
Drainage

Question 1: Choose the right answer from the four alternatives given below.

(i) Which one of the following describes the drainage patterns resembling the branches of a tree?

- (a) Radial
- (b) Dendritic
- (c) Centrifugal
- (d) Trellis

Answer: (b) Dendritic

(ii) In which of the following states is the Wular lake located?

- (a) Rajasthan
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Punjab
- (d) Jammu and Kashmir

Answer: (d) Jammu and Kashmir

(iii) The river Narmada has its source at

- (a) Satpura
- (b) Brahmagiri
- (c) Amarkantak
- (d) Slopes of the Western Ghats

Answer: (c) Amarkantak

(iv) Which one of the following lakes is a salt water lake?

- (a) Sambhar
- (b) Dal
- (c) Wular
- (d) Gobind Sagar

Answer: (a) Sambhar

(v) Which one of the following is the longest river of the Peninsular India?

- (a) Narmada
- (b) Krishna
- (c) Godavari
- (d) Mahanadi

Answer: (c) Godavari

(vi) Which one amongst the following rivers flows through a rift valley?

- (a) Mahanadi
- (b) Tungabhadra
- (c) Krishna
- (d) Tapi

Answer: (d) Tapi

Question 2: Answer the following questions briefly.

(i) What is meant by a water divide? Give an example.

Answer (i): Any upland or a mountain separating two adjoining drainage basins is known as water divide. An example of water divide is the Western Ghats.

(ii) Which is the largest river basin in India?

Answer (ii): The Ganga river basin is the largest river basin in India.

(iii) Where do the rivers Indus and Ganga have their origin?

Answer (iii): The Indus river has its origin in Tibet near the Mansarovar Lake while the Ganga River has its origin in Gangotri Glacier in Uttaranchal.

(iv) Name the two headstreams of the Ganga. Where do they meet to form the Ganga?

Answer (iv): Alaknanda and Bhagirathi are the two headstreams of the Ganga. They both meet to form the Ganga at Devprayag.

(v) Why does the Brahmaputra in its Tibetan part have less silt, despite a longer course?

Answer (v): The Brahmaputra river, which is known as Tsangpo in Tibet, receives very little volume of water in Tibet so it carries little silt there. But once it enters India, Brahmaputra is fed by heavy rains, and it carries a lot of water and silt.

(vi) Which two Peninsular rivers flow through troughs?

Answer (vi): The two rivers that flow through troughs are Narmada and Tapi. They form estuaries while entering the sea.

(vii) State some economic benefits of rivers and lakes.

Answer (vii): River is very beneficial for agricultural purpose and generating hydro-electricity. It provides fisheries, inland channels for transport. Lakes like the Sambhar Lake provide edible salt. They also help develop tourism and provide recreation.

Question 3: Below are given names of a few lakes of India. Group them under two categories

– Natural and created by human beings.

- (a) Wular
- (b) Dal
- (c) Nainital
- (d) Bhimtal
- (e) Gobind Sagar
- (f) Loktak
- (g) Barapani
- (h) Chilika
- (i) Sambhar
- (j) Rana Pratap Sagar
- (k) Nizam Sagar
- (l) Pulicat
- (m) Nagarjuna Sagar
- (n) Hirakund

Answer:

Natural Lakes: Wular, Dal, Nainital, Bhimtal, Chilika, Pulicat, Sambhar, Barapani, Loktak
Created by human beings: Gobind Sagar, Hirakud, Rana Pratap Sagar, Nagarjuna Sagar, Nizam Sagar

Question 4: Discuss the significant difference between the Himalayan and the Peninsular rivers.

Answer:

Himalayan Rivers	Peninsular Rivers
Originate from Himalayas	Originate in the Deccan Plateau
These are perennial rivers.	These are seasonal rivers.
They receive water from rain as well as from melted snow from the lofty mountains.	These rivers are dependent upon rainfall. During the dry season, even the large rivers have reduced flow of water

Question 5: Compare the east flowing and the west flowing rivers of the Peninsular plateau.

Answer:

East Flowing Rivers	West Flowing Rivers
Major rivers flowing eastwards: Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri	Only two long rivers flow westwards: Narmada, Tapi
These rivers drain in the Bay of Bengal.	These rivers drain in the Arabian sea.
Carry greater amount of sediments, so form deltas at their mouths	Carry lesser amount of sediments, so form estuaries at their mouths
Greater number of tributaries	Lesser number of tributaries
These river flow not through very deep canals.	These rivers flow in troughs.

Question 6: Why are rivers important for the country's economy?

Answer:

- The rivers important for the country's economy because:
- It is source of natural fresh water which is required for the survival of most of the animals including human.
- The water from the rivers is used for various domestic, industrial and agricultural purposes.
- The presence of rivers boosts trade and commerce by helping in the easy transport of goods. They are also a potential source of energy.
- The water from rivers is used for running hydro-electric dams.
- It is also used for navigation and transport thus, important for commercial activities.
- It also provide fishing and great scenic and recreational value. Thus, serve as good tourist spots.

Map Skills

- (i) On an outline map of India mark and label the following rivers: Ganga, Satluj, Damodar, Krishna, Narmada, Tapi, Mahanadi, and Brahmaputra.
- (ii) On an outline map of India mark and label the following lakes: Chilika Sambhar, Wular, Pulicat, Kolleru.

Answer:

