil formation. Climatic elements are (i) moisture (ii) intensity, frequency and duration of precipitation - evaporation and humidity

(ii) Temperature in terms of seasonal and diurnal variation.

Precipitation increases the biological activity.

Excess of water helps to transport the dissolved particles to downward

(oluviation)

Deposition of these particles is called "Illuviation"

Heavy rainfall removes the calcium, magnesium, sodium, potassium along with silica.

Removal of silica is called desilication

In dry areas excess of evaporation leads to deposition of salts on the surface of the soil

These salt layers are called 'hard pans' in the hot deserts

In tropical climates, under moderate rainfall conditions calcium carbonate nodules are formed.

Biological activity: plants and animals add organic matter to the soil also helps in moisture retention. Dead plants add humus to the soil. In humid areas, the bacterial activity is higher than cold areas.

As a result undecomposed material is found in cold areas

In hot areas bacteria fix the nitrogen in the soil which is used by the plants

Rhizobium is the bacteria fix the nitrogen in the soil and live in the roots of legumeneae plants. ants, termites, rodents, earthworms change the chemical composition of th soil.

Time: Important controlling factor of soil formation. Longer the time, thicker the soil layers. No time limit for the formation of the soil layers.

II. TOPICS –

Each topic has been converted into a concept map. It is a visual organization and representation of knowledge.

There are 10 concepts maps in all.

III. FURTHER REFERENCE –

Kindly watch the following videos for a better understanding.

<https://youtu.be/NBkw-zz5P7U>

<https://youtu.be/TzyH37ep-PQ>

<https://youtu.be/k2fPa45mLbM>

<https://youtu.be/YQiGZJTaPgl>

https://youtu.be/DjN_2U_kLSQ

Q.1 What are Metamorphic rocks?

Q.2 What is an Igneous Rocks?

Q.3 What is meant by sedimentary rocks?

Q.4 What are Geomorphic Process?

Q.5 What is Soil erosion?

Q.6 Define Gradation?

Q.7 What do you mean by Rocks? Name the three major classes of minerals with their Physical characteristics.

Dear Students

Welcome to the New Academic session 2020-21

Before you go through this e-lesson, ensure that you have read the lesson. Mark the technical words ,Find out their meaning and note them in your register. The Various You tube links provide in the lesson will help in comprehending the concepts & make it easier for you .

Happy learning

Fundamental of Physical Geography
Chapter-8 Composition and Structure of Atmosphere

This unit deals with :

- Atmosphere — compositions and structure; elements of weather and climate
- Insolation — angle of incidence and distribution; heat budget of the earth — heating and cooling of the atmosphere (conduction, convection, terrestrial radiation, advection); temperature — factors controlling temperature; distribution of temperature — horizontal and vertical; inversion of temperature• Pressure — pressure belts; winds-planetary seasonal and local, air masses and fronts; tropical and extra tropical cyclones
- Precipitation — evaporation; condensation — dew, frost, fog, mist and cloud; rainfall — types and world distribution
- World climates — classification (Koeppen), greenhouse effect, global warming and climatic changes

CHAPTER EIGHT

What is the importance of atmosphere?

Air is essential to the survival of all organisms. Some organisms like humans may survive for some time without food and water but can't survive even a few minutes without breathing air. That shows the reason why we should understand the atmosphere in greater detail. The air is an integral part of the earth's mass and 99 per cent of the total mass of the atmosphere is confined to the height of 32 km from the earth's surface

Define the Atmosphere

Atmosphere is a mixture of different gases and it envelopes the earth all round. It contains life-giving gases like oxygen for humans and animals and carbon dioxide for plants.

What is the average height of the Atmosphere?

The air is an integral part of the earth's mass and 99 per cent of the total mass of the atmosphere is confined to the height of 32 km from the earth's surface. The air is colourless and odourless and can be felt only when it blows as wind.

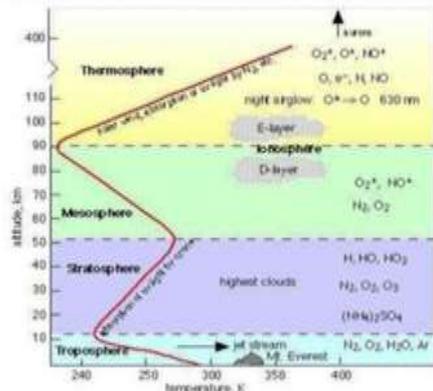
Can you imagine what will happen to us in the absence of ozone in the atmosphere?

In the absence of Ozone life is not possible on the earth surface. Ozone layer protects us from harmful UV rays.

COMPOSITION OF THE ATMOSPHERE

The atmosphere is composed of gases, water vapour and dust particles. The proportion of gases changes in the higher layers of the atmosphere in such a way that oxygen will be almost in negligible quantity at the height of 120 km. Similarly, carbon dioxide and water vapour are found only up to 90 km from the surface of the earth,

COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE OF ATMOSPHERE



Constituent	Formula	Percentage by Volume
Nitrogen	N ₂	78.08
Oxygen	O ₂	20.95
Argon	Ar	0.93
Carbon dioxide	CO ₂	0.036

Neon	Ne	0.002
Helium	He	0.0005
Krypton	Kr	0.001
Xenon	Xe	0.00009
Hydrogen	H ₂	0.00005

Study the above table showing the composition of the atmosphere and answer the following questions.

1. Which gas constitutes the highest % of atmosphere?
2. Name the gas which constitutes least % of atmosphere

Gases

Carbon dioxide is meteorologically a very important gas as it is transparent to the Incoming solar radiation but opaque to the outgoing terrestrial radiation. It is largely responsible for the green house effect. The volume of carbon dioxide has been rising in the past few decades mainly because of the burning of fossil fuels. This has increased the air temperature .

