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GEOGRAPHY

N-316

**Chapter Wise Reference Book
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Based on

N.I.O.S. Class – XII
National Institute of Open Schooling

By: Anand Prakash Srivastava



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Based on: **NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OPEN SCHOOLING – XII**

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**Sample Preview
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Sample Question
Papers**

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Solved Sample Paper - 1

Based on NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling)

GEOGRAPHY – XII

N-316

Time: 3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 100

Note: (i) This question paper consists of 46 (ii) All questions are compulsory. (iii) Marks are given against each question. (a) Q. No. 1 to 16 – Multiple Choice type questions (MCQs) carrying 1 mark each. (b) Q. No. 17-20 are objective type map based questions. (c) Q. No. 21 to 30 – Objective type questions carry 2 marks each (with 2/4 sub-parts of 1 mark each). (d) Q. No. 31 to 40 – Very Short questions carrying 2 marks each to be answered in the range of 30 to 50 words (Q. No. 36-37 are map based questions). (e) Q. No. 41 to 45 – Short Answer range of 50 to 80 words. (f) Q. No. 46 – Long Answer type questions carrying 5 marks each to be answered in the range of 80 to 120 words.

Q. 1. Geography is often thought of as the art of:

- (a) Making and studying graphs
- (b) Making and studying charts
- (c) Making and studying maps
- (d) Making and studying loops

Ans. (c) Making and studying maps.

Q. 2. At present maps can be drawn by using satellite images using _____ tools.

- (a) Geographic Involvement Systems (GIS)
- (b) Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- (c) Geographic Interaction Systems (GIS)
- (d) Geographic Investment Systems (GIS)

Ans. (b) Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Q. 3. GIS stands for:

- (a) Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- (b) Geographic Involvement Systems (GIS)
- (c) Geographic Interaction Systems (GIS)
- (d) Geographic Investment Systems (GIS)

Ans. (a) Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Q. 4. The word _____ was used by Humboldt to describe the nature of outer space and earth.

- (a) KOMMOS (b) MOSKOS
- (c) KOSSOM (d) KOSMOS

Ans. (d) KOSMOS.

Q. 5. _____ is a branch of scientific knowledge to study the earthquake and its waves propagated through different parts and depths of the earth.

- (a) Volcanic Eruption (b) Earth's Crust
- (c) Continental Drift (d) Seismology

Ans. (d) Seismology.

Q. 6. Earthquake waves are recorded by an instrument commonly known as:

- (a) Seismograph (b) Reactor Scale
- (c) Surface waves (d) Body waves

Ans. (a) Seismograph.

Q. 7. The waves generated at the time of the earthquake radiate in:

- (a) One directions (b) All directions
- (c) Multi-dimensional (d) All of above

Ans. (b) All directions.

Q. 8. Waves are not found beyond an angular distance of _____ from the epicenter of the earthquake.

- (a) 1020 (b) 1030
- (c) 1040 (d) 1050

Ans. (d) 1050.

Q. 9. _____ are the most awe-inspiring landform on the surface of the earth.

- (a) Mountains (b) Plateaus
- (c) Plains Burst (d) Earth surface

Ans. (a) Mountains.

Q. 10. "A natural elevation of the earth surface rising more or less abruptly from the surrounding level and attaining an altitude which, relative to the adjacent elevation, is impressive or notable."

- (a) Elevated (b) Mountains
- (c) Plateaus (d) Plains Burst

Ans. (b) Mountains.

Q. 11. A mountain is an elevated portion of the Earth's crust, generally with steep sides that show significant exposed bedrock, which covers around _____ of the total earth's surface.

- (a) 27% (b) 28%
- (c) 29% (d) 30%

Ans. (a) 27%.

Q. 12. Glaciers are thick masses of moving or flowing ice sometimes also called:

- (a) Continental glaciers
- (b) Rivers of ice
- (c) Valley Glacier
- (d) Mountain glacier

Ans. (b) Rivers of ice.

Q. 13. In the regions where the temperature always remains below freezing point precipitation occurs in the form of:

- (a) Valley Glacier (b) Snowfall
- (c) Continental glaciers (d) None of these

Ans. (b) Snowfall.

