

RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT

VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS (1 MARKS)

PREVIOUS YEARS' QUESTIONS

- 1. Why is conservation of resources necessary? Give two reasons. [Delhi 2007,06, AI 04,04C]**
- Ans.** Conservation of resources is necessary because
(i) It will provide sustainable benefit to the present generation.
(ii) It will also maintain the potential to meet the needs and aspirations of future generations.
- 2. Explain with examples any two measures of controlling land degradation in India. [AI 2006, 05C; Delhi 05, 05C]**
- Ans.** Two measures of controlling land degradation in India are:
(i) Construction of terraces for farming in hilly areas to check soil erosion. (ii) Plugging of gullies by construction of check dams.
- 3. Explain any two human activities responsible for land degradation. [Delhi 2005]**
- Ans.** Two human activities responsible for land degradation are:
(a) overgrazing (b) deforestation (c) mining **(Any two)**
- 4. India has a varied relief features viz. mountains, plateaus and plains. Which of these relief features cover the largest area? Write two characteristics of this relief feature. [Foreign 2005]**
- Ans.** The plains cover the largest area about 43% of the country's area. Two characteristics are:
(i) It is a level land. (ii) It provides opportunity for crop farming.
- 5. How are human made resources useful? Explain with two examples. [Delhi 2005C]**
- Ans.** Human made resources are useful as they are essential for living and make life more comfortable, e.g., houses, roads, etc.
- 6. What is soil erosion? Mention two main causes of it. [Delhi 2004]**
- Ans.** Soil erosion is the removal of soil from one place to another by different agents of gradation. The causes of soil erosion are:
(i) Running water and (ii) Winds.
- 7. How do rocks play an important role in the formation of soil? Explain with examples. [Delhi 2004]**
- Ans.** Rocks play an important role in the formation of soil.
(i) Black soils have been derived from the lava of the Deccan trap.
(ii) The rocks on which the soils are formed, disintegrate and decompose under the process of weathering and erosion.

8. Classify the following items into natural resources and human made resources. Wild life, Railways, Iron ore, Technology. [Delhi 2004]

Ans. Wildlife — Natural resources
Railways — Human made resources
Iron ore — Natural resources
Technology — Human made resources

9. Mention the names of any two major soil types found in India. [Delhi 2000C]

Ans. The two major types of soil found in India are Alluvial soil and Black or regur soil.

10. Write two salient features of Khadar soil. [Delhi 2000C]

Ans. Khadar is the newer alluvium, fine and fertile and is found near the rivers.

NCERT Questions

11. Name three states having black soil and the crop which is mainly grown in it.

Ans. Three states having black soils are Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. Cotton grows best in this soil and it is known as 'black cotton soil'.

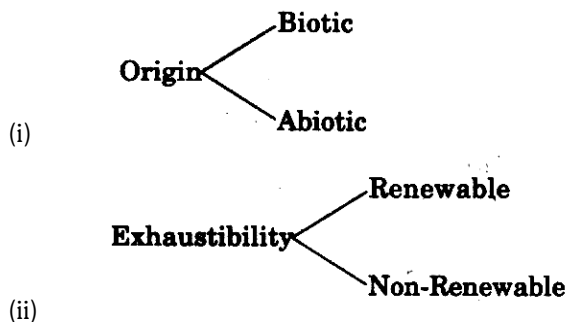
12. What are the biotic and abiotic resources? Give some examples.

Ans. Refer to pts. 4 and 5 (Important Terms and Concepts).

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

13. Define the term resource. Name the basis of resource classification. Give two points.

Ans. Refer to pt. 1 (Important Terms and Concepts).
Resources are classified on the basis of the following:



14. What is Exclusive Economic Zone? How much is the Economic Zone of India?

Ans. Exclusive Economic Zone refers to the zone along the open ocean consisting of oceanic resources like fisheries, minerals, petroleum, etc. Our economic zone extends to more than 200 km into the sea along the coastline.

15. List out the problems caused by indiscriminate use of resources.

Ans. Indiscriminate use of resources results in

- (i) Depletion of resources.
 - (ii) Accumulation of resources in the hands of a few, dividing the society into haves and have not's.
 - (iii) It leads to ecological problems like global warming, ozone depletion, environmental degradation, pollution, etc.
- (Any two)**

16. Define the term land use pattern. Mention two factors affecting it.

Ans. Land use pattern refers to the data on land utilization of a country for a given period. The factors affecting land use pattern are:

- (i) Topography,
- (ii) Climate and
- (ii) Soil types.