Ozone is another important component of the atmosphere found between 10 and 50 km above the earth's surface, and it filter and absorbs the ultra-violet rays radiating from the sun and prevents them from reaching the surface of the earth.

Water Vapour

Water vapour is also a variable gas in the atmosphere. In the warm and wet tropics, it may account for four per cent of the air by volume, while in the dry and cold areas of desert and polar regions, it may be less than one per cent of the air. Water vapour also decreases from the equator towards the poles. It also absorbs parts of the insolation from the sun and preserves the earth's radiated heat.

Dust Particles

Dust particles are generally concentrated in the lower layers of the atmosphere; yet, convectional air currents may transport them to great heights. The higher concentration of dust particles is found in subtropical and temperate regions due to dry winds in comparison to equatorial and polar regions. Dust and salt particles act as hygroscopic nuclei around which water vapour condenses to produce clouds.

STRUCTURE OF THE ATMOSPHERE

1. The atmosphere consists of different layers with varying density and temperature.
2. Density is highest near the surface of the earth and decreases with increasing altitude.
3. The column of atmosphere is divided into five different layers depending upon the temperature condition.

Name the layers of atmosphere

They are: troposphere, stratosphere, mesosphere, thermosphere and exosphere.

The troposphere

1. It is the lowermost layer of the atmosphere.
2. Thickness of the troposphere is greatest at the equator because heat is transported to great heights by strong convectional currents.
3. Extends roughly to a height of 8 km near the poles and about 18 km at the equator.
4. This layer contains dust particles and water vapour.
5. All changes in climate and weather take place in this layer.
6. Its average height is 13 km
7. The temperature in this layer decreases at the rate of 1 °C for every 165 m of height.
8. The zone separating the troposphere from stratosphere is known as the tropopause.
9. This is the most important layer for all biological activity.

The stratosphere

1. It is found above the tropopause and extends up to a height of 50 km.
2. One important feature of the stratosphere is that it contains the ozone layer.
3. This layer absorbs ultra-violet radiation and shields life on the earth from intense, harmful form of energy.

The mesosphere

1. It lies above the stratosphere.
2. which extends up to a height of 80 km.
3. The upper limit of mesosphere is known as the mesopause.
4. In this layer, once again, temperature starts decreasing with the increase in altitude and Up to minus 100°C at the height of 80 km.

The ionosphere

1. It is located between 80 and 400 km above the mesopause.
2. It contains electrically charged particles known as ions, and hence, it is known as ionosphere.
3. Radio waves transmitted from the earth are reflected back to the earth by this layer.
4. Temperature here starts increasing with height.
5. The uppermost layer of the atmosphere above reaches up to minus 100

Exosphere

1. the thermosphere is known as the exosphere.
2. This is the highest layer but very little is known about it.
3. Whatever contents are there, these are extremely rarefied in this layer, and it gradually merges with the outer space.

Elements of Weather and Climate temperature,

The main elements of atmosphere which are subject to change and which influence human life on earth are temperature, pressure, winds, humidity, clouds and precipitation.

II. TOPICS –

Each topic has been converted into a concept map. It is a visual organization and representation of knowledge.

There are 10 concepts maps in all.

III. FURTHER REFERENCE –

Kindly watch the following videos for a better understanding.

https://youtu.be/A_Be5ywLe4c

<https://youtu.be/yIIF8DjXH88>

<https://youtu.be/1qMK6V8kz14>

Q.1 Define Atmosphere .

Q.2 What is the importance of Atmosphere?

**Q.3 Ozone is an Important constituent of Atmosphere .
How?**

Q.4 Name the gases found in Atmosphere .

Q.5 Write a short note on Dust particles & Water vapour .

Q.6 Explain the composition & structure of Atmosphere.

Dear Students

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Before you go through this e-lesson,ensure that you have read the lesson. Mark the technical words ,Find out their meaning and note them in your register. The Various You tube links provide in the lesson will help in comprehending the concepts & make it easier for you .

Happy learning

This unit deals with

- Location – space relations and India's place in the world



Facts of India

India Facts	
Territorial Sea	12 nm (nautical miles)
Contiguous Zone	24 nm
Exclusive economic Zone	200 nm
Continental Shelf	200 nm or to the edge of the continental margin
Longest River	Ganga
Largest Lake	Lake Chilka
Highest Point	Mt. K ² (8611 m)
Highest Point of Himalaya	Kanchan Junga (8,598 m)
Lowest Point	Kuttanad (-2.2 m)
Northernmost Point	Siachen Glacier near Karakoram
Southernmost Point	Indira Point, Great Nicobar, Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Southernmost Point of India (Mainland)	Cape Comorin (Kanya Kumari)
Westernmost Point	West of Ghuar Mota, Gujarat
Eastermost Point	Kibithu, Arunachal Pradesh
Highest Altitude	Kancherjunga, Sikkim
Lowest Altitude	Kuttanad (Kerala)

Mark the southernmost and northern most latitudes and the easternmost and westernmost longitudes. The mainland of India, extends from Kashmir in the north to Kanyakumari in the south and Arunachal Pradesh in the east to Gujarat in the west.

India's territorial limit further extends towards the sea up to 12 nautical miles (about 21.9 km) from the coast. Our southern boundary extends up to 6° 45' N latitude in the Bay of Bengal. Let us work out implications of having such a vast longitudinal and latitudinal extent.

The latitudinal and longitudinal extent of India are roughly about 30 degrees, whereas the actual distance measured from north to south extremity is 3,214 km, and that from east to west is only 2,933 km.

