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GEOGRAPHY

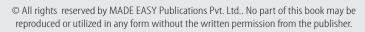
for

State Engineering Services Exams, SSC, PSUs, Banking, RRB and Other Exams

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Preface

This comprehensive textbook on **Geography** provides all the requirements of the students, i.e., comprehensive coverage of theory, fundamental concepts and objective type questions articulated in a lucid language. This concise presentation will help the readers grasp the topics of **Geography** with clarity and apply them with ease to solve objective questions quickly.

This book covers the syllabus of States Engineering Services Exams including APPSC, MPPSC, MPSC, BPSC, UPPSC; SSC, PSUs, Banking, RRB and other examinations. All the topics are given the emphasis they deserve so that mere reading of the book clarifies all the concepts. The book incorporates theory as well as previous years of various State Engineering Services Examinations, UPSC ESE, etc. It also contains plenty of objective type questions for practice. This book has been very well targeted for aforementioned exams covering all the aspects of subject matter required for these examinations.

We have put-in our sincere efforts to present detailed theory and MCQs without compromising the accuracy of answers. For the interest of the readers, some notes, do you know and interesting facts are given in the comprehensive manner.

Our team has made their best efforts to remove all possible errors of any kind. Nonetheless, we would highly appreciate and acknowledge if you find and share with us any printing and conceptual errors. It is impossible to thank all the individuals who helped us, but we would like to sincerely thank all the authors, editors and reviewers for putting-in their efforts to publish this book.

> **B. Singh (Ex. IES)** CMD, MADE EASY Group



CONTENTS

GEOGRAPHY



Physical Geography

01 - 17

The Universe	2
The Solar System	2
The Sun	3
The Planets	3
Some other members of the Solar System	5
Latitude	6
Longitude	6
International Date Line	7
Motions of Earth	7
Varying Lengths of Day and Night	7
Structure of Earth	7
Formation of Continents	8
Earthquake	9

Volcanoes9
Atmosphere10
Composition of Atmosphere10
Structure of Atmosphere11
Types of Clouds12
Rainfall13
Types of Precipitation14
Pressure Belts15
Wind Belts (Planetary Winds)16
Solar Constant16
Albedo16
Latitudinal Variation in the Energy Budget16
Cyclones16
Anticyclones17

Indian Geography

18 - 66

India: General Facts	18
Physical Geography of India	20
Physiographic Divisions of India	.21
The Himalayas	.21
The Great Plain of India	.23
The Peninsular Plateau	.24

The Great Indian Desert	25
The Coastal Plains	25
The Islands of India	26
Drainage System of India	. 27
Drainage System of India	
	27



PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

The Universe

Our earth, with all its diversity along with other planets and their satellites, the sun, the moon, the many galaxies (huge groups of millions of stars) form the Universe. There are also countless asteroids and comets in orbit around the Sun. All these are also part of the Universe. It extends much farther than can be seen by the most powerful telescope. No one knows where the Universe ends.

When we look up at the sky on a clear night, we see many points of light – most of which are stars. Stars are huge balls of bright, hot glowing glasses. The 'Sun' is also a star. It is the star nearest to earth – about 150 mk (million kilometers) away.

The sun, the moon and all those objects shining in the night sky are called celestial bodies. Some celestial bodies are very big and hot. They are made up of gasses.

They have their own heat and light, which they emit in large amounts. These celestial bodies are called stars. The Sun is a star.

While watching the night sky, you may notice various patterns formed by different groups of stars. These are called constellations. Ursa Major or Big Bear is one such constellation.

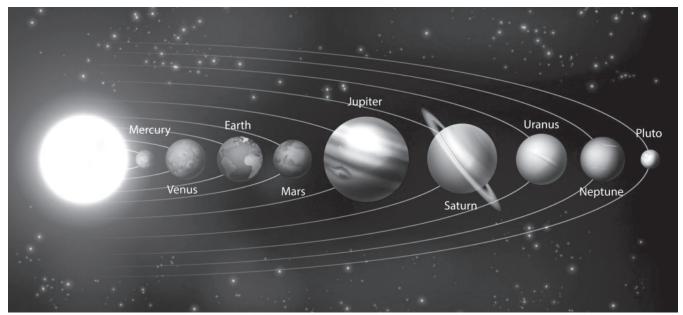
One of the most easily recognisable constellations is the Saptarishi (Seven-sages). It is a group of seven stars that forms a part of the Ursa Major Constellation.

Some celestial bodies do not have their own heat and light. They are lit by the light of the stars. Such bodies are called planets. The word 'planet' comes from the Greek word "Planetai" which means 'wanderers'.

The earth on which we live is a planet. It gets all its heat and light from the sun, which is our nearest star.

