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PAKISTAN STUDIES NOTES FOR 9TH CLASS

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Chapter-3

PAKISTAN: LAND AND ENVIRONMENT

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Q1. Identify the location of Pakistan with respects to its neighbors.

Ans: Location of Pakistan w.r.t its neighbors:

Pakistan occupies a significant position in the region. In the north and north-east, Pakistan shares a **592 km** long border with the Peoples Republic of China.

In the north-west a narrow strip of Afghanistan's **Wakhan** area about **16 km** wide at its narrowest point, separates Pakistan from the area which is now a part of the independent Central Asian Muslim state of Tajikistan.

In the west nearly **2250 km** long borderline known as the **Durand Line (demarcated in 1893 by the British government)** separates Pakistan from Afghanistan. Pakistan shares **850 km** border line with Iran.

Pakistan has about **1600 km** long common border with India. Arabian Sea lies in the south of Pakistan.

Q2. Describe the importance of location of Pakistan.

Ans: Importance of location of Pakistan:

Pakistan is surrounded by the three very important countries of the world - Russia, China and India. Most of the world trade between east and west countries passes through Indian Ocean. Therefore, Karachi and Gwadar sea ports are considered very important ports of the region.

Western powers attach great importance to Pakistan. Only Pakistan is in a position to provide transit trade to Afghanistan and the Central Asian States, as these countries are either landlocked or have no warm water seaports.

Pakistan commands the sea lanes from oil rich Gulf States including Saudi Arabia to the Arabian Sea and most of the air traffic between East and West. Most of the airplanes use Pakistan's air space to travel between east and west.

Q3. Describe the major physical features of the land of Pakistan.

Ans: Physical features:

On the basis of physical features, the land of Pakistan is divided into five different regions.

● **Mountainous Region:**

This division includes the northern, north-western and south-western mountain ranges.

i. **Plateaus:**

There are two big plateau regions in Pakistan these are the Potwar Plateau and the Balochistan Plateau.

ii. **Plains:**

The plains area of Pakistan is divided into two main parts, first is called Upper Indus Plain and the second one is Lower Indus Plain.

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iii. Deserts:

Thai Cholistan, Nara, Tharparkar and Kharan deserts extend over large areas of Pakistan.

iv. Coastal Region:

This division includes the coastal areas of Sind and Balochistan.

Q4. Write a note on the climate and weather of Pakistan.

Ans: Climate and Weather:

i. Climate:

Climate is the average weather or the regular variation in weather in a particular area (normally determined by the meteorologist after a study extended over 30 years).

ii. Weather:

Weather is the daily state of atmosphere in a particular area with regard to temperature, cloudiness, rainfall, wind and other meteorological conditions.

Q5. Explain the major zones on the basis of temperature variation in Pakistan.

Ans: Temperature Zones:

Pakistan is divided into FOUR major zones on the basis of temperature variation:

i. Highlands (Northern and North-Western Mountains Region):

This region consists of the areas of very high altitude. It is the coldest region of the country. On very high altitudes mountain peaks remain snow-capped throughout the year. These mountains are 4000 to 6000 meters high, and have Arctic Climate (an average temperature of minus 0° Celsius). The valleys located in the midst of these mountains have an average altitude of 2000 meters. Winters sustain from 6 to 8 months. But summer season is of small period but is very pleasant one.

ii. Plains (Upper and Lower Indus Plains):

The Upper Indus Basin has a sub-tropical climate. Summers are extremely hot but winters are moderately cold. Temperature reaches its climax in the month of June. Temperature in the peak summer months (May, June and July) varies from 25°C to 40°C.

iii. Balochistan Plateau and Thar Desert:

The Balochistan Plateau and the Desert of Thar are extremely hot and dry in summers. Sibbi and Jacobabad are placed among the hottest points on the surface of the globe. Temperature raises up to 50°C, and even more, occasionally. Nights are comparatively cool and there is a marked difference between the day and night temperatures. Winters are moderately cold, but very short lived. Certain points, like the valley of Quetta, have an extremely cold weather and receive occasional snowfalls. South eastern Balochistan and south western desert area has a markedly dry and hot arid climate. Hot dusty wind blows continuously from mid-May to mid-September. Temperature is very high.

iv. Coastal Areas:

This region comprises the Indus Delta and the entire coastal area including Karachi and Makran coastline. This area, naturally, has a maritime climate. Maritime

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climate is always marked with moderate level of temperature but high level of humidity. Cool breeze blows from the sea towards the land. This helps to keep the temperature low in the hot summer months. Mean monthly temperature is 32°C. May, June and October are the hottest months. High temperature in October is caused due to dry winds from the south-eastern desert.

Q6. Narrate the division of the land of Pakistan into major climatic regions.

Ans: Climatic Regions:

On the basis of climatic conditions the land of Pakistan is divided into four major regions:

- i. Sub-tropical continental highland type.
- ii. Sub-tropical continental plateau type.
- iii. Sub-tropical continental plain/ low-land type.
- iv. Sub-tropical coastal type.

Q7. Write a comprehensive note on the glaciers of Pakistan?

Ans: Glaciers:

Most of the major rivers of Pakistan receive water or originate from the glaciers of Himalaya, Karakoram and Hindu Kush mountain ranges.

i. Glaciers of the Karakoram Range:

Largest glaciers of the Pakistan are located in Karakoram Range. Siachen is 72 miles long. The glacier's melt-waters are the main source of Shyok River. River Braldu originates from Biafo and River Hunza from Batura glaciers respectively.

ii. Glaciers of the Hindu Kush Range:

River Kunarh receives water from Tirchmir and Rich and other glaciers of Hindu Kush Range.

iii. Glacier of the Himalaya Range:

Southern Rupal is a glacier of the Himalaya range, its water falls in the River Astore and Northern Rupal falls in the River Indus.

Q8. Discuss the pattern of drainage system of Pakistan.

Ans: Drainage System:

Pakistan's drainage system is divided into three parts:

i. River Indus and its tributaries:

● **River Indus and its Tributaries:**

The Indus is one of the longest rivers of the world. It originates in Tibet from Lake Mansarowar, cuts kilometers deep gorges into the world's highest mountain ranges, Karakoram and Himalaya. Flowing in east-west direction the river reaches a point named Sazin and takes a southward turn.

The course of river Indus from Sazin to Kalabagh, according to experts, is the world's most tortuous and intricate one, it is in this area that the Indus has cut a gigantic 6500 meters deep gorge at Dasu (district Kohistan). In this area the river flows in an extremely deep but narrow channel of 400 meter (0.4 km) which expands to an average of 16 km as the river moves downward from Kalabagh and passes through the plains.

● **Tributaries of the River Indus:**

Flowing, mostly in north-south direction from Kalabagh to the Arabian Sea the River Indus receives water from a number of its tributaries from east (left) and

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west (right) bank. Right bank rivers, comparatively small in size, are the following (in descending order); River Gilgit, River Kabul, River Kurram and River Gomal.

Indus receives the largest part of its water from left bank tributaries, these rivers deposit enormous quantities of water and sediment in the Indus. Sediment deposited by these tributaries has played important role in the formation of the Indus plain.

Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas and Sutlej are the five left bank tributaries from which the Indus receives most of its water, but the Beas does not flow on the land of Pakistan as it joins the Sutlej before the Sutlej enters into Pakistan area. Other left bank tributaries join one another at different points and form one great mainstream at **Mithankot**. This enormous body of water is now called **Panjnad**.

The **Panjnad** flows 72 kilometers downstream and falls into the Indus. From this point onward no other tributary joins the Indus till it falls in the Arabian Sea.

ii. Internal irrigation system:

● Inland Drainage System:

The drainage system covering the northern parts of the south-western Balochistan, including **Chaghi** and **Ras Koh** mountains in the north and **Siahian** Mountain in the south, is called the Inland Drainage System. This area is dry and arid; the rivers are not very big in size and do not fall in the sea. Some of these rivers remain dry throughout the year except for a small period of time when they receive rain water and flow for sometimes; others get absorbed in the desert sand and very few are able to complete their journey and fall in lakes.

Salt water lakes, locally called **Hamuns**, are shallow and marshy. The most well-known **Hamuns** of the area are **Hamun Mashkel**, **Hamun Lora** and **Hamun Murgho**.

iii. Irrigation system of the Southern Balochistan:

● Drainage System of Southern Balochistan:

The rivers of Southern Balochistan form their independent drainage systems. Following are the most important river systems of the area: **Hab**, **Porali**, **Hingol** and **Dasht**. All these rivers originate from the mountain ranges of the southern Balochistan, some of these die in the desert sand while the others are able to make way to the Arabian Sea. Since this region has extremely hot and dry weather the mountain peaks in this region receive no snowfall, the streams flow only when the rain falls on mountain peaks.

The **Kirthar** mountain range is located in the east of the **River Hab**; **Pab range** lies to the west of the river. **Hab Dam** built across the river supplies water to the adjoining areas of the province (Balochistan) as well as the city of Karachi. The **Porali River** flows in the valley between the **Pub** and the **Hala** Mountain ranges; the River ends where the fertile **Lasbela Plain** starts and extends northward.

The **Hingol River** originates in the Central Brahvi Hills. **Hala hills** lie in the east of the River Hingol. The Central Makran and Makran Coast Hills lie in the west of the River Hingol. This river flows only in the rainy season. Flowing between the Central Makran and Makran Coast ranges Rivers Ketch and Nihing join at a point located at a distance of 50 km west of Turbat, henceforth this stream is called River Dasht. Mirani Dam has been built on this river.

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Q9. Enlist the major natural physical regions of the land of Pakistan.

Ans: Major Physical Regions:

The land of Pakistan is divided into five main physical regions, these are:

- i. Plains.
- ii. Deserts.
- iii. Coastal Regions.
- iv. Humid and Semi-humid Mountain Regions.
- v. Arid and Semi-arid Mountain Regions.

Q10. Write a note on the following:

- i. **The Upper Indus Plain**
- ii. **The Lower Indus Plain**

Ans: i. The Upper Indus Plain:

The Upper Indus Plain consists of the area from Attock to Mithankot. Most of the area of Punjab is covered by this category. This plain is about 180 to 300 meters high from the sea level.

The five big rivers of the Punjab irrigate this plain. Soil of the plain is mostly fertile and alluvial, and it is rated among the most fertile regions on the globe.

ii. The Lower Indus Plain:

The area in the south of Mithankot down to the Arabian Sea is called the Lower Indus Plain. Most of the area of the Sind province forms a part of the Lower Indus Plain. Eastern tributaries of the River Indus join it near Mithankot and make a large stream.

From here downstream the Indus carries an enormous amount of water. The river flows very slowly and the silt carried by it is largely deposited on its bed, thereby raising it above the sandy plain. The land on either side is, therefore, protected by the construction of embankments and bunds. If any of these bunds give way during floods, large areas are inundated by the river water and there is great loss of life and property.

Areas of the plain irrigated by canals taken from River Indus are extremely fertile. The Indus is divided into many branches near Thatta, forms a delta and falls in the Arabian Sea.

Q11. Give an account of the northern mountain ranges in Pakistan.

Ans: The Northern Mountains:

World's highest mountain range Himalaya is located in the north of Pakistan. Mountains of this range form a 2700 kilometer long natural border in the northern region of South Asia.

Himalaya range runs in east-west direction forming a gigantic bow. Winter sustains from 6 to 8 months in this area.

Sub-ranges of the northern mountains:

The range is further divided into four sub-ranges.

- i. The Shiwalik Range
- ii. The Pir Panjal Range
- iii. The Central Himalayas
- iv. The Karakoram Range

Murree and Hazara Hills are a part of the Pir Panjal Mountain Range. Throughout the winter season the peaks remain snow-capped. Abundant vegetation and forests add to the scenic beauty and can provide good source of foreign exchange earnings by developing tourism on international standards.

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Nanga Parbat is the highest and most famous peak of the Central Himalaya Range. Beautiful Kashmir Valley is located between the Pir Panjal and Greater Himalaya Ranges.

Karakoram Range located in the north of the Central Himalayas, includes some parts of northern Kashmir and Gilgit.

Average altitude of the Karakoram Mountains is 7000 meters. This range extends 400 kilometers from Hunza to Shayok. World's second highest mountain peak and a great tourist and mountaineers attraction- the Mount Godwin Austin commonly known as K2, lies in this range.

Major part of the Pakistan's natural and man-made forests is found in this area, these forests are a good source of firewood and timber. People in the northern areas wear heavy dress, outdoor games like goat-killing (buz kushi), golf and polo are played only in specific seasons and in the areas where