What is the reason for this difference? This difference is based on the fact that the distance between two longitudes decreases towards the poles whereas the distance between two latitudes remains the same everywhere. **Find out the distance between two latitudes?**

From the values of latitude, it is understood that the southern part of the country lies within the tropics and the northern part lies in the sub-tropical zone or the warm temperate zone. This location is responsible for large variations in land forms, climate, soil types and natural vegetation in the country. Now, let us observe the longitudinal extent and its implications on the Indian people. From the values of longitude, it is quite discernible that there is a variation of nearly 30 degrees, which causes a time difference of nearly two hours between the easternmost and the westernmost parts of our country. You are familiar with the concept of Indian Standard Time (IST). What is the use of the standard meridian? While the sun rises in the northeastern states about two hours earlier as compared to Jaisalmer, the watches in Dibrugarh, Imphal in the east and Jaisalmer, Bhopal or Chennai in the other parts of India show the same time. Why does this happen?

There is a general understanding among the countries of the world to select the standard meridian in multiples of 7° 30' of longitude. That is why 82° 30' E has been selected as the 'standard meridian' of India. Indian Standard Time is ahead of Greenwich Mean Time by 5 hours and 30 minutes.

There are some countries where there are more than one standard meridian due to their vast east-to-west extent. For example, the USA has seven time zones.

Name a few places in India through which the standard meridian passes.

1. ALLAHABAD
2. KANUNDA

India with its area of 3.28 million sq. km accounts for 2.4 per cent of the world's land surface area and stands as the seventh largest country in the world. Find out the names of the countries which are larger than India.

SIZE

Total area of India is 32. lakh sq. km 7th largest country with 2.4% of total land area of the world *Indian subcontinent*.

It includes the countries Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and India. Coastline length is 7516.5 km land frontier area is 15200 km.

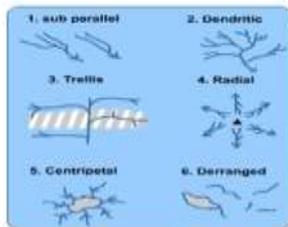
INDIA AND ITS NEIGHBORS

1. Pakistan
2. China
3. Nepal
4. Bhutan
5. Myanmar
6. Bangladesh
7. Sri Lanka
8. Maldives...

Sri Lanka is separated from India by the Gulf of Mannar and Palk Strait

CHAPTER -3 DRAINAGE SYSTEM

The flow of water through well-defined channels is known as 'drainage'. The network of such channels is called a 'drainage system'. The drainage pattern of an area is the outcome of the geological time period, nature and structure of rocks, topography, slope, amount of water flowing and the periodicity of the flow.



Drainage system

- (i) The drainage pattern resembling the branches of a tree is known as "dendritic." The examples of which are the rivers of northern plain.
- (ii) When the rivers originate from a hill and flow in all directions, the drainage pattern is known as "radial". The rivers originating from the Anarkantak range present a good example of it.
- (iii) When the primary tributaries of rivers flow parallel to each other and secondary tributaries join them at right angles, the pattern is known as 'trellis'.
- (iv) When the rivers discharge their waters from all directions in a lake or depression, the pattern is known as 'centripetal'.

The boundary line separating one drainage basin from the other is known as the watershed. The catchments of large rivers are called river basins while those of small rivulets and rills are often referred to as watersheds.

There is, however, a slight difference between a river basin and a watershed. Watersheds are small in area while the basins cover larger areas.

They are accepted as the most appropriate micro, meso or macro planning regions.

Indian drainage system may be divided on various bases.

On the basis of discharge of water (orientations to the sea), it may be grouped into:

- (i) the Arabian Sea drainage; and
- (ii) the Bay of Bengal drainage.

They are separated from each other through the Delhi ridge, the Aravallis and the Sahyadris (water divide is shown by a line in Figure 3.1), river basin.

77 per cent of the drainage area consisting of the Ganga, the Brahmaputra, the Mahanadi, the Krishna, etc. is oriented towards the Bay of Bengal. 23 percent comprising the Indus, the Harmada, the Tapi, the Mahi and the Periyar systems discharge their waters in the Arabian Sea.

On the basis of the size of the watershed,

the drainage basins of India are grouped into three categories:

- (i) Major river basins with more than 20,000 sq. km of catchment area. It includes 14 drainage basins such as the Ganga, the Brahmaputra, the Krishna, the Tapi, the Harmada, the Mahi, the Pennar, the Sabarmati, the Barak, etc.

Important Drainage Patterns



- (ii) Medium river basins with catchment area between 2,000-20,000 sq. km incorporating 44 river basins such as the Kalindi, the Periyar, the Meghna, etc.
- (iii) Minor river basins with catchment area of less than 2,000 sq. km include fairly good number of rivers flowing in the area of low rainfall.

North Indian rivers are originating from Himalayas peninsular rivers are originating from Western ghats.

The Harmada and Tapi are two large rivers which are exceptions originating from central highlands. The Indian drainage may also be classified into the Himalayan drainage and the Peninsular drainage.

THE HIMALAYAN DRAINAGE

1. The Himalayan drainage system has a long geological history.
2. The important rivers are Ganga, the Indus and the Brahmaputra rivers.
3. Since these are fed both by melting of snow and precipitation, rivers of this system are perennial.
4. Rivers form giant gorges. V-shaped valleys, rapids and waterfalls in their mountainous course.
5. While entering the plains, they form depositional features like flat valleys, ox-bow lakes, flood plains.

EVOLUTION OF THE HIMALAYAN DRAINAGE

1. Geologists believe that a mighty river called Shiwatik or Indo-Brahma traversed the entire longitudinal extent of the Himalaya from Assam to Punjab and onwards to Sind, and finally discharged into the Gulf of Sind near lower Punjab during the Miocene period some 5-24 million years ago.