The Solar System

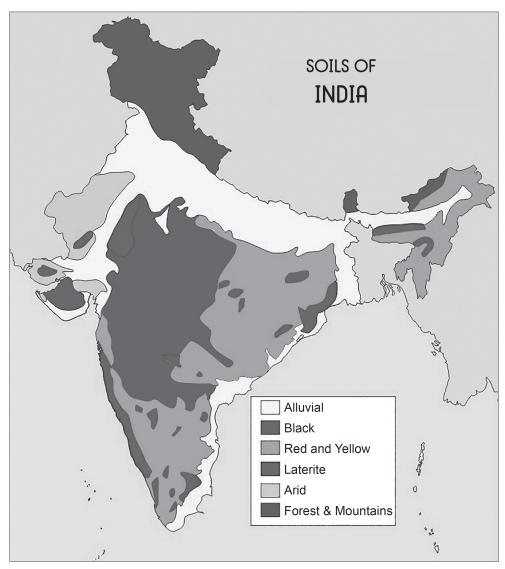
A Solar System consists of a star in the middle with a number of planets orbiting around it. The earth is a part of its Solar System. It is one of the eight planets of the Solar System that has the Sun (a star) in the middle and the eight planets moving around it.



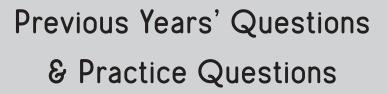


Soils of India

- The process of formation of soils is called Pedogenesis.
- The regional variations in soil composition and texture in vast country like India are an obvious outcome of variety of landforms and climatic conditions found here.



Classification of Soils		
Soil	Details	
Black Cotton Soils	 The local name of these soils is <i>Regur</i> in Maharashtra. It is also known as 'Cotton Soil'. It is formed by weathering and erosion of volcanic lavas and hence found mainly in Deccan lava plateau. It is the most suitable soil for Dry Farming. These are Dark black in colour due to the presence of "Titaniferrous Magnetite", a compound of Iron and Aluminium. These have high moisture retaining capacity, therefore suitable for Cotton, coarse grains, sunflower and citrus fruits but not suitable for crops like rice because such soils are not suitable for heavy irrigation. 	



- **1.** What percentage of the country should be covered with forests in order to maintain the ecological balance?
 - (a) 23% (b) 31%
 - (c) 33% (d) 47%

[APPSC (AEE) : 2016]

Ans. (c)

- 33% of the total geographical area should be under forest/tree cover in order to maintain ecological balance.
- The forest cover includes all lands which have a tree canopy density of 10 percent and above and have a minimum area of one hectare.
- Forest cover in India is 7,13,789 sq km which accounts to 21.71% of total geographical area of the country.
- **2.** The Indo-Gangetic plains, also known as the Great Plains, are large alluvial plains dominated by which of the three main rivers ?
 - (a) Ganga, Yamuna and Gandaki
 - (b) Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra
 - (c) Ganga, Yamuna and Hooghly
 - (d) Ganga, Kosi and Gandaki

[APPSC (AEE) : 2016]

Ans. (b)

The Indo-Gangetic plain is irrigated by three important rivers, the Ganges, Indus and Brahmaputra.

3. In terms of proven Coal reserves, the position of India amongst the countries of the World is

(a)	1	(b)	3
(C)	5	(d)	7

[APPSC (AEE) : 2016]

Ans. (c)

India holds 107,727 million tons (MMst) of proven coal reserves as of 2016, ranking 5th in the world and accounting for about 9% of the world's total coal reserves of 1,139,471 million tons (MMst).

- **4.** Which one of the below is not one of the most important components of Green Revolution ?
 - (a) HYV seeds
 - (b) Chemical fertilizers
 - (c) Irrigation facilities
 - (d) Credit facilities

[APPSC (AEE) : 2016]

Ans. (d)

The most important components of green revolution are:

- HYV seeds
- Irrigation Facilities
- Chemical Fertilizers
- Consolidation of Holding
- Land Reforms
- **5.** Which of the following is not a major objective of a multipurpose river valley project?
 - (a) Flood control
 - (b) Power generation
 - (c) Pest control
 - (d) Irrigation

[BPSC (AE) : 1995]

114 State Engineering Services Exams

Ans. (c)

Major objective of multipurpose river project are:

- To produce irrigation facilities.
- Flood control
- Produce hydro-electric power.
- To store water which might be used when it is in greater demand.
- **6.** Which of the following layers of the atmosphere blocks most of the ultraviolet rays from space?
 - (a) Stratosphere
 - (b) Troposphere
 - (c) Ozonosphere
 - (d) None of the above

[BPSC (AE) : 1995]

Ans. (c)

A layer of ozone in the upper atmosphere absorbs UV radiation and prevents most of it from reaching the Earth.