(Any two)

17. State the soil forming factors.

Ans. Soil is formed by the following factors:

- (i) Relief (ii) Parent rock
- (iii) Climate (iv) Time
- (v) Vegetation and other forms of life

18. Why are alluvial soils very fertile?

Ans. Alluvial soils are very fertile as they are rich in nutrients. These soils are formed by transportation and depositional activity of rivers, e.g., potash, phosphoric acid, lime.

19. State two important characteristics of black soil.

Ans. Two important characteristics of Black soil are:

- (i) Black soils are made of extremely fine clayey soil and hence can retain moisture for a long time.
- (ii) They develop deep cracks in summer which helps in aeration of the soil.

20. How are laterite soils formed?

Ans. Laterite soils are formed by intense leaching in tropical regions due to heavy rainfall and high temperature.

21. Why are desert soils less fertile?

Ans. Desert soils are less fertile as they lack humus and moisture. They contain high proportion of salt. They also consist of *kankar* nodules or calcium carbonate.

22. What are badlands? Where are they common in India?

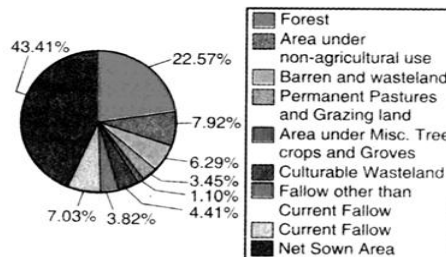
Ans. Land consisting of numerous gullies and ravines are known as badlands. They are common in Chambal basin of Madhya Pradesh.

23. In which states of India gully erosion is predominant?

Ans. Gully erosion is common in the states— Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan and Gujarat.

24. Study the given pie chart and answer the following questions:

GENERAL LAND USE CATEGORIES 2000-03



(a) Which is the most dominant land use of India? Write its %.

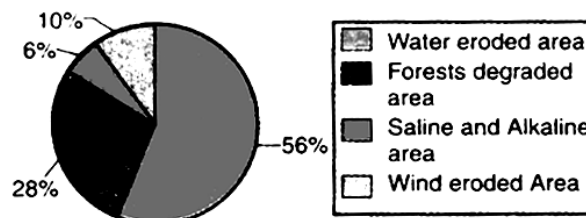
(b) How much is the % of forest in India? Why is it still low? Give one reason.

Ans. (a) The most dominant land use is Net Sown Area which is about 43.41%.

(b) The percentage of forest is about 22.57%. The percentage of forest is low due to increasing pressure of population on land.

25. Study the figure and answer the questions:

**INDIA
Wastelands in 2000**



(a) Identify the most predominant source of land degradation. Write its %.

(b) Which source of land degradation is the least? How is it caused?

Ans. (a) The most predominant source of land degradation is water eroded area which is about 56%.

(b) The saline and alkaline land is the least source of land degradation. It is caused by excessive irrigation leading water logging increases salinity in the soil.

26. List out the factors involved in the transformation of things into a resource.

Ans. The factors involved in the transformation of things into resource are:

- (i) Physical environment, (ii) Technology,
- (iii) Human beings and (iv) Institutions.

27. How much is the extent of territorial waters of India?

Ans. India's territorial waters extends to 12 Nautical miles from the coast to the ocean and the resources present like oil, minerals, fisheries belongs to India.

28. What were the global issues of the first International Earth Summit held at Rio de Janeiro in 1992?

Ans. Some of the global issues of the Earth Summit are environmental protection, poverty, global climatic change, prevention of diseases through global co-operation on common interest, mutual needs and sharing responsibilities.

29. Define the term sustainable development. :

Ans. Sustainable development refers to development of resources without degradation of the environment to meet the needs of present as well as future generation.

30. Study the following data carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Land Features of India	
Land Features Area Covered (in %)	
1. Plains	43 %
2. Mountains	30 %
3. Plateau	27%

(a) Name the land feature which occupies the highest surface area of India.

(b) Give two advantages of the above land feature.

Ans. (a) Plains occupy the highest surface area of about 43% in India.
(b) Plains are leveled and have a fertile soil favorable for crop farming and development of industries.

31. Give two examples of renewable resources.

Ans. Two examples of renewable resources are water, forests and wild life, solar and wind energy.

32. Classify the following into individual/ community resources.

- (a) A Park (b) Library
(c) A plot of land (d) Owner of a company

Ans. A Park - Community resource
Library - Community resource
A plot of land - Individual resource
Owner of a company - Individual resource

33. Suggest two examples of Non-Recyclable resources.

Ans. Two examples of Non-Recyclable resources are coal and petroleum.