2. The remarkable continuity of the Shiwatik and its lacustrine origin and alluvial deposits consisting of sands, silt, clay, boulders and conglomerates support this viewpoint. In due course of time Indo-Brahma river was dismembered into three main drainage systems:

- (i) the Indus and its five tributaries in the western part;
- (ii) the Ganga and its Himalayan tributaries in the central part; and
- (iii) the stretch of the Brahmaputra in Assam and its Himalayan tributaries in the eastern part.

The dismemberment was probably due to the Pleistocene upheaval in the western Himalayas, including the uplift of the Potwar Plateau (Delhi Ridge), which acted as the water divide between the Indus and Ganga drainage systems.

Likewise, the down thrusting of the Malda gap area between the Rajmahal hills and the Meghalaya plateau during the mid-pleistocene period, diverted the Ganga and the Brahmaputra systems to flow Towards the Bay of Bengal.

THE RIVER SYSTEMS OF THE HIMALAYAN DRAINAGE

The Indus System

1. It is one of the largest river basins of the world, covering an area of 11,65,000 sq. km (in India it is 321, 289 sq. km and a total length of 2,880 km (in India 1,114 km).
2. The Indus also known as the Sindhu, is the westernmost of the Himalayan rivers in India.
3. It originates from a glacier near Bokhar Chu (31° 15' N latitude and 81° 40' E longitude) in the Tibetan region at an altitude of 4,164 m in the Kailash Mountain range.
4. In Tibet, it is known as 'Singi Khambzi' or Lion's mouth. After flowing in the north-west direction towards the Ladakh and Zaskar ranges, it passes through Ladakh and Baltistan.
5. It cuts across the Ladakh range, forming a spectacular gorge near Gilgit in Jammu and Kashmir.
6. It enters into Pakistan near Chilar in the Dardistan region. Find out the area known as Dardistan.
7. tributaries such as the Shyok, the Gilgit, the Zaskar, the Hunza, the Nubra, the Shigar, the Gosting and the Dras.
8. It finally emerges out of the hills near Attock where it receives the Kabul river on its right bank.
9. The other important tributaries joining the right bank of the Indus are the Kurram, the Tochi, the Gomati, the Viboa and the Sengar. They all originate in the Sulatman ranges.
10. The river flows southward and receives 'Panjnad' a little above Mithankot. The Panjnad is the name given to the five rivers of Punjab, namely the Satluj, the Beas, the Ravi, the Chenab and the Jhelum. It finally discharges into the Arabian Sea, east of Karachi. The Indus flows in India only through the Lakh district in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Ganga System

1. The Ganga is the most important river of India both from the point of view of its basin and cultural significance.
2. It rises in the Gangotri glacier near Gaumukh (3,900 m) in the Uttarakhand district of Uttarakhand.

- Here, it is known as the Bhagirathi.
- It cuts through the Central and the Lesser Himalayas in narrow gorges. At Devprayag, the Bhagirathi
- meets the Alaknanda; hereafter, it is known as the Ganga.
- The Alaknanda has its source in the Satopanth glacier above Badrinath. The Alaknanda consists of the Dhaulti and the Vishnu Ganga which meet at Joshimath or Vishnu Prayag.
- The other tributaries of Alaknanda such as the Pindar joins it at Karn Prayag while Manjalkini or Kali Ganga meets it at Rudra Prayag.
- The Ganga enters the plains at Haridwar. From here, it flows first to the south, then to the south-east and east before splitting into two distributaries, namely the Bhagirathi and the Hugli. The river has a length of 2,525 km. It is shared by Uttarakhnad (110 km) and Uttar Pradesh (1,450 km), Bihar (445 km) and West Bengal (520 km).
- The Ganga basin covers about 8.6 lakh sq. km area in India alone.
- The Ganga river system is the largest in India having a number of perennial and non-perennial rivers originating in the Himalayas in the north and the Peninsula in the south, respectively.
- The Son is its major right bank tributary.
- The important left bank tributaries are the Ramganga, the Gomati, the Ghaghara, the Gandak, the Kosi and the Mahananda.
- The river finally discharges itself into the Bay of Bengal near the Sagar Island.

The Brahmaputra System

- The Brahmaputra, one of the largest rivers of the world, has its origin in the Chemayungdung glacier of the Kailash range near the Mansarovar lake.
- From here, it traverses eastward longitudinally for a distance of nearly 1,200 km in a dry and flat region of southern Tibet, where it is known as the Tsangpo, which means 'the purifier.'
- The Rango Tsangpo is the major right bank tributary of this river in Tibet.
- It emerges as a turbulent and dynamic river after carving out a deep gorge in the Central Himalayas near Namcha Barwa (7,755 m).
- The river emerges from the foothills under the name of Siang or Dihang. It enters India west of Sadya town in Arunachal Pradesh.
- Flowing southwest, it receives its main left bank tributaries, viz., Dibang or Sikkang and Lohit; thereafter, it is known as the Brahmaputra.
- The Brahmaputra receives numerous tributaries in its 750 km long journey through the Assam valley.
- Its major left bank tributaries are the Burhi Dihing and Dhansari (South) whereas the important right bank tributaries are the Subansiri, Kamong, Manas and Sankosh.
- The Brahmaputra enters into Bangladesh near Dhubri and flows southward. In Bangladesh, the Tista joins it on its right bank from where the river is known as the Yamuna.
- It finally merges with the river Padma, which falls in the Bay of Bengal. The Brahmaputra is well-known for floods, channel shifting and bank erosion.
- This is due to the fact that most of its tributaries are large, and bring large quantity of sediments owing to heavy rainfall in its catchment area.