Q. 14. Thick ice sheets covering vast areas of land are called as a:

- (a) Mountain glacier (b) Continental glaciers
- (c) Hanging Valley (d) Crevasses

Ans. (a) Mountain glacier.

Q. 15. The moraine which is deposited on either side of a glacier is called:

- (a) Terminal moraine (b) Lateral moraine
- (c) Medial moraine (d) Ground moraine

Ans. (b) Lateral moraine.

Ans.

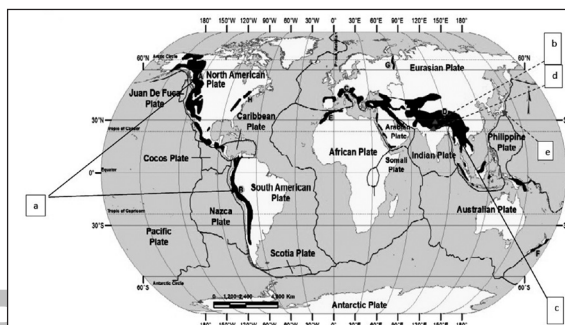
Q. 16. The valleys are created by erosional action of rivers in the upper course. At this stage vertical erosion is more dominant compared to lateral erosion.

- (a) 'V' shaped valleys
- (b) Gorge and Canyons
- (c) Course
- (d) Glacier

Ans. (a) 'V' shaped valleys.

Q. 17. Locate and label the following on the outline map of the world.

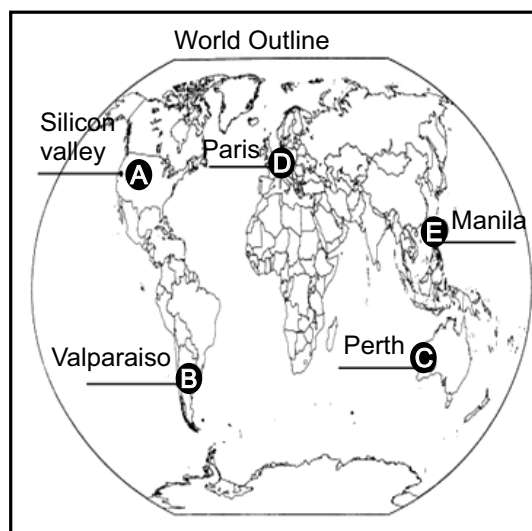
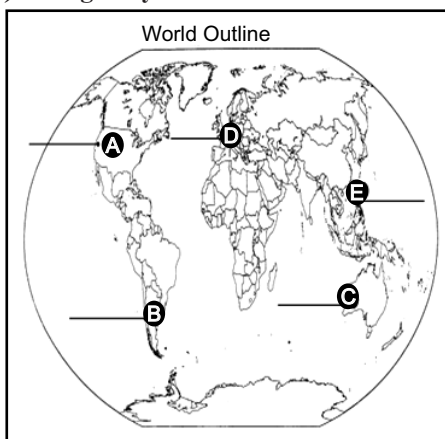
- (a) Rockies and Andes Mountains, (b) Tibetan Plateau, (c) Himalayas, (d) Indo-Gangetic plain, (e) Mount Fuji Yama



Q. 18. Identify the five geographical features shown on the given political outline map of the world as A, B, C, D and E. Write their correct names on the lines drawn near them with the help of the following information:

- (a) An industrial region
- (b) A major seaport
- (c) The terminal station of a transcontinental railway
- (d) An international airport
- (e) A mega city

Ans.



Sample Preview of The Chapter

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GEOGRAPHY-XII

Nature and Subject-Matter of Geography

1

INTRODUCTION

Geography has been derived from a Greek word *geographia*, meaning earth, and hence is considered to be the study of the earth and its lands, features, inhabitants and phenomena. This discipline explores our world.

