

Chapter – 9

Life in the Temperature Grasslands

Exercise

1.

(A) What are the Temperate Grasslands of North America called?

Answer:

The temperate grasslands of North America are called the Prairies. Prairies are known for its huge grass fields.

(B) What are the cattle farms in the North American Grasslands known as?

Answer:

The cattle farms in the North American grasslands are known as ranches. Animals like Cow, sheep and horses are kept in large farms called ranches. Rearing of cattle is one of the main occupations of people.

(C) Name the rivers that drain the Velds.

Answer:

The rivers Orange and Limpopo drain the Velds. Limpopo River flows in the northern parts of Velds. The Orange River flows in the southern parts. Both the rivers fall into Indian Ocean.

(D) When is the rainy season in the Velds?

Answer:

The Velds receive rainfall in months of November to January. Rainfall also occurs in June, July and August. Less rain leads to drought like conditions in Velds.

(E) What is the major occupation of the people of the South African grasslands?

Answer:

The major occupations of people of south African grasslands (Velds) are sheep rearing and mining. Sheep rearing is the most important occupation. Steel and iron industries have developed due to presence of minerals. Gold and diamond mines are also found in this region.

FACT: Johannesburg, a city in South Africa, is also known as the gold capital of the world.

2.

(A) Tick the correct Answer.

River Mississippi drains

- (a) Canada
- (b) Africa
- (c) USA

Answer:

Prairies, the grasslands of USA are drained by Mississippi.

(B) Tick the correct Answer.

Drakensberg Mountains are to the west of

- (a) Prairies
- (b) Velds
- (c) Pampas

Answer:

Velds are bounded by Drakensberg mountains on the east. Velds are the temperate grasslands of South Africa.

(C) Tick the correct Answer.

Merino is a species of

- (a) fish
- (b) elephant
- (c) sheep

Answer:

Marino is a kind of sheep is found in temperate grasslands of Africa known as Velds. The wool of Merino is very warm.

(D) Tick the correct Answer.

Kimberley is famous for

- (a) diamonds
- (b) silver
- (c) platinum

Answer:

Kimberley, a city in South Africa is famous for diamond mines. Mining is main occupation of Kimberley.

3. Match the following.

(i) Cowboys	(a) Iron and Steel
(ii) Gold	(b) Prairies
(iii) Kudu	(c) Hot wind

(iv) Chinook	(d) Velds
(v) Coal	(e) Johannesburg
-	(f) Animal

Answer:

(i) Cowboys	(b) Prairies	<u>Explanation:</u> Cowboys handle the groups of cattle in Prairies.
(ii) Gold	(e) Johannesburg	<u>Explanation:</u> Johannesburg is the gold capital of the world.
(iii) Kudu	(f) Animal	<u>Explanation:</u> Kudus are antelopes (deer like animals, but not deer) found in Velds.
(iv) Chinook	(c) Hot wind	<u>Explanation:</u> Chinook are hot winds that blow in prairies due to absence of north-south barrier.

(v) Coal	(a) Iron and Steel	<u>Explanation:</u> Iron and steel industries are situated in Velds near the coal mines.
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4.

(A) Give reasons

The Prairies are known as the ‘Granaries of the World’.

Answer:

The prairies are known as granaries of the world due to surplus wheat production. The farmers in prairies have large fields and they use scientific methods of cultivation. Machines like combines also help in increasing the production of wheat. The climate and soil is also suitable for production of crops.

(B) Give reasons

Rise of wool industry in the Velds.

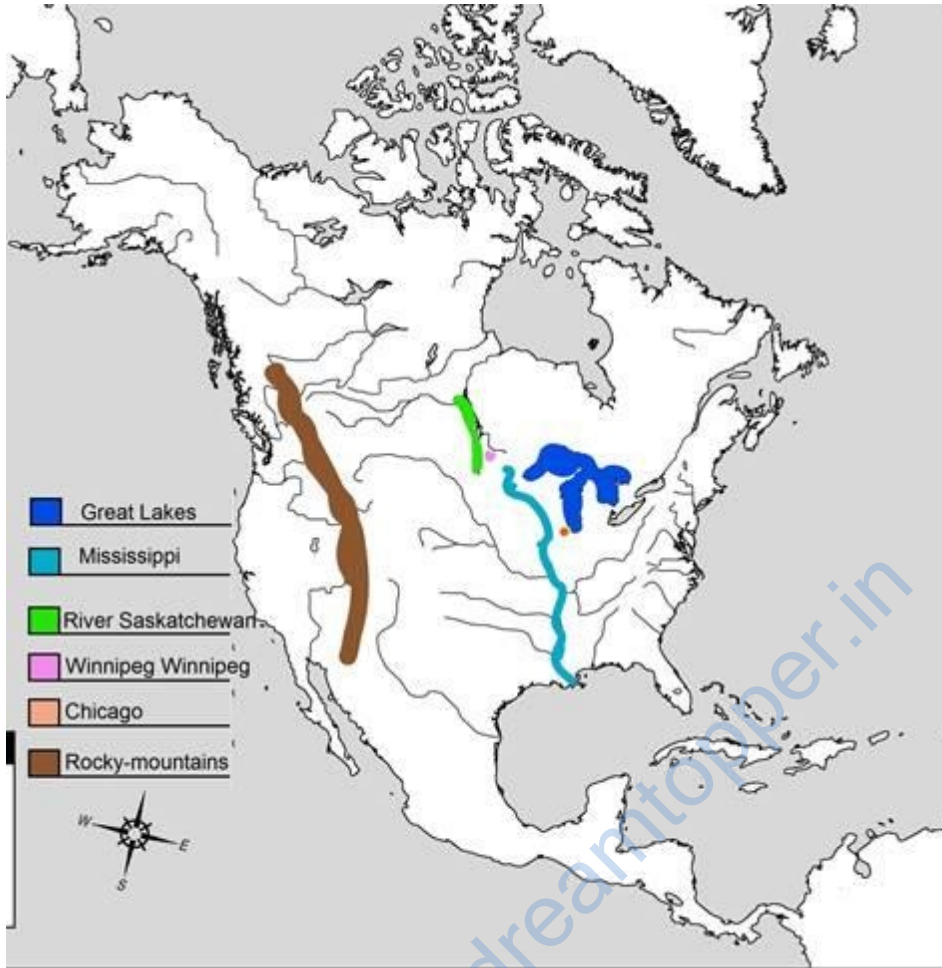
Answer:

Sheep rearing is one of the most important occupations for people of Velds. A special type of sheep called merino is also found there. The wool of merino is warm hence famous. The farmers in Velds rear sheep wool and sell it to textile industry which led to the rise of wool industry in Velds.

5. Map skills.

On an outline map of North America, mark the Rocky-mountains, the Great Lakes, river Mississippi, river Saskatchewan, the cities – Chicago and Winnipeg.

Answer:



6. For fun.

Make a grass whistle.

Answer:

1. Take a grass which is longer than 5 cm in length or simply take a grass longer than your thumb.
2. Make sure that the grass is wide, about 0.5 to 0.7 cm.
3. Narrow grass might be difficult to handle.
4. Put your thumbs together in a manner that your thumbs nails are towards your face.
5. Hold the one end of grass between your thumbs and let the other end hand downwards.

6. Now fold your palms in a manner that it looks like a cup (one palm over the other).
7. The cup should be tight.
8. Make sure you can only see the edge through the narrow opening in your palms.
9. Now blow gently through that opening.
10. You can feel the grass vibrating and a whistling sound. Your whistle is ready.

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