THE PENINSULAR DRAINAGE SYSTEM

- The Peninsular drainage system is older than the Himalayan one.
- This is evident from the broad, largely-graded shallow valleys, and the maturity of the rivers.
- The Western Ghats running close to the western coast act as the water divide between the major Peninsular rivers, discharging their water in the Bay of Bengal and as small rivulets joining the Arabian Sea.
- Most of the major Peninsular rivers except Narmada and Tapi flow from west to east.
- The Chambal, the Sind, the Betwa, the Ken, the Son, originating in the northern part of the Peninsula belong to the Ganga river system. The other major river systems of the Peninsular drainage are - the Mahanadi, the Godavari, the Krishna and the Kaveri.
- Peninsular rivers are characterised by fixed course, absence of meanders and non-perennial flow of water.
- The Narmada and the Tapi which flow through the rift valley are, however, exceptions.

The Evolution of Peninsular Drainage System

Three major geological events in the distant past have shaped the present drainage systems of Peninsular India:

- (i) Subsidence of the western flank of the Peninsula leading to its submergence below the sea during the early tertiary period. Generally, it has disturbed the symmetrical plan of the river on either side of the original watershed.
- (ii) Uplift of the Himalayas when the northern flank of the Peninsular block was subjected to subsidence and the consequent trough faulting. The Narmada and the Tapi flow in trough faults and fill the original cracks with their detritus materials. Hence, there is a lack of alluvial and deltaic deposits in these rivers.
- (iii) Slight tilting of the Peninsular block from northwest to the southeastern direction gave orientation to the entire drainage system towards the Bay of Bengal during the same period.

Table 3.1 : Comparison between the Himalayan and the Peninsular River

Table 3.1 : Comparison between the Himalayan and the Peninsular River

Sr. No.	Aspects	Himalayan River	Peninsular River
1.	Place of origin	Himalayan mountain covered with glaciers	Peninsular plateau and central highland
2.	Nature of flow	Perennial; receive water from glacier and rainfall	Seasonal; dependent on monsoon rainfall
3.	Type of drainage	Antecedent and consequent leading to dendritic pattern in plains	Super imposed, rejuvenated resulting in trellis, radial and rectangular patterns
4.	Nature of river	Long course, flowing through the rugged mountains experiencing headward erosion and river capturing; in plains meandering and shifting of course	Smaller, fixed course with well adjusted valleys
5.	Catchment area	Very large basins	Relatively smaller basin
6.	Age of the river	Young and youthful, active and deepening in the valleys	Old rivers with graded profile, and have almost reached their base levels

The River Regime

- The pattern of flow of water in a river channel over a year is known as its regime.
- The north Indian rivers originating from the Himalayas are perennial as they are fed by glaciers through snow melt and also receive rainfall water during rainy season.
- The rivers of South India do not originate from glaciers and their flow pattern witnesses fluctuations.
- The flow increases considerably during monsoon rains. Thus, the regime of the rivers of South India is controlled by rainfall which also varies from one part of the Peninsular plateau to the other.
- The discharge is the volume of water flowing in a river measured over time. It is measured either in cumecs (cubic feet per second) or cumecs (cubic metres per second).
- The Ganga has its minimum flow during the January-June period. The maximum flow is attained either in August or in September. After September, there is a steady fall in the flow. The river, thus, has a monsoon regime during the rainy season.
- There are striking differences in the river regimes in the eastern and the western parts of the Ganga Basin.
- The Ganga maintains a sizeable flow in the early part of summer due to snow melt before the monsoon rains begin. The mean maximum discharge of the Ganga at Farakka is about 55,000 cumecs while the mean minimum is only 1,300 cumecs.

What are the factors responsible for such a large difference?

EXTENT OF USABILITY OF RIVER WATER

River Water can be used in the following way

- Construction of dams
- Interlinking of rivers
- Construction of check dams
- Construction of canals parallel to the river
- Lift irrigation

PROBLEMS OF RIVER WATER USABILITY

- (i) No availability in sufficient quantity
- (ii) River water pollution
- (iii) Load of silt in the river water
- (iv) Uneven seasonal flow of water
- (v) River water disputes between states
- (vi) Shrinking of channels due to the extension of settlements towards the thalweg.

Why are the rivers polluted?

Have you seen the dirty waters of cities entering into the rivers?

Where do the industrial effluent and wastes get disposed of ?

Most of the cremation grounds are on the banks of rivers and the dead bodies are sometimes thrown in the rivers. On the occasion of some festivals, the flowers and statues are immersed in the rivers. Large scale bathing and washing of clothes also pollute river waters.

How can the rivers be made pollution free?

Have you read about Ganga Action Plan, or about a campaign for cleaning the Yamuna at Delhi? Collect materials on schemes for making rivers pollution free and organise the materials into a write up.

II. TOPICS –

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There are 10 concepts maps in all.

III. FURTHER REFERENCE –

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<https://youtu.be/7XOtAYvLuTY>

https://youtu.be/H3_EkGLHrZ8

<https://youtu.be/RilZSYx41dk>

Q.1 What is the percent share of India's total area to World area?

Q.2 What is the length of India from north to south?

Q.3 What is the length of India from East to West?

Q.4 What separates India from Sri Lanka?

Q.5 Name the two southern most neighbours of India .

Q.6 Which countries are included in Indian subcontinent?

Q.7 What do you mean by Indian subcontinent?

Q.8 Which river is known as the ‘Sorrow of Bengal’?

Q.9 Which river has the largest basin in India ?

Q.10 Write three characteristics of the Peninsular Rivers .

Q.11 Define Drainage system .

Q.12 Explain important features of Kaveri Basin .