34. Name the state in India rich in water resources but lacking in infrastructural development.

Ans. Arunachal Pradesh has abundance of water resources but lacks infrastructural development.

35. Which stage of resource development involves surveying, mapping and measurement of resources?

Ans. Identification and Inventory of resources involves surveying mapping and measurement of quality and quantity of resources.

36. List out the factors that have contributed to resource development in India.

Ans. Factors contributing to resource development in India are:

- (i) Availability of resources,
- (ii) Technology,
- (iii) Quality of human resources and
- (iv) Historical experiences of the people.

37. Who was against mass production but wanted productivity by the masses?

Ans. Mahatma Gandhi.

38. Why is land use planning essential?

Ans. Land use planning is essential as land is a fixed asset and for optimum use of the land.

39. State two human factors affecting the land use.

Ans. Two human factors affecting land use are population density, technological know-how and culture and traditions. (Any two)

40. How much is the Net sown Area in India at present?

Ans. The present Net sown Area in India is 54%.

41. What factors restrict the use of fallow land?

Ans. Most of the other than current fallow lands are of poor quality or the cost of cultivation of such lands is high, hence they are cultivated once in two or three years.

42. State the need for increasing the area under forests in India.

Ans. In India the livelihood of millions of people who live on the fringes of these forests depends upon the forests.

43. What is a waste land?

Ans. Waste land includes arid, rocky and desert areas where cultivation is not possible.

44. Which two factors have resulted in land degradation ?

Ans. Continuous use of the land over a long period and lack of measures to conserve and manage land resources has resulted in land degradation.

45. In what ways human activities have become responsible for land degradation ?

Ans. Human activities are not only responsible for land degradation but have also aggravated the pace of natural forces to cause damage to the land.

46. How much of the land in India is degraded every year ?

Ans. About 130 million hectares of land is degraded in India.

47. Name two states where deforestation due to mining has resulted in land degradation.

Ans. In states like Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa deforestation due to mining has caused severe land degradation.

48. State how are industries responsible for land degradation.

Ans. Industries release large quantities of dust that affect the infiltration of water and it stagnates on the land. Discharge of industrial effluents has resulted in land and water pollution in India.

49. Mention any two states where overgrazing is responsible for land degradation.

Ans. In states like Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra overgrazing is the main cause of land degradation. **(Any two)**

50. How are soils formed ?

Ans. Soils are formed by weathering up of rocks which takes place over millions of years.

51. List out four soil forming factors.

Ans. Four soil forming factors are relief, parent rock, climate, vegetation and animal life and time. **(Any four)**

52. On what basis are Indian soils classified ?

Ans. Indian soils are classified on the basis of colour, thickness, texture, age, chemical and physical properties.

(Any four)

53. Mention the two factors responsible for the formation of black soil.

Ans. The two factors affecting the formation of black soil are parent material and climatic conditions.

54. Why is the red soil, red in colour ?

Ans. Red soil is red in colour due to the diffusion of iron in crystalline and metamorphic rocks.

55. Which type of soil is found in the eastern and southern parts of Deccan plateau ?

Ans. Red soil develops on crystalline igneous rocks in areas of low rainfall mainly in the eastern and southern parts of Deccan plateau.

56. Why is laterite soil less fertile ?

Ans. Laterite soil is less fertile due to its low humus content as most of the micro organisms particularly decomposers get destroyed due to high temperature.

57. Which crop is grown in red laterite soils of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh ?

Ans. Red laterite soils of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala are suitable for the growth of cashew nut.

58. How is cultivation made possible in western Rajasthan ?

Ans. The development of canal irrigation for example Indira Gandhi Canal has made cultivation possible in western Rajasthan.

59. State/Explain how defective methods of farming leads to soil erosion ?

Ans. Ploughing in a wrong way up and down the slope forms channels for rapid flow of water resulting in soil erosion.

60. Explain how contour ploughing restricts soil erosion.

Ans. Ploughing along the contour lines can decelerate the flow of water down the slopes that reduces soil erosion.

61. State how strip cropping helps to control wind erosion.

Ans. Strips of grass are allowed to grow in between the crops which can break the force of wind.

62. What are shelter belts ?

Ans. Shelter belts refer to the growing of rows of trees.

63. How can we control wind erosion in deserts?

Ans. Shelter belts help in stabilization of sand dunes by reducing the wind velocity.

64. State one point of difference between stock and reserve.

Ans. Reserves are the subset of stock which can be put to use with the help of available technology but their use has not started.

65. State four crops supported by alluvial soils.

Ans. Four crops supported by alluvial soils are sugar cane, paddy, wheat, pulses and cereals.