- **7.** What is the average temperature of the sun's surface in our solar system?
 - (a) 105000°C (b) 55000°C
 - (c) 10500°C (d) 5500°C

[BPSC (AE) : 1995]

Ans. (d)

Average temperature of the sun's surface is 5500 Degree Celsius.

- 8. The Nanga Prabat Peak is situated in the
 - (a) Karadoram Range
 - (b) Zaskar Range
 - (c) Ladakh Range
 - (d) Himalayas

[BPSC (AE) : 2001]

Ans. (d)

- Nanga Parbat is located in the Himalayas and is the 9th highest peak in the world.
- It is the western anchor of the entire Himalayan mountain range.

9. Lac is a product of

- (a) tropical evergreen forests
- (b) tropical deciduous forests

- (c) tropical thorn forests
- (d) tropical mountain vegetation

[BPSC (AE) : 2001]

- 10. Melons grow best in
 - (a) Sandy soils
 - (b) Alluvial soils
 - (c) Black soils
 - (d) Laterite soils

[BPSC (AE): 2001]

Ans. (a)

- The best soil for planting watermelon is sandy-loam soil.
- Watermelon does well on fertile soils that will not retain too much water.
- **11.** The ratio of saline water and fresh water respectively on the globe is
 - (a) 90% and 10%
 - (b) 95% and 5%
 - (c) 98% and 2%
 - (d) 97% and 3%

[BPSC (AE) : 2001]

Ans. (d)

Nearly 97% of total water on the globe is saltwater and only 3% is fresh water.

12. Meteors in the atmosphere are

- (a) pieces of stony or metallic rocks
- (b) shining droplets of water
- (c) shining balls of ice
- (d) pieces of glasses

[BPSC (AE) : 2001]

Ans. (a)

- A meteor is a streak of light in the sky caused by a meteoroid crashing through Earth's atmosphere.
- Meteoroids are lumps of rock or iron that orbit the sun.

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Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

[ESE:2011]

Ans. (d)

River	Tributaries		
Indus	Shyok, Zastar, Astor, Kurram, Gilgit etc.		
Ganga	Gandak, Kosi, Ramganga, Gomti etc.		
Krishna	Musi, Muneru, Tungabhadra, Bhima etc.		

178. Consider the following statements:

- 1. In India, mica production is confined to Bihar only.
- 2. In India, gold production is confined to Karnataka only.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

[ESE:2011]

Ans. (d)

- India is the leading producer of sheet mica. In India, mica is produced mainly in the states of Bihar, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh.
- In India, Gold is mainly found in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- The three important gold fields in India are:
 - 1. Kolar gold fields in Karnataka
 - 2. Hutti gold fields in Karnataka
 - 3. Ramgiri gold fields in Andhra Pradesh

179. Consider the following:

1. Flying squirrel 2. Porcupine

3. Barking deer

Which of the above is/are naturally found in India?

(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

[ESE:2011]

Flying squirrel: It is a small sociable animal with brown furry and white belly. Its eyes are large and dark.

In India, It can only be seen in the **cotigao** wildlife sanctuary in Goa.

Porcupines: These are rodents with a coat of sharp spines, or quills, that defend them from predators.

Porcupines are third largest of the rodents, after capybara and beaver.

They are found in the tropical and temperature areas of India, Italy, Canada, Africa etc.

Barking deer: The **Barking Deer** or Indian Muntjac is the most numerous deer species. It has soft, short, brownish or grayish hair. It is omnivorous.

Barking deer is mainly found in India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, China, Vietnam etc.

- **180.** Rosewood, mahogany and ebony are essentially obtained from
 - (a) montane subtropical forest
 - (b) tropical rain forest
 - (c) tropical moist deciduous forest
 - (d) tropical dry deciduous forest

[ESE:2011]

Ans. (b)

Rosewood, Mahogany and **ebony** are essentially obtained from tropical rain forest.

These forests usually occur in areas receiving more than 200cm of rainfall and having a temperature of 15-30°C. In India, these forests are mainly found on the western slopes of the western ghats in states such as Maharashtra, Kerala and Karnataka.

These forest are also found in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Tripura, West Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

- **181.** With reference to the climate of India, the 'Western Disturbances' originate over
 - (a) Arabian Sea (b) Baltic Sea
 - (c) Capian Sea (d) Mediterranean Sea

Ans. (d)

138 State Engineering Services Exams

Ans. (d)

'Western disturbances' originating from the Mediterranean sea, that brings sudden winter rain and snow to the northwestern parts of the Indian subcontinent. This is a non-monsoonal precipitation pattern driven by the westerlies. This disturbances mainly covers the areas of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal.