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Natural vegetation refers to a plant community that has been left undisturbed over a long time, so as to allow its individual species to adjust themselves to climate and soil conditions as fully as possible.

Himalayan heights are marked with temperate vegetation; the Western Ghats and the Andaman Nicobar Islands have tropical rain forests; the deltaic regions have tropical forests and mangroves; the desert and semi desert areas of Rajasthan are known for cacti, a wide variety of bushes and thorny vegetation.

Depending upon the variations in the climate and the soil, the vegetation of India changes from one region to another.

On the basis of certain common features such as predominant vegetation type and climatic regions, Indian forests can be divided into the following groups:

TYPES OF FORESTS

- (i) Tropical Evergreen and Semi Evergreen forests
- (ii) Tropical Deciduous forests
- (iii) Tropical Thorn forests
- (iv) Montane forests
- (v) Littoral and Swamp forests.

Tropical Evergreen and Semi Evergreen Forests

1. These forests are found in the western slope of the Western Ghats, hills of the northwestern region and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
2. They are found in warm and humid areas with an annual precipitation of over 200 cm and mean



3. Tropical evergreen forests are well stratified, with layers closer to the ground and are covered with shrubs and creepers, with short structured trees followed by tall variety of trees.
4. trees reach great heights up to 60 m or above.
5. There is no definite time for trees to shed their leaves, flowering and fruiting.
6. As such these forests appear green all the year round.
7. Species found in these forests include rosewood, mahogany, aini, ebony, etc.

SEMI EVERGREEN FOREST

1. The semi evergreen forests are found in the less rainy parts of these regions.
2. Such forests have a mixture of evergreen and moist deciduous trees.
3. The under growing climbers provide an evergreen character to these forests.
4. Main species are white cedar, hollock and kail.
5. The oak forests in Garhwal and Kumaon were replaced by pine (chirs) which was needed to lay railway lines.
6. Forests were also cleared for introducing plantations of tea, rubber and coffee.

Tropical Deciduous Forests



1. These are the most widespread forests in India.
2. They are also called the monsoon forests.
3. They spread over regions which receive rainfall between 70-200 cm.
4. On the basis of the availability of water, these forests are further divided into moist and dry deciduous.

The Moist deciduous forests

1. They are mostly found in the regions which record rainfall between 100-200 cm.
2. These forests are found in the northwestern states along the foothills of Himalayas, western slopes of the Western Ghats and Odisha.
3. Teak, sal, shisham, hurra, mahua, amla, semul, kusum, and sandalwood



etc. are the main species of these forests.

Dry deciduous forest

1. covers vast areas of the country,
 2. rainfall ranges between 70 -100 cm.
 3. On the wetter margins, it has a transition to the moist deciduous, while on the drier margins to thorn forests.
 4. These forests are found in rainier areas of the Peninsula and the plains of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.
 5. park lands are found in the higher rainfall regions of the Peninsular plateau and the northern Indian plain,
 6. As the dry season begins, the trees shed their leaves completely and the forest appears like a vast grassland with naked trees all around. *Tendu, palas, amaltas, bel, khair, axlewood, etc.* are the common trees of these forests.
- In the western and southern part of Rajasthan, vegetation cover is very scanty due to low rainfall and overgrazing.

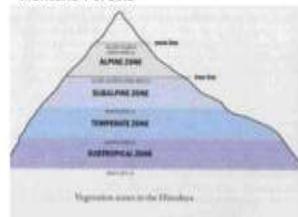


height of 2 m

Tropical Thorn Forests

1. Tropical thorn forests occur in the areas which receive rainfall less than 50 cm.
2. These consist of a variety of grasses and shrubs.
3. It includes semi-arid areas of south west Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.
4. In these forests, plants remain leafless for most part of the year and give an expression of scrub vegetation.
5. Important species found are babool, ber, and wild date palm, khair, neem, khejri, palas, etc.
6. Tussocky grass grows upto a height of 2 m as the under growth.

Montane Forests



1. In mountainous areas, the decrease in temperature with increasing altitude leads to a corresponding change in natural vegetation.
2. Mountain forests can be classified into two types, the northern mountain forests and the southern mountain forests.
3. The Himalayan ranges show a succession of vegetation from the tropical to the tundra, which change in with the altitude.

5. Deciduous forests are found in the foothills of the Himalayas.

1. It is succeeded by the wet temperate type of forests between an altitude of 1,000-2,000 m.

CHAPTER- 6 SOILS

IMPORTANCE OF SOILS

1. provide support & nutrients to the plants.
2. plants provide food and clothes are grown over the soil
3. Provide shelter to microorganisms
4. Supply nutrients to plants

The major factors affecting the formation of soil are 1. relief, 2. parent material, 3. climate, 4. vegetation 5. life forms and 6. time. 7. human activities

Components of the soil

1. mineral particles, 2. humus, 3. water 4. air.

Structure of the soil

If we dig a pit in land and look at the soil, we find that it consists of three layers which are called horizons.

'Horizon A' is the topmost zone, where organic materials have got incorporated with the mineral matter, nutrients and water, which are necessary for the growth of plants.

'Horizon B' is a transition zone between the 'horizon A' and 'horizon C', and contains matter derived from below as well as from above. It has some organic matter in it, although the mineral matter is noticeably insufficient.

'Horizon C' is composed of the loose parent material.

This layer is the first stage in the soil formation process and eventually forms the above two layers.

This arrangement of layers is known as the soil profile.

Underneath these three horizons is the rock which is also known as the parent rock or the bedrock. Soil, which is a complex and varied entity has always drawn the attention of the scientists.

