

NCERT QUESTIONS WITH SOLUTIONS

1. What, in your opinion, are two important geographical features of India? Why do you think they are important?

Ans. Two important geographical features of India are the Himalayas and the Northern Plains. The Himalayas protect India from cold winds from the Central Asia and also bring rainfall by blocking the monsoon winds. The Northern Plains are very fertile due to the rivers like the Ganga, making it suitable for agriculture and supporting a large population.

2. What do you think India might have looked like if the Himalayas did not exist? Write a short note or sketch a drawing to express your imagination.

Ans. If the Himalayas did not exist, India might have been a dry and cold region like Central Asia. The monsoon winds would not have been trapped, resulting in less rainfall. There would have been more deserts and fewer rivers, and farming would have been difficult. The northern region would not be as populated as it is today.

3. India has been called a 'mini-continent'. Based on what you've read, why do you think this is so?

Ans. India is called a 'mini-continent' because of its vast size and varied geographical features. It has mountains in the north,

deserts in the west, fertile plains, plateaus in the south, and long coastlines. It also has a great diversity of climates, languages, cultures, and traditions, making it feel like a continent within a country.

4. Follow one of India's big rivers from where it starts to where it meets the ocean. What are the different ways in which people might utilise this river along its journey?

Ans. Let's take the Ganga River. It starts from the Gangotri Glacier in the Himalayas and flows through Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and West Bengal before emptying into the Bay of Bengal. Along its journey, people use the river for drinking water, farming (irrigation), bathing, religious rituals, fishing, and transportation.

5. Why is the southern part of India referred to as a peninsular plateau?

Ans. The southern part of India is called a peninsular plateau because it is a raised landmass that is surrounded by water on three sides the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal, and the Indian Ocean. It is made of hard rocks and is older than the northern plains, with hills, rivers, and valleys.

6. Which UNESCO Heritage Site mentioned in this chapter did you find more interesting? Write a short paragraph to describe what about it is interesting.

Ans. I found the Western Ghats very interesting. They are a UNESCO World Heritage Site because they are one of the world's eight "hottest hotspots" of biological diversity. They have many types of plants and animals that are not found anywhere else. They are also very important for controlling climate and rainfall in the region.

7. Despite having such different regions (mountains, deserts, plains, coasts), India remains one country. How do you think our geography has helped unite people?

Ans. India's geography has helped people to connect and depend on each other. Rivers from the mountains bring water to the plains, while crops grown in the plains are shared with hilly and desert areas. Coastal areas help with trade and travel. Over time, people from different regions have shared ideas, food, festivals, and traditions, helping to unite India as one nation.