

## **Chapter – 8**

# **Human Environment Interactions The Tropical and Subtropical Region**

### **Exercise**

**1.**

**(A)** Name the continent in which the Amazon Basin is located.

**Answer:**

The Amazon basin is located in South America.

The Amazon basin is basin of the Amazon River and its tributaries. It covers about 40% of the South American continent.

**(B)** What are the crops grown by the people of the Amazon Basin?

**Answer:**

The people of the Amazon basin mainly grow tapioca, pineapple and sweet potato. They also grow cash crops like coffee, maize and cocoa.

The people living there clear a part of forest where the cultivation is possible. After harvesting the land is left for the tropical forest to grow again. They practice Slash and burn agriculture.

**(C)** Name the birds that you are likely to find in the rainforests of the Amazon.

**Answer:**

Toucans, humming bird and bird of paradise are commonly found in the rainforests of the Amazon.

Toucans are marked by their large colourful bills used to eat food. Humming Birds are one of the smallest Species of birds in the world

.Fun Fact: The Humming birds are the only birds which can fly backwards.

**(D)** What are the major cities located on the River Ganga.

**Answer:**

Allahabad, Kanpur, Varanasi, Lucknow, Patna and Kolkata are the major cities located on the River Ganga.

River Ganga provides food and livelihood to most people living in these cities. As being a holy River it has large settlements on its banks. Varanasi a city on banks of Ganga River is considered to be one of the oldest living settlements in the world.

**(E)** Where is the one-horned rhinoceros found?

**Answer:**

The one-horned rhinoceros is found in the Brahmaputra plain.

Biggest settlement of One-horned rhinoceros is Kaziranga national park in Assam state of India. It is endangered species and its conservation is being done by government and other organizations.

**2.**

**(A)** Tick the correct Answer.

Toucans are a type of

- (a) birds
- (b) animals
- (c) crops

**Answer:**

Toucans are Tropical birds marked by their bright, colourful, and large bills. They are highly social birds and often live in groups of about 20.

- (B)** Tick the correct Answer.  
Manioc is the staple food of  
(a) Ganga Basin  
(b) Africa  
(c) Amazon

**Answer:**

Manioc, also known as cassava, is one of the main constituents of diet of people living in amazons. It is rich in carbohydrates.

- (C)** Tick the correct Answer.  
Kolkata is located on the river  
(a) Orange  
(b) Hooghly  
(c) Bhagirathi

**Answer:**

Hooghly is the main distributary of Ganga river in West Bengal. Kolkata's famous Howrah bridge is on this river.

- (D)** Tick the correct Answer.  
Deodars and firs are a type of  
(a) Coniferous trees  
(b) Deciduous trees  
(c) shrubs

**Answer:**

Deodars are native trees to western Himalayas. They are large evergreen coniferous trees reaching 40-50m tall with a trunk up to 3m in diameter. It has a conic crown with level branches.

- (E)** Tick the correct Answer.  
Bengal tiger is found in

- (a) mountains
- (b) delta area
- (c) Amazon

**Answer:**

The Bengal tigers are found in Sundarbans. The delta area of Ganga and Brahmaputra river.

**3. Match the following.**

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| (i) Cotton textile | (a) Assam           |
| (ii) Maloca        | (b) Terrace farming |
| (iii) Piranha      | (c) Sericulture     |
| (iv) Silk worm     | (d) Slanting roof   |
| (v) Kaziranga      | (e) Ganga plain     |
| -                  | (f) Varanasi        |
| -                  | (g) Fish            |

**Answer:**

|                    |              |                                              |
|--------------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------|
| (i) Cotton textile | (f) Varanasi | Explanation : Cotton textile has been one of |
|--------------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------|

|                |                  |                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                |                  | the major industries of Varanasi city.                                                                                                                       |
| (ii) Maloca    | (d)Slanting roof | Explanation: Maloca is a ancestral long house used by natives of the Amazon. These types of houses have a slanting roof.                                     |
| (iii) Piranha  | (g) Fish         | Explanation: Piranha is a South American freshwater fish that has sharp teeth.                                                                               |
| (iv) Silk worm | (c) Sericulture  | Explanation : Silk Worm is the commercially bred caterpillar of the domesticated silk moth, which spins a silk cocoon that is processed to yield silk fibre. |
| (v) Kaziranga  | (a) Assam        | Explanation:<br>Kaziranga national park is in the state of Assam. This Sanctuary hosts two-thirds of the world's one-horned rhinoceroses.                    |

4.

(A) Give reasons

The rainforests are depleting.

**Answer:**

Long time ago the total area of rainforest cover was about 12-14% of Earth's total land surface area. Due to large-scale development large tracts of rainforests have been cleared. Activities such as agriculture, mining, cattle pasture, and construction work require cutting of forests. Now the rainforest cover on earth is about 2-6% of Earth's land area.

Due to constant deforestation for development purposes, the top soil which is held together by the trees gets washed away as the rains fall. As a result, the once lush green forests change into barren landscapes. More reasons include logging for hardwood, fuel wood and paper, grazing land, slash and burn farming.

(B) Give reasons

Paddy is grown in the Ganga-Brahmaputra plains.

**Answer:**

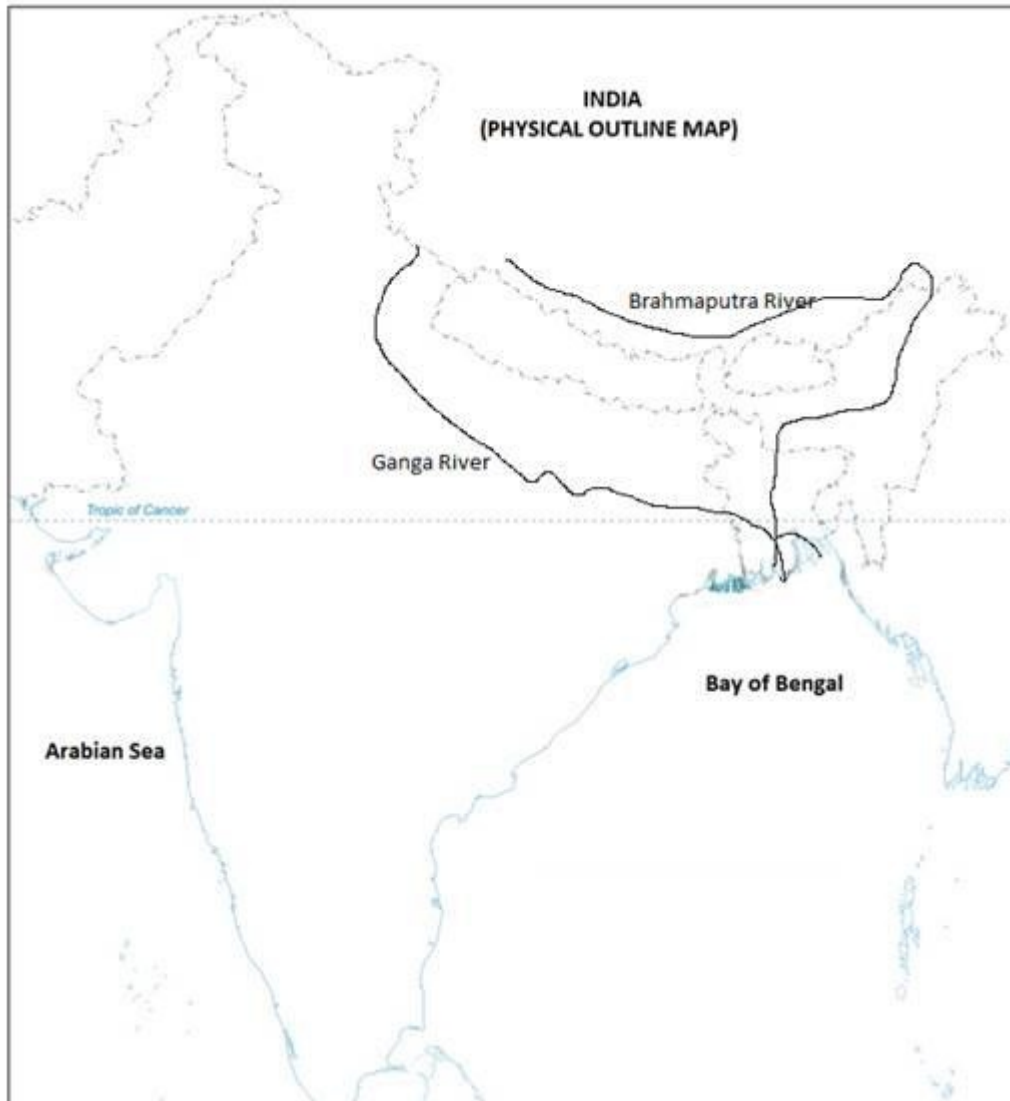
Paddy is grown in Ganga-Brahmaputra plain because the rivers bring very fertile soil called alluvium, which is one of the best soil for agriculture. This soil gets deposited in the plains that is why plains are usually fertile. Paddy needs a lot of water for growth and getting water beside a river is easy. The Ganga-Brahmaputra plains provide flat, fertile land for the cultivation of crops. The amount of rainfall in this region is also quite high.

5.

(A) Map skills.

On an outline map of Indian Sub-continent, draw the rivers Ganga and Brahmaputra from the source to the mouth. Also show the important tributaries of both the rivers.

**Answer:**



**(B)** Map skills.

On the political map of the South America, draw the equator.  
Mark the countries located on the equator.

**Answer:**

There are 3 countries in South America from which the equator passes  
They are Ecuador, Colombia, and Brazil. They are marked on the above shown map.

## South America



### 6. For fun.

Make a collage to show places of attractions in India. You can divide the class in different groups to show attractions based on mountain landscapes, coastal beaches, wildlife sanctuaries and places of historical importance.

### Answer:

Student do it yourself.

7. Activity.

8.

9. Collect under mentioned material and observe how destruction of trees effect the soil cover.

Material

- (i) Three small flowerpots or food cans (e.g., cold drinks tin cans),
- (ii) one big can with holes punched in the bottom (this will act as sprinkling can),
- (iii) twelve coins or bottle caps
- (iv) soil.

**Answer:**

1. Take three small cans or pots. Fill them with soil till the top. Press the soil to make it level with the top of the can.

2. Now put four coins or bottle caps on the soil of each can. Take the big can that has been punched with holes and fill it with water. You can also take the sprinkling can from your garden.

3. Now, sprinkle water on the three cans. On the first can sprinkle water very slowly so that no soil splashes out. Let moderate amount of water be sprinkled on the second can.

4. On the third can, sprinkle the water heavily. You will observe that unprotected soil splashes out. Where the 'rain' is heavy the amount of soil that splashes out is the maximum and least in case of the first can.

5. The coins or caps represent the tree covers. It is clear that if the land is cleared completely of the vegetation, the soil cover will quickly disappear.