CLASSIFICATION OF SOILS

In ancient times, soils used to be classified into two main groups - *Orvra* and *Thura*, which were fertile and sterile, respectively. In the 16th century A.D., soils were classified on the basis of their inherent characteristics and external features such as

1. texture, 2. colour, 3. slope of land and 4. moisture content in the soil.

Based on texture, main soil types were identified as 1. sandy, 2. clayey, 3. silty and 4. loam, etc.

On the basis of colour, they were 1. red, 2. yellow, 3. black, etc.

The ICAR has classified the Indian soils on the basis of their nature and character as per the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Soil Taxonomy.

(i) Inceptisols (ii) Entisols (iii) Alfisols (iv) Vertisols (v) Aridisols (vi) Ultisols (vii) Others

On the basis of genesis, nature, composition and location, the soils of India have been classified into:

- (i) Alluvial soils (ii) Black soils (iii) Red and Yellow soils (iv) Laterite soils (v) Arid soils (vi) Saline soils (vii) Peaty soils (viii) Forest soils.

Alluvial Soils

1. Alluvial soils are widespread in the northern plains and the river valleys.
2. These soils cover about 40 per cent of the total area of the country.
3. They are depositional soils, transported and deposited by rivers and streams.
4. Through a narrow corridor in Rajasthan, they extend into the plains of Gujarat.
5. In the Peninsular region, they are found in deltas of the east coast and in the river valleys.
6. They are generally rich in potash but poor in phosphorus.
7. In the Upper and Middle Ganga plain, two different types of alluvial soils have developed, viz. *Khadar* and *Bhangar*. *Khadar* is the new alluvium and is deposited by flood annually, which enriches the soil by depositing fine silt.
8. *Bhangar* represents a system of older alluvium, deposited away from the flood plains.
9. Both the *Khadar* and *Bhangar* soils contain calcareous concretions (*Kankar*).
10. These soils are more loamy and clayey in the lower and middle Ganga plain and the Brahmaputra valley.
11. The sand content decreases from the west to east.
12. The colour of the alluvial soils varies from the light grey to ash grey. Its shades depend on the depth of the deposition, the texture of the materials, and the time taken for attaining maturity.

Black Soil

1. Black soil covers most of the Deccan Plateau which includes parts of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and some parts of Tamil Nadu.
2. In the upper reaches of the Godavari and the Krishna, and the northwestern part of the Deccan Plateau, the black soil is very deep.
3. These soils are also known as the 'Rango Soil' or the 'Black Cotton Soil'.
4. The black soils are generally clayey, heavy and impermeable.
5. They swell and become sticky when wet and shrink when dried. So, during the dry season, these soil develop wide cracks.
6. Chemically, the black soils are rich in lime, iron, magnesia and alumina.
7. They also contain potash, but they lack in phosphorus, nitrogen and organic matter.
8. The colour of the soil ranges from deep black to grey.

Red and Yellow Soil

1. Red soil develops on crystalline igneous rocks in areas of low rainfall in the eastern and southern part of the Deccan Plateau.
2. Along the piedmont zone of the Western Ghats, long stretch of area is occupied by red loamy soil. Yellow and red soils are also found in parts of Odisha and Chhattisgarh and in the southern parts of the middle Ganga plain.
3. The soil develops a reddish colour due to a wide diffusion of iron in crystalline and metamorphic rocks.
4. It lacks yellow when it occurs in a hydrated form.
5. The fine-grained red and yellow soils are normally fertile.
6. Whereas coarse-grained soils found in dry upland areas are poor in fertility.
7. They are generally poor in nitrogen, phosphorus and humus.

Laterite Soil

1. Laterite has been derived from the Latin word 'Later' which means brick.
2. The laterite soils develop in areas with high temperature and high rainfall.
3. These are the result of intense leaching due to tropical rains.
4. With rain, lime and silica are leached away, and soils rich in iron oxide and aluminum compound are left behind.
5. Humus content of the soil is removed fast by bacteria that thrive well in high temperature.
6. These soils are poor in organic matter, nitrogen, phosphate and calcium, while iron oxide and potash are in excess.
7. Hence, laterites are not suitable for cultivation; however, application of manure and fertilizers are required for making the soils fertile for cultivation.
8. Red laterite soils in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala are more suitable for tree crops like cardamom.
9. Laterite soils are widely cut as bricks for use in house construction. These soils have mainly developed in the higher areas of the Western Ghats.
10. The laterite soils are commonly found in Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and the hilly areas of Odisha and Assam.

Arid Soils

1. Arid soils range from red to brown in colour.
2. They are generally sandy in structure and saline in nature. In some areas, the salt content is so high that common salt is obtained by evaporating the saline water.
3. Due to the dry climate, high temperature and accelerated evaporation, they lack moisture and humus.
4. Nitrogen is insufficient and the phosphate content is normal.
5. Lower horizons of the soil are occupied by 'kankar' layers because of the increasing calcium content downwards.
6. The 'kankar' layer formation in the bottom horizons restricts the infiltration of water, and as such when irrigation is made available, the soil moisture is readily available for a sustainable plant growth.
7. Arid soils are characteristically developed in western Rajasthan, which exhibit characteristic arid topography.
8. These soils are poor and contain little humus and organic matter.