Generally speaking, cultural aspects like buildings, roads, and crops change quickly while natural features like mountains, rivers, lakes, etc. evolve slowly. As you move from one location to another, you'll note that the amount and kind of trees vary. All of this is due to shifting environmental elements that affect tree development, such as climate, soil, and terrain, as well as ongoing interactions between our environment and how people use it. Geography is the study of patterns like this. There are two basic approaches to the study of world geography – The Regional Approach and The Systematic Approach. The well-known geographers who supported a regional approach to geography were: Vidal de la Blache, Carl Ritter, Alfred Hettner, and Richard Hartshorne. Regional approaches, in contrast to systematic approaches, begin with the spatial imprints of one or all systematic geographic processes that can be identified as areas of various sizes. A single factor, such as relief, rainfall, vegetation, per capita income, etc., may determine a region. States, districts, and tehsils are examples of administrative units that might be considered regions.

Systematic study is the examination of particular global natural or human phenomena that result in particular spatial structures and patterns on the surface of the globe. The German geographer Humboldt (1769-1859) proposed this strategy. There are four phases of development of geography which are ancient, pre-modern, modern and recent. Geography as a discipline can be split broadly into two main

sub-fields – human geography and physical geography. The former focuses largely on the built environment and how space is created, viewed and managed by humans as well as the influence humans have on the space they occupy. The latter examines the natural environment and how the climate, vegetation and life, soil, water and land-forms are produced and interact. As a result of the two sub-fields using different approaches a third field has emerged, which is environmental geography. Since human beings have such a major impact on the planet's landscapes and resources, and groups of people are in constant interaction with each other, Human Geography (or the spatial study of human interactions) is vital in helping us to understand our world. In their study, geographers use four interrelated approaches such as systematic, regional, descriptive and analytical approaches. Geography is unique in its focus on integrating diverse phenomena. Geography is closely related to mathematics, natural sciences, and social sciences. Geomorphology, oceanography, water resources, soil geography, economic geography, sociology, anthropology, political geography, environment geography, and biogeography are all interconnected with geology, geophysics, meteorology, hydrology, agronomy, economics, sociology, anthropology, political science, and botany and zoology. Geography investigates phenomena that are already researched by other disciplines, unlike other sciences that focus on different phenomena.

INTEXT QUESTIONS 1.1

Q. 1. What is geography?

Ans. Geography is a discipline that studies the interaction of all physical and human phenomenon. It also studies the evolving landscapes created by such interactions.

Q. 2. Why is the earth's surface changing?

Ans. The continuous interaction between the environment and its user i.e. human beings are making the earth's surface to change.

Q. 3. Who has coined the term 'Geography'?

Ans. Eratosthenes.

Q. 4. Which are the two distinct traditions followed by Greeks?

Ans. Following are the two distinct traditions followed by Greeks:

- (i) Mathematical tradition
- (ii) Geographic information through travelogues.

INTEXT QUESTIONS 1.2

Q. 1. Which are the main branches of systematic geography?

Ans. Following are the four branches of systematic geography:

- (i) Physical Geography
- (ii) Biogeography
- (iii) Human Geography
- (iv) Geographical Methods and Techniques

Q. 2. Name the main branches of regional geography.

Ans. Following are the main branches of regional geography:

- (i) Regional studies
- (ii) Regional analysis
- (iii) Regional development, and
- (iv) Regional planning.

INTEXT QUESTIONS 1.3

Q. 1. What are the two branches of geography?

Ans. Following are the two branches of geography:

- (i) Physical Geography
- (ii) Human Geography.

Q. 2. Name the tools and techniques of geographical study?

Ans. The two techniques of geographical study are as follows:

- (i) Cartography
- (ii) Quantitative Methods, or
- (iii) Regional Science Method.

Q. 3. What is Anthropogeography?

Ans. Anthropogeography is that discipline that deals largely the racial phenomenon in their spatial context.

Q. 4. What is the difference between social and cultural geography?

Ans. Cultural Geography: It focuses on the origin, components and impact of human cultures, both material and non-material over space. It comprises landscape characteristics, in terms of caste, race, religion, dialect and language, art and craft, literature, folk dance and music, cuisine and social norms and behaviours; its pattern and diffusion.

Social Geography: It is the analysis of social phenomena in space. Poverty, health, education, livelihood are some important fields of study in social geography.