Western disturbances are very important to the development of the Rabi crop, which includes one important crop, wheat.

- **182.** The equator passes through
 - (a) Ethiopia (b) Kenya
 - (c) Nigeria (d) Sudan

[ESE: 2011]

(b) Ans.

In African continent, equator passes through six countries, i.e. Somalia, Kenya, Uganda, Dominican Republic Congo, Congo, Gabon.

- 183. Which one of the following States has the broadest continental shelf that extends to more than 100 km, from the shore?
 - (a) Andhra Pradesh
 - (b) Gujarat
 - (c) Kerala
 - (d) Tamil Nadu

[ESE: 2012]

Ans. (b)

- 184. The climate of India is mainly tropical because of the
 - (a) Seasonal influence of jet streams
 - (b) Location of the Himalayas in its north
 - (c) Over-powering influence of Indian Ocean
 - (d) Country being a part of Asian landmass

[ESE: 2012]

Ans. (b)

India has a tropical monsoonal climate due to presence of Himalaya in its north. It obstructs the way of the cold polar winds, as a result the Indian sub-continent is saved from the Polar waves.

If Himalaya is not present in India's north than India's climate would be temperate.

185. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Malwa region is drained by the tributaries of Son river.
- 2. The Chhotanagpur region is drained by the tributaries of Mahanadi river.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

[ESE: 2012]

Ans. (d)

186. Which of the following rivers originates near Mahabaleshwar?

- (a) Godavari (b) Krishna
- (c) Kaveri (d) Tapti

[ESE: 2012]

Ans. (b)

River	Origin	
Krishna	Mahabaleshwar (Maharashtra)	
Godavari	Trimbak (Maharashtra)	
Kaveri	Kaveripattanam (near Brahmagiri hills in Karnataka)	
Tapti	Multai (Madhya Pradesh)	



- **187.** With reference to the demographic profile of India, which of the following statements is/are correct?
 - 1. According to 2011 census, 82% of Indians are literate.
 - 2. Sex ratio of the population has increased during the period 2001-2011.
 - 3. The gender gap in literacy has not declined during the period 2001-2011.
 - Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 - (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 (d) 3 only

[ESE: 2012]

Ans. (b)

According to Census 2011,

Census	2001	2011
Sex Ratio	933	940
Literacy	2001	2011
National Average Literacy	64.83%	74.04%
Male Literacy	75.26%	82.14%
Female Literacy	53.67%	65.46%
Gender gap in Literacy	21.59	16.68

- **188.** Among the following regions, which one receives comparatively lowest average rainfall from June to September?
 - (a) South West Bengal
 - (b) Eastern Uttar Pradesh
 - (c) Western Uttar Pradesh
 - (d) Punjab

[ESE:2012]

Ans. (d)

- **189.** Which one of the following States alone accounts for more than 80% of the country's resources of mineral gypsum?
 - (a) Andhra Pradesh (b) Madhya Pradesh
 - (c) Rajasthan (d) Uttarakhand

[ESE:2012]

Ans. (c)

- **190.** A geographical region has the following climatic characteristics:
 - 1. Uniformity of temperature throughout the year.
 - 2. Rainfall throughout the year with two periods of maximum occurrence.
 - 3. Least rainfall at June and December solstices.

Which one of the following climates corresponds to the above characteristics?

- (a) Equatorial (b) Mediterranean
- (c) China type (d) Tropical monsoon

[ESE : 2012]

Ans. (a)

Equatorial Climate: This type of climate is characterised by uniformity of high temperature and Rainfall throughout the year with two periods of maximum occurrence. This region receives least rainfall at June and December solstices. In this type of climate, there is no winter season. The average temperature of the year is around 27°C and the annual rainfall is above 200 cm. This region receives mainly convectional rainfall.

- **191.** With reference to atmospheric pressure, consider the following statements:
 - 1. Atmospheric pressure decreases towards poles.
 - 2. High pressure is experienced over continents during winter.
 - 3. All deserts experience low pressure throughout the year.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 2 only (d) none

[ESE:2012]

Ans. (c)

Atmospheric pressure increases towards poles and it remains high over continents during winter. Some of the deserts like Sahara, Thar etc. does not experience low pressure throughout the year.

192. If the Earth does not incline on its own axis:

- (a) All the seasons would have been of same duration.
- (b) The seasons would not have changed.
- (c) The summers would have been of longer duration.
- (d) The winters would have been of longer duration.

[ESE:2012]

Ans. (b)

If earth is not inclined in its axis, than day and night phenomena and occurrence of seasonal changes affected.