Saline Soils

- 1.They are also known as Usara soils.
- 2.Saline soils contain a larger proportion of sodium, potassium and magnesium, and thus, they are infertile, and do not support any vegetative growth.
- 3.They have more salts, largely because of dry climate and poor drainage. They occur in arid and semi-arid regions, and in waterlogged and swampy areas.
4. Their structure ranges from sandy to loamy.
- 5.They lack in nitrogen and calcium. Saline soils are more widespread in western Gujarat, deltas of the eastern coast and in Sunderban areas of West Bengal.
6. In the Rann of Kutchchh, the Southwest Monsoon brings salt particles and deposits there as a crust. Seawater intrusions in the deltas promote the occurrence of saline soils. In the areas of intensive cultivation with excessive use of irrigation, especially in areas of green revolution, the fertile alluvial soils are becoming saline.
- 7.Excessive irrigation with dry climatic conditions promotes capillary action, which results in the deposition of salt on the top layer of the soil. In such areas, especially in Punjab and Haryana, farmers are advised to add gypsum to solve the problem of salinity in the soil.

Peaty Soils

- 1.They are found in the areas of heavy rainfall and high humidity, where there is a good growth of vegetation.
- 2.Thus, large quantity of dead organic matter accumulates in these areas, and this gives a rich humus and organic content to the soil.
- 3.Organic matter in these soils may go even up to 40-50 per cent. These soils are normally heavy and black in colour.
- 4.At many places, they are alkaline also.
- 5.It occurs widely in the northern part of Bihar, southern part of Uttaranchal and the coastal areas of West Bengal, Orissa and Tamil Nadu.

Forest Soils

- 1.Forest soils are formed in the forest areas where sufficient rainfall is available.
- 2.The soils vary in structure and texture depending on the mountain environment where they are formed.
- 3.They are loamy and silty on valley sides and coarse-grained in the upper slopes.
- 4.In the snow-bound areas of the Himalayas, they experience denudation, and are acidic with low humus content.
- 5.The soils found in the lower valleys are fertile.

SOIL DEGRADATION

1. Soil degradation can be defined as the decline in soil fertility, when the nutritional status declines and depth of the soil goes down due to erosion and misuse.
- 2.Soil degradation is the main factor leading to the depleting soil resource base in India.
- 3.The degree of soil degradation varies from place to place according to the topography, wind velocity and amount of the rainfall.

SOIL EROSION

- 1.The destruction of the soil cover is described as soil erosion. The soil forming processes and the erosional processes of running water and wind go on simultaneously.
2. There is a balance between these two processes.
- 3.The rate of removal of fine particles from the surface is the same as the rate of addition of particles to the soil layer. Human activities too are responsible for soil erosion to a great extent.
- 4.The human population increases, the demand on the land also increases.
- 5.Forest and other natural vegetation is removed for human settlement, for cultivation, for grazing animals and for various other needs.
- 6.Wind and water are powerful agents of soil erosion because of their ability to remove soil and transport it.
- 7.Wind erosion is significant in arid and semi-arid regions.

- 8 In regions with heavy rainfall and steep slopes, erosion by running water is more significant.
- 9.Water erosion which is more serious and occurs extensively in different parts of India, takes place mainly in the form of sheet and gully erosion.
- 10 Sheet erosion takes place on level lands after a heavy shower and the soil removal is not easily noticeable.
- 11.But it is harmful since it removes the finer and more fertile top soil. Gully erosion is common on steep slopes.
- 12.Gullies deepen with rainfall, cut the agricultural lands into small fragments and make them unfit for cultivation.
- 12.A region with a large number of deep gullies or ravines is called a badland topography. Ravines are widespread, in the Chambal basin.
- 13.Besides this, they are also found in Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.
- 14The country is losing about 8,000 hectares of land to ravines every year.
- 15.Deforestation is one of the major causes of soil erosion.
- 16.Plants keep soils bound in locks of roots, and thus, prevent erosion. They also add humus to the soil by shedding leaves and twigs.

Forests have been denuded practically in most parts of India but their effect on soil erosion are more in hilly parts of the country.

A fairly large area of arable land in the irrigated zones of India is becoming saline because of over irrigation.

The salt lodged in the lower profiles of the soil comes up to the surface and destroys its fertility. Chemical fertilizers in the absence of organic manures are also harmful to the soil. Unless the soil gets enough humus, chemicals harden it and reduce its fertility in the long run. This problem is common in all the command areas of the river valley projects, which were the first beneficiaries of the Green Revolution. According to estimates, about half of the total land of India is under some degree of degradation. Every year, India loses millions of tons of soil and its nutrients to the agents of its degradation, which adversely affects our national productivity. So, it is imperative to initiate immediate steps to reclaim and conserve soils.

Soil Conservation

NEED FOR SOIL CONSERVATION	METHODS TO CONSERVE SOILS
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Large scale soil erosion2. Excessive use of fertilizers3. Faulty methods of cultivation4. Deforestation5. Over use of land for cultivation.6. Overgrazing7. Shifting cultivation	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. controlled grazing2. terraced farming3. ban on shifting cultivation4. contour bunding5. Regulated forestry6. cover cropping7. mixed farming8. crop rotation

II. TOPICS –

Each topic has been converted into a concept map. It is a visual organization and representation of knowledge.

There are 10 concepts maps in all.

III. FURTHER REFERENCE –

Kindly watch the following videos for a better understanding.

<https://youtu.be/h4hKQ2Ha7zk>

https://youtu.be/VIT_7FhO-yM

<https://youtu.be/vTACbFxysi4>

<https://youtu.be/B-aq-PKAC-Y>

<https://youtu.be/izv6svG2Jnk>

<https://youtu.be/MTGMI6ay18>

Q.1 Sandalwood is an example of forest ?

Q.2 Regur soil is another name for thesoil?

Q.3 What was the purpose of Project Tiger?

Q.4 What is Natural vegetation?

Q.5 Define Biosphere reserves .

Q.6 What is soil?

Q.7 What are the main factors responsible for! The formation of soil?

Q.8 What percent of India is covered with Alluvial Soil?

Q.9 What is soil Degradation?

Q.10 What is soil conservation?