Q. 5. Why is geography considered an integrating discipline?

Ans. The study of geography is unique among academic fields due to the fact that its primary emphasis is placed on the co-existence of disparate occurrences. The disciplines of mathematics, the natural sciences, and the social sciences are all intimately connected to geography. There is a strong connection between geomorphology, geology, and geophysics; oceanography and water resources, meteorology, and hydrology; soil geography and agronomy; economic geography and sociology; anthropogeography and anthropology; political geography and political science; environment geography and biogeography with botany and zoology; and economic geography and economics. While other branches of study focus on specific sorts of occurrences, geographers investigate a wide range of phenomena, many of which are already the subject of research in related branches of knowledge. In this way, geography has firmly established itself as a discipline of synthesis, and it does so in an integrated manner.

TERMINAL QUESTIONS

Q. 1. Define the term 'Geography'.

Ans. Geography has been derived from a Greek word geographia, meaning earth and hence is considered to be the study of the earth and its lands, features, inhabitants, and phenomena. If we attempt a literal translation of the word Geography then it would be "to describe or write about the Earth". The first person to use the word "geography" was Eratosthenes (276-194 B.C.). Basically there are four historical traditions in geographical research which are as follows:

1. The spatial analysis of natural and human phenomena (i.e. geography as the study of distribution),
2. Area studies (i.e. geography as the study of places and regions),

NATURE AND SUBJECT-MATTER OF GEOGRAPHY / 3

3. Study of man-land relationship, and
4. Research in Earth sciences

Nonetheless, modern geography is an all-encompassing discipline that foremost seeks to understand the Earth and all of its human and natural complexities – not merely where objects are, but how they have changed and come to be.

Q. 2. Why geography is called the mother of all sciences?

Ans. Geography is the discipline that explores our world. It has been called the “mother of science” as all other sciences and disciplines have evolved from people’s earliest attempts to understand their geographic space or place. The science of geography is likely the oldest of all sciences. Geography is the answer to the question that the earliest humans asked, “What’s over there?” Exploration and the discovery of new places, new cultures, and new ideas have always been basic components of geography.

Thus, geography is often called the “mother of all sciences” as studying other people and other places led to other scientific fields such as biology, anthropology, geology, mathematics, astronomy, chemistry, among others.

Today, Geographers combine two approaches to their activities – that of the spatial perspective and that of the regional concept. The premise is that no event, situation or challenge in human society can be fully understood without knowledge of the distinctive qualities of the place in which they occur. Geographers, as in all fields, specialize and they approach the field from different angles. Some concern themselves with population studies, others with a mathematical perspective, and others with either economic, political, social or some cultural aspects. But all geographers tend to take a multidisciplinary approach to the study of how geographic space influences people and how, in turn, people affect their geographic place?

Q. 3. What are the two basic approaches in geography?

Ans. There are *two* basic approaches to the study of world geography which are as follows:

The Regional Approach: The regional approach studies the many characteristics of each region of the world. It examines systematic relationships between categories for a specific region or location on the planet.

The Systematic Approach: The systematic approach of geography, studies one issue and looks

at its spatial variations in all parts of the globe. In other words, it groups geographical knowledge into categories that can be explored globally.

Q. 4. What are the four phases of development of geography?

Ans. There are *four* phases of development of geography which are as follows:

(a) The Ancient Period: The earliest records illustrate the interests of scholars in understanding the physical domain of the earth by making maps and astronomical measurements. The Greeks are given the credit of being the earliest geographers, among whom the prominent ones are Homar, Herodotus, Thales, Aristotle and Eratosthenes.

(b) Pre-modern Period: This period starts from the middle of the 15th century and continues until 18th century. This period provides us the enormous information about the physical and cultural nature of the world by the travels and explorations of the early geographers. The early 17th century witnessed the beginnings of new scientific geography. Christopher Columbus and Vasco de Gama, Fesdinend Meghellan and Thomas Cook were important explorers and travellers among these. Varenius, Kant, Humboldt and Ritter led the geographers of this period. They contributed in the development of cartography and discovering new lands and developing geography into a scientific disciplines.

(c) Modern Period: Ritter and Humboldt are frequently referred as the founders of modern geography. Generally, latter half of the 19th century is considered as a period of modern geography. The first modern geographer in true sense was Ratzel who built the structure of modern geography on the foundations laid down by classical geographers.

(d) Recent Period: The development of geography during the post-second world war period has been very rapid. The American and European geographers such as Hartshorne have contributed the maximum during this phase. Harthshorne described geography as a science dealing with a real differentiation. The present day geographers look upon regional approach and systematic approach as complimentary rather than contradictory.

Q. 5. Define the terms physical and human geography.

Ans. Geography as a discipline can be split broadly into *two* main sub-fields – human geography and physical geography. The former focuses largely on

the built environment and how space is created, viewed and managed by humans as well as the influence humans have on the space they occupy. The latter examines the natural environment and how the climate, vegetation and life, soil, water, and landforms are produced and interact. As a result of the two sub-fields using different approaches a third field has emerged, which is environmental geography. Environmental geography combines physical and human geography and looks at the interactions between the environment and humans.

Q. 6. Why is human geography an important part of geography? Explain with suitable examples.

Ans. Since human beings have such a major impact on the planet's landscapes and resources, and groups of people are in constant interaction with each other, Human Geography (or the spatial study of human interactions) is vital in helping us to understand our world. No other single subject allows an overview of the spatial effects of human activity and interaction. Human Geography may be viewed at many levels, from local to international. It is not a passive discipline, but has many practical applications in strategic planning.

Scope: Human geography broadly differs from physical geography in that, it has a greater focus on studying intangible or abstract patterns surrounding human activity and is more receptive to qualitative research methodologies. It encompasses human, political, cultural, social and economic aspects of the social sciences. While the major focus of human geography is not the physical landscape of the Earth (see physical geography), it is not possible to discuss human geography without going into the physical landscape, on which human activities are being played out and environmental geography is emerging, as an important link between the two. Human geography is methodologically diverse, using both qualitative methods and quantitative methods, including case studies, survey research, statistical analysis and model building, among others. Thematically, human geography may be concerned with an array of human enterprises, from villages and cities, schools, health, commerce and trade, to name a few. The spatial human architecture of a variety of institutions and practices unites these entities within the discipline. For example, a human geographer might be concerned with the geographic patterns of communicable diseases, school performance in rural versus urban school districts or the rise of innovative technology clusters.

Q. 7. Distinguish between the following:

(i) Systematic and Regional Geography

Ans. Systematic Geography: Systematic geography is concerned with individual physical and cultural elements of the earth.

It includes physical geography and cultural geography. These classifications are made up of specialized fields that deal with specific aspects of geography.

It is concerned with the formulation of general laws and principles and is divided into two branches – physical geography and human geography. Each of these branches are sub-divided into several specialist fields.

Regional geography is a study of regions throughout the world in order to understand or define the unique characteristics of a particular region which consists of natural as well as human elements. Attention is paid also to regionalization which covers the techniques of space delineation into regions.

Regional geography is also considered as a certain approach to study in geographical sciences (similar to quantitative geography or bunch of critical geographies). This approach to study was prevailing during the second half of the 19th and the first half of the 20th century also known as a period of prevailing regional geography paradigm when regional geography took the central position in geographical sciences. It was later criticized for its descriptiveness and the lack of theory (regional geography as an empirical approach of geographical sciences). Massive criticism was levelled against this approach in the fifties and during the quantitative revolution. Main critics were Kimble and Schaefer.

(ii) Physical Geography and Human Geography

Ans. Physical geography (also known as geosystems or physiography) is one of the three major subfields of geography, as opposed to the cultural or built environment, the domain of human geography. Within the body of physical geography, the Earth is often split either into several spheres or environments, the main spheres being the atmosphere, biosphere, cryosphere, geosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere and pedosphere.

Physical geography (or physiogeography) can be defined as that branch of science which deals with the study of processes and patterns in the natural environment like atmosphere, biosphere and geosphere.