

India-Size and Location

Fastrack® Revision

- ▶ India is one of the ancient civilisations in the world. Over the years it has made remarkable progress in the field of agriculture, industry and technology and is on the path of economic development.
- ▶ India is located in the Northern hemisphere.
- ▶ The main land extends between latitudes $8^{\circ}4' N$ and $37^{\circ}6' N$ and longitudes $68^{\circ}7' E$ and $97^{\circ}25' E$.

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The Southernmost point of the Indian Union; the 'Indira Point', got submerged under the sea water in 2004 during the Tsunami.

- ▶ The Tropic of Cancer ($23^{\circ}30' N$) divides the country into almost two equal parts.
- ▶ India is the seventh largest country of the world after Russia, Canada, the USA, China, Brazil and Australia.
- ▶ The land mass of India has an area of 3.28 million square kilometres.
- ▶ India's total area accounts for 2.4% of the total geographical area of the world.
- ▶ India has a land boundary of about 15,200 km and the total length of the coast line of the main land including the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Lakshadweep is 7,516.6 km.
- ▶ From Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh, there is a time lag of two hours. Hence, the time along the Standard Meridian of India ($82^{\circ}30' E$) passing through Mirzapur (in Uttar Pradesh) is taken as the standard time for the whole country.

- ▶ India has a strategic location in the world. The Indian landmass has a central location between the East and the West Asia. It is a Southward extension of the Asian continent.
- ▶ The Deccan Peninsula protrudes into the Indian Ocean, helping India to establish contact with West Asia, Africa and Europe from the Western coast and with South-East and East Asia from the Eastern coast.
- ▶ India has close contacts with the world, not only today but also in the past.
- ▶ India's contacts through land routes are much older than maritime contacts. These routes have contributed for the exchange of ideas and commodities between the countries.

Knowledge BOOSTER



The Ideas of Upanishads, Ramayana, Panchtantra stories, the Indian numerals, the decimal system, etc., could reach many parts of the world through these passes.

- ▶ India has 28 States and 8 Union Territories and occupies an important strategic position in South Asia.
- ▶ India shares its land boundaries with Pakistan and Afghanistan in the North-West, China (Tibet), Nepal and Bhutan in the North and Myanmar and Bangladesh in the East.
- ▶ Our Southern neighbours across the sea consist of the two island countries, namely Sri Lanka and Maldives.



Practice Exercise



Multiple Choice Questions

Q 1. In which hemisphere India is located?

- a. Northern
- b. Southern
- c. Both a. and b.
- d. None of these

Q 2. Which line divides India into approximately two equal parts?

- a. Tropic of Cancer
- b. Equator
- c. Tropic of Capricorn
- d. None of these

Q 3. The latitudinal as well as longitudinal extent of the Indian mainland is about both ways.

- a. 20°
- b. 40°
- c. 30°
- d. 35°

Q 4. The Northernmost latitude of India is:

- a. $97^{\circ}25' E$
- b. $8^{\circ}4' E$
- c. $82^{\circ}32' N$
- d. $37^{\circ}6' N$

Q 5. Of the total geographical area in the world, what percentage is occupied by Indian landmass?

- a. 7.5%
- b. 2.4%
- c. 1.4%
- d. 3.4%

Q 6. India is a extension of the Asian continent.

- a. Northward
- b. Southward
- c. Eastward
- d. Westward

Q 7. The latitudinal extent of India lies between:

- a. $8^{\circ}5' N$ and $37^{\circ}6' N$
- b. $8^{\circ}4' N$ and $27^{\circ}6' N$
- c. $8^{\circ}4' N$ and $37^{\circ}6' N$
- d. $8^{\circ}6' N$ and $37^{\circ}4' N$

Which geographical feature bounds India's land towards the South of 22°N latitude?

- a. Young fold mountains
- b. Plateaus

- c. Desert
- d. Ocean

Q 9. In which of the following places, would you find the least difference in the duration between day time and night time?

- a. Kanyakumari
- b. Ladakh
- c. Srinagar
- d. None of these

Q 10. Which of the following landmass is centrally located between East and West Asia?

- a. Chinese
- b. Japanese
- c. Indian
- d. Arabian

Q 11. Which of the following countries has longest coastline along the Indian Ocean?

- a. Myanmar
- b. Pakistan
- c. Bangladesh
- d. India

Q 12. Which Southernmost point of the Indian Union was submerged under the sea water in 2004 during the Tsunami?

- a. Kavaratti
- b. Indira Point
- c. Port Blair
- d. Kanyakumari

Q 13. Which of the following country is larger than India?

- a. Sri Lanka
- b. Pakistan
- c. China
- d. Myanmar

Q 14. Which ocean will have to be crossed while going from Singapore to Mogadishu?

- a. Pacific Ocean
- b. Indian Ocean
- c. Atlantic Ocean
- d. None of these

Q 15. The route where India has a strategic central location and which connects European countries to East Asian countries is the:

- a. trans Arabian sea route
- b. trans Indian ocean route
- c. trans Bay of Bengal route
- d. None of the above

Q 16. Which country among the India's neighbours is the smallest?

- a. Nepal
- b. Sri Lanka
- c. Bhutan
- d. Bangladesh

Q 17. With which of the following country does India share its Northern boundary?

- a. Myanmar
- b. Bangladesh
- c. China
- d. Pakistan

Q 18. Which one of the following straits separates India from Sri Lanka?

- a. Cook Strait
- b. Bass Strait
- c. Palk Strait
- d. Berling Strait

Q 19. Which neighbouring country would you reach if you sail across the Palk Strait?

- a. Bangladesh
- b. Maldives
- c. Myanmar
- d. Sri Lanka

Q 20. How much distance of India from Europe is reduced by the opening of Suez canal?

- a. 6,000 km
- b. 6,500 km
- c. 7,000 km
- d. 7,500 km

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Earlier the sea route from Europe to India was via, cape of Good Hope, which is the Southern tip of Africa. This route was very long. So, the Suez canal has reduced the distance between India and Europe.

Q 21. With which of the following countries India does not share boundaries?

- a. Bangladesh
- b. Mauritius
- c. Nepal
- d. Myanmar

Q 22. There is a time lag of how many hours from Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh?

- a. One hour
- b. Two hours
- c. Three hours
- d. Four hours

Q 23. The sun rises two hours earlier in Arunachal Pradesh as compared to Gujarat. What time will the watch show in Gujarat if it is 6 am in Arunachal Pradesh?

- a. 4 am
- b. 5 am
- c. 6 am
- d. 7 am

Q 24. By which geographical feature is India bounded in the North-West, North and North-East?

- a. Northern plains
- b. Plateaus
- c. Young fold mountains
- d. Desert

Q 25. Which of the following is the oldest route of contact between India and other countries of the world?

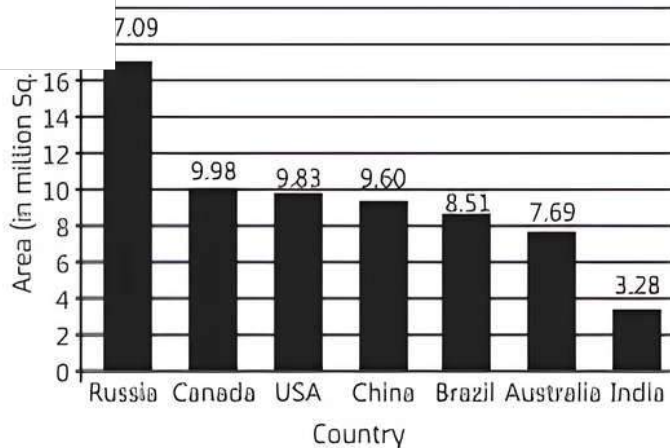
- a. Ocean routes
- b. Land routes
- c. Air routes
- d. None of these

Q 26. Match the following:

Column I	Column II
1. Odisha	A. Hyderabad
2. Telangana	B. Bengaluru
3. Karnataka	C. Chennai
4. Tamil Nadu	D. Bhubaneswar

- | | | | |
|------|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| a. B | A | C | D |
| b. A | C | D | B |
| c. D | A | B | C |
| d. B | C | A | D |

s (Q.Nos. 27-28): Study the graph and answer the that follow:



Q 27. The area occupied by Canada is the area occupied by China.

- a. more than b. less than
c. equal to d. None of these

Q 28. Brazil ranks in the world in terms of the area occupied.

- a. second b. third
c. fourth d. fifth

Q 29. Read the following statements carefully and choose the correct option:

Statement (I): The latitudinal extent influences the duration of day and night as one moves from South to North.

Statement (II): Sunrays fall directly on the places located on the equator while the fall slanting towards the poles. Thus, as the latitudes increase, the chances of change in day and night from place-to-place increases.

- a. Statement (I) is correct and (II) is incorrect.
b. Statement (I) is incorrect and (II) is correct.
c. Both Statements are incorrect.
d. Both Statements are correct.

Q 30. Read the following statements carefully and choose the correct option:

Statement (I): India shares its land boundaries with Pakistan and Afghanistan in the North-West.

Statement (II): China, Tibet, Nepal and Bhutan in the South and Myanmar and Bangladesh in the West.

- a. Statement (I) is correct and (II) is incorrect.
b. Statement (I) is incorrect and (II) is correct.
c. Both Statements are incorrect.
d. Both Statements are correct.

Q 31. Read the following statements carefully and choose the correct option:

Statement (I): From Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh, there is a time lag of one hour.

Statement (II): Time along the Standard Meridian of India passing through Mirzapur is taken as the standard time for the whole country.

- a. Statement (I) is correct and (II) is incorrect.
b. Statement (I) is incorrect and (II) is correct.
c. Both Statements are incorrect.
d. Both Statements are correct.



Assertion & Reason Type Questions

Directions (Q.Nos. 32-35): In the following questions given below, there are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option:

- a. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
b. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
c. Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
d. Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Q 32. Assertion (A): Indian ocean is named after India.

Reason (R): India has the longest coastline on the Indian ocean and has a central location between East and West Asia.

Q 33. Assertion (A): Opening of Suez Canal benefitted India immensely.

Reason (R): It has reduced the distance between India and Europe by about 7,000 km.

Q 34. Assertion (A): India is said to enjoy a strategic position with reference to international trade routes.

Reason (R): The sea routes passing through the Indian ocean provide easy connectivity to India with West and the East.

Q 35. Assertion (A): India has a strategic location in the world.

Reason (R): The Indian landmass has a central location between the East and the West Asia.

Answers

- | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (a) | 2. (a) | 3. (c) | 4. (d) | 5. (b) |
| 6. (b) | 7. (c) | 8. (d) | 9. (a) | 10. (c) |
| 11. (d) | 12. (b) | 13. (c) | 14. (b) | 15. (b) |
| 16. (c) | 17. (c) | 18. (c) | 19. (b) | 20. (c) |
| 21. (b) | 22. (b) | 23. (c) | 24. (c) | 25. (b) |
| 26. (c) | 27. (a) | 28. (d) | 29. (d) | 30. (a) |
| 31. (b) | 32. (a) | 33. (a) | 34. (b) | 35. (a) |



Source Based Questions

Source 1

Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing the most appropriate option:

The Indian landmass has a central location

between the East and the West Asia. India is a southward extension of the Asian continent. The trans Indian Ocean routes, which connect the countries of Europe in the West and the countries of East Asia, provide a strategic central location to India. Note that the Deccan Peninsula protrudes into the Indian Ocean, thus helping India to establish close contact with West Asia, Africa and Europe from the Western coast and with South-East and East Asia from the Eastern coast. No other country has a long coastline on the Indian Ocean as India has and indeed, it is India's eminent position in the Indian Ocean, which justifies the naming of an Ocean after it.

- Q 1. Of which continent is India a Southward extension?**
a. Asia b. Europe
c. Antarctica d. Sri Lanka
- Q 2. Which routes connect the countries of Europe in the West and the countries of East Asia?**
a. Palk Strait route
b. Trans Indian Ocean route
c. Suez Canal route
d. Bay of Bengal route
- Q 3. Name the only country in the world after which an ocean is named.**
a. Bangladesh b. Myanmar
c. India d. Sri Lanka
- Q 4. What is the total length of the coastline of the Indian mainland?**
a. 7646 km b. 7243.6 km
c. 7516.6 km d. 7526.8 km
- Q 5. Which of the following helps India to establish close contact with West Asia, Africa and Europe from the Western coast?**
a. Gulf of Mannar b. Palk Strait
c. Deccan Peninsula d. Indian Peninsula
- Q 6. Where is the Indian landmass located in Asia?**
a. East located b. West located
c. Southwards d. Centrally located

Answers

1. (a) 2. (b) 3. (c) 4. (c) 5. (c) 6. (d)

Source 2

Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing the most appropriate option:

India's contacts with the World have continued through ages but her relationships through the land routes are much older than her maritime contacts. The various passes across the mountains in the North have provided passages to the ancient travellers, while the oceans restricted such interaction for a long time.

These routes have contributed in the exchange of ideas and commodities since ancient times. The

ideas of the *Upanishads* and the *Ramayana*, the stories of *Panchtantra*, the Indian numerals and the decimal system thus could reach many parts of the world. The spices, muslin and other merchandise were taken from India to different countries. On the other hand, the influence of Greek sculpture, and the architectural styles of dome and minarets from West Asia can be seen in different parts of our country.

- Q 1. Which is the oldest way of India's connection with the world?**
a. Air route b. Sea route
c. Land route d. All of these
- Q 2. Which of the following reached to different parts of the world through land routes?**
a. Ideas of the *Upanishads* and *Ramayana*
b. The stories of *Panchtantra*
c. The Indian numerals and the decimal system
d. All of the above
- Q 3. Name the ancient land route that passed through the Indian subcontinent.**
a. Suez Canal route b. Silk route
c. Trans-siberian route d. Deccan Peninsula route
- Q 4. How did the Greeks enrich the Indian culture?**
a. By exchanging ideas and commodities
b. By geographical and historical links
c. By contributions in the field of architecture, science, etc.
d. All of the above
- Q 5. Where can you see the Islamic influence in Indian culture?**
a. In India's silk, spices, etc.
b. In handicrafts and merchandise.
c. In architectural styles of domes, arch, minarets, etc.
d. In the paintings and curated artworks of Indian artists.
- Q 6. There are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read them and choose the correct option:**
Assertion (A): India has had strong geographical and historical links with its neighbours.
Reason (R): The various passes across the Himalayas have provided gateways to many ancient travellers while the ocean restricted such interaction.
a. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
b. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
c. Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
d. Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Answers

1. (c) 2. (d) 3. (b) 4. (c) 5. (c) 6. (b)

e 3

Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow:

India is a vast country. Lying entirely in the Northern hemisphere the main land extends between latitudes $8^{\circ}4'N$ and $37^{\circ}6'N$ and longitudes $68^{\circ}7'E$ and $97^{\circ}25'E$. The Tropic of Cancer ($23^{\circ}30'N$) divides the country into almost two equal parts. To the South-East and South-West of the mainland, lie the Andaman and Nicobar islands and the Lakshadweep islands in Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea respectively.

Q 1. Mention the latitudinal extent of India.

Ans. The latitudinal extent of India is $8^{\circ}4'N$ and $37^{\circ}6'N$.

Q 2. Write the significance of latitudinal extent of India.

Ans. Latitudinal extent of India has the following significance:

- (i) A country got its geographical location in the world due to it.
- (ii) Latitudes determine the appropriate time zones in which a country lies.

Q 3. Give any two effects of the longitudinal extent of India.

Ans. Two effects of longitudinal extent are:

- (i) India's geographical location is favourably important for international trade.
- (ii) Due to its central location in the Eastern hemisphere, India lies on the major trade routes.



Very Short Answer Type Questions

Q 1. Name the latitude which divides the country in two equal parts.

Ans. Tropic of Cancer ($23^{\circ}30'N$) divides the country in two equal parts.

Q 2. What is the latitude of the Southernmost point on the Indian mainland?

Ans. The Southernmost point on the Indian mainland is Kanyakumari at a latitude of $8^{\circ}4'N$.

Q 3. Name any two states through which Tropic of Cancer passes.

Ans. Two states through which Tropic of Cancer passes are Gujarat and Rajasthan.

Q 4. What is the distance of East-West extent of India in kilometres?

Ans. The distance of East-West extension of India is 2933 km.

Q 5. Name the countries sharing a land boundary with India.

Ans. The countries sharing land boundary with India are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Myanmar, Nepal and Pakistan.

Q 6. Which Indian state has the longest coastline and international border?

Ans. Gujarat has the longest coastline and international border.

Q 7. The Indian Ocean derives its name from India. Do you agree?

Ans. Yes, I agree. India has the largest coastline on the Indian Ocean.

Q 8. Name the imaginary line in India along which time is taken as standard time.

Ans. Standard Meridian is the imaginary line in India along which time is taken as standard time.

Q 9. Which longitude is taken as the Standard Meridian of India?

Ans. The longitude of $82^{\circ}30'E$ is taken as the Standard Meridian of India.

Q 10. What is the total area of India's landmass? What percentage of total geographical area of the world does it cover?

Ans. Total area of India is 3.28 million sq km. It covers about 2.4% of the total geographical area of the world.

Q 11. How many types of states were existed in India before 1947?

Ans. There were two types of states in India before 1947:
(i) The provinces, and (ii) The princely states.

Q 12. How much India's distance from Europe has been reduced, after opening of the Suez Canal?

Ans. 7,000 km of India's distance from Europe has been reduced after opening of the Suez Canal.

Q 13. What is the local time?

Ans. The time of place reckoned by the mid-day sun is called the local time.

Q 14. What is standard time?

Ans. When the local time is taken as the time for the whole country, it is called standard time of that country.

Q 15. What is a peninsula?

Ans. A landmass surrounded by water on three sides is called a peninsula. Example, Indian Peninsula.

Q 16. Name the Southernmost point of India.

Ans. Indira Point is the Southernmost point of India.

Q 17. Which place of India got submerged under the sea water in 2004 during the Tsunami?

Ans. Indira Point got submerged under the sea water in 2004 during the Tsunami.

Q 18. State any one feature of Indira point.

Ans. One feature of Indira point is that in the year 2004, it got submerged under sea water due to the Tsunami.

Q 19. Which Indian states have common frontiers with our neighbouring country, Bhutan?

Ans. The Indian states of West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim have common frontiers with Bhutan.

Q. Which neighbour country lies to the South-East of Nicobar Islands?
A. Which neighbour country that lies to the South-East of Nicobar Islands is Indonesia.

Short Answer Type Questions

Q 1. What is the latitudinal and longitudinal extent of the main land of India? Explain their importance.

Ans. The latitudinal and longitudinal extent of the main land of India is 30°. Their importance is as follows:

- (i) The latitudinal extent influences the duration of day and night.
- (ii) The longitudinal extent influences time.

Q 2. Mention the latitudinal extent of India. Explain its significance.

Ans. The main land of India extends between 8°4' N and 37°6' N latitudes.

Its significance can be understood with the help of the following points:

- (i) The Tropic of Cancer (23°30' N) divides India into two parts. The Southern part of India lies in the tropical zone and the Northern part lies in the sub-tropical zone. Because of this India has an extreme climate in North and moderate climate in South.
- (ii) The Southern part of India does not have difference in the duration of day and night because of small latitudinal extent while Northern part shows difference because of large latitudinal extent.

Q 3. What is Prime Meridian? What is the other name for it and why?

Ans. The Prime Meridian is an imaginary line used to indicate the 0° longitude. It is also known as the Greenwich Meridian because it passes through a place called Greenwich, in London.

Q 4. "India accounts for about 2.4% of the total geographical area of the world but supports the second largest population of the world." Justify the above statement by giving two reasons.

Ans. The given statement is true and there are many implications responsible for it which are as follows:

- (i) Population density is very high and it causes various problems of availability of resources.
- (ii) Higher population leads to inadequate per capita income and lower economic development in comparison to developed and less populated countries.



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Give the implications of the given statement and not only explanation.

Q 5. Why has 82°30' E been selected as the Standard Meridian of India?

Ans. 82°30' E has been selected as the Standard Meridian of India because it is situated in the centre of all longitudes and latitudes in which our country is located. Indian Standard Time (IST) is calculated on the basis of this longitude. It passes through the west of the town of Mirzapur, near Allahabad, in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

Q 6. The sun rises two hours earlier in Arunachal Pradesh as compared to Gujarat in the West but the watches show the same time. How does this happen?

Ans. From Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh there is a time lag of two hours. The sun rises two hours earlier in Arunachal Pradesh as compared to Gujarat in the West but the watches show the same time. It is because the watches are set for all parts of India, as per the Indian Standard Time measured at 82°30' E longitudes. Hence, the watches show the same time both at Arunachal Pradesh and in Gujarat.

Q 7. "Ahmedabad and Kolkata are able to see the noon sun exactly overhead in a year, but not Delhi." Substantiate your answer with any two reasons.

Ans. Ahmedabad has a latitude 23° N and Kolkata has a latitude of 22.5° N, while Delhi is at the latitude of 28° N.

- (i) This means that the first two cities lie within the Tropic of Cancer. The Tropic of Cancer is the circle of latitude on the Earth that marks the apparent position of the sun at the time of the Northern solstice.
- (ii) It is also the farthest North latitude at which the sun can be directly overhead. Because of this, Ahmedabad and Kolkata are able to see the noon sun directly overhead.

Q 8. Why is Indian ocean named after our country? Give reasons.

Ans. Indian ocean is named after our country due to the following reasons:

- (i) India has the longest coastline on the Indian ocean.
- (ii) India has a central location between East and West Asia.
- (iii) India's Southernmost extension, the Deccan Peninsula extends towards the Indian ocean that makes it important to international trade done through the Indian ocean.

Where is Arunachal Pradesh located? How is it a befitting name for our Easternmost state?

Arunachal Pradesh is located approximately at $93^{\circ}25'$ E longitude and is the Easternmost state of India.

The Earth rotates from West to East. Therefore, Arunachal Pradesh is the first Indian state to get the rays of sun. Arunachal Pradesh is a befitting name for the Easternmost state because Arunachal means the 'Land of the Rising Sun.'

Q 10. Name the island groups of India.

Ans. Besides the mainland, two islands groups are also an inseparable part of the Indian Union. These are as follows:

- (i) Lakshadweep Islands is a union territory, situated in the Arabian Sea. It comprises of numerous islands, most of them less than one square km in size.
- (ii) In the Bay of Bengal, there is another union territory, which is a chain of islands known as the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.



Long Answer Type Questions

Q 1. Describe the location and size of India.

Ans. **Location of India:** India is a vast country lying in the Northern hemisphere. The main land extends between latitudes $8^{\circ}4'$ N and $37^{\circ}6'$ N and longitudes $68^{\circ}7'$ E and $97^{\circ}25'$ E. The Tropic of Cancer ($23^{\circ}30'$ N) divides the country into almost two equal parts. To the South-East of the main land lies the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the Bay of Bengal. To the South-West of the main land lies the Lakshadweep Islands in the Arabian Sea.

Size of India: India has an area of 3.28 million square km. Its total area accounts for about 2.4% of the total geographical area of the world. It is the seventh largest country of the world. It has a land boundary of about 15,200 km and a total coastline of 7,516.6 km.

Q 2. Give a brief account of India's contacts with the outside world in ancient and medieval times.

Ans. India's contacts with outside world in ancient and medieval times can be understood through the following points:

- (i) India holds an important position in world trade since ancient time. It had trade relations with many countries. One of the famous land route facilitating trade was the famous Silk Route of China.
- (ii) These routes contributed in the exchange of ideas and commodities since ancient times.
- (iii) The ideas of the Upanishads and the Ramayana, the stories of Panchtantra, the Indian numerals and the decimal system, could reach many parts of the world through these routes. The

spices, muslin and other merchandise were also taken from India to different countries along these routes.

- (iv) On the other hand, the influence of Greek sculpture and the architectural styles of dome and minarets from West Asia travelled through these routes to India.
- (v) India had trade relations with South-East Asian countries like Cambodia, Java, Sumatra, Bali, Sri Lanka, Burma and Siam.

COMMON ERROR

Students do not mention the relationships of India properly in earlier times, with the outside world.

Q 3. "India has a long coastline which is advantageous." Analyse the statement.

Ans. The given statement can be analysed as follows:

- (i) Long coastline of India has provided a significant boost to India's maritime trade. Almost 90% of India's international trade is done through sea.
- (ii) The Deccan Peninsula extends towards the Indian ocean and helps India to establish close contact with West Asia, Africa and Europe from the Western coast and with South-East Asia and East Asia from the Eastern Coast.
- (iii) India's central location at the head of the Indian ocean and its long coastline have helped in its interaction through sea.
- (iv) The sea routes passing through the Indian ocean provide easy connectivity to India with the West and the East.
- (v) India has developed various ports on its Western and Eastern coasts such as Mumbai, Chennai, Kochi, Vishakhapatnam, etc., that have become major centres for the international business.

Q 4. What do you know about India and its neighbours?

Ans. India has an important strategic position in South Asia. The following points are known about India and its neighbours:

- (i) India shares its land boundaries with Pakistan and Afghanistan in the North-West, China (Tibet), Nepal and Bhutan in the North, and Myanmar and Bangladesh in the East.
- (ii) Our Southern neighbours across the sea consist of the two island countries, namely Sri Lanka and Maldives.
- (iii) Sri Lanka is separated from India by a narrow channel of sea formed by the Palk Strait and the Gulf of Mannar, while Maldives Islands are situated to the South of the Lakshadweep Islands.

entral location of India at the head of the Indian n is considered of great significance. Why?

entral location of India at the head of the Indian n is considered of great significance because of the below mentioned reasons:

- (i) The Trans-Indian Ocean routes which connect the countries of Europe in the West and the countries of East Asia provide a strategic central location to India.
- (ii) Unlike landlocked countries, it has an easy access to the outside world. The ocean routes from East and South-East Asia and Australia to Africa and Europe pass through the Indian Ocean.

- (iii) India is connected with Europe, North America and South America through both the routes, viz., the Cape of Good Hope and the Suez Canal.
- (iv) India can also reach Canada and USA through the strait of Malacca after crossing the Pacific Ocean.
- (v) India is favourably located on the world's highway of trade and commerce both to the east and the west.

Knowledge BOOSTER



A landlocked country is surrounded by land on all sides.



Chapter Test

Multiple Choice Questions

- Q 1. Both the latitudinal and longitudinal extent of India's mainland is about 30° . But on looking at the map of India, what do you observe about India's size?
- a. East-West extent appears to be smaller than the North-South extent.
 - b. East-West extent appears to be larger than the North-South extent.
 - c. East-West and North-South extent appears equal.
 - d. North-South extent appears to be smaller than the East-West extent.
- Q 2. What are the longitudes in which India is located?
- a. $108^\circ 8' E$ and $139^\circ 9' E$
 - b. $108^\circ 8' W$ and $139^\circ 9' W$
 - c. $68^\circ 7' E$ and $97^\circ 25' E$
 - d. $68^\circ 7' W$ and $97^\circ 25' W$
- Q 3. In which of the following places, would you find the least difference in the duration between day time and night time?
- a. Kanyakumari
 - b. Leh
 - c. Srinagar
 - d. Itanagar
- Q 4. Which of the following is the oldest route of contact between India and other countries of the world?
- a. Ocean routes
 - b. Maritime contact
 - c. Land routes
 - d. Air routes
- Q 5. Which geographical feature bounds India's mainland South of $22^\circ N$ latitude?
- a. Young fold mountains
 - b. Sandy desert
 - c. Lava plateaus
 - d. Seas and ocean

Assertion and Reason Type Questions

Directions (Q.Nos. 6-7): In the following questions given below, there are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option:

- a. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
 - b. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
 - c. Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
 - d. Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.
- Q 6. Assertion (A): India held an important position in the ancient world.
- Reason (R): India had trade relations with South-East Asian countries like Cambodia, Java, Sumatra, Bali, Sri Lanka, Burma and Siam.
- Q 7. Assertion (A): Standard meridian is required to avoid difference in time within the country.
- Reason (R): It is selected as Prime Meridian to avoid time lag of 2 hours from Arunachal Pradesh to Gujarat.

Source Based Question

- Q 8. Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow:
- India's contacts with the World have continued through ages but her relationships through the land routes are much older than her maritime contacts. The various passes across the mountains in the North have provided passages to the ancient travellers, while the oceans restricted such interaction for a long time.

These routes have contributed in the exchange of ideas and commodities since ancient times. The ideas of the Upanishads and the Ramayana, the stories of Panchtantra, the Indian numerals and the decimal system thus could reach many parts of the world. The spices, muslin and other merchandise were taken from India to different countries. On the other hand, the influence of Greek sculpture, and the architectural styles of dome and minarets from West Asia can be seen in different parts of our country.

- (i) What is the contribution of land routes in the exchange of ideas and commodities?
- (ii) Mention the impact of India's relations with the other countries of the world through land routes.
- (iii) How did the Greeks enriched the Indian culture?

Very Short Answer Type Questions

- Q 9. Name the parallel of latitude which divides India roughly into two equal halves.
- Q 10. Why is the North-South extent of India larger than East-West extent even though the latitudinal and longitudinal extent in degrees is of the same value?

Q 11. Why has $82^{\circ}30'$ E been selected as the Standard Meridian of India?

Q 12. Name the states of India which lie along the Eastern coast of India from North to South.

Short Answer Type Questions

- Q 13. What is the longitudinal extent of India? Give its two effects.
- Q 14. What is the strategic significance of India's location in Asia?
- Q 15. How has the opening of Suez Canal benefitted India immensely?
- Q 16. Why are the cities of Mumbai and Chennai able to see the noon Sun exactly overhead twice a year but Delhi never sees it exactly overhead?

Long Answer Type Questions

- Q 17. Explain the importance of India's location on the globe.
- Q 18. Give a brief account of India's contacts with the outside world in ancient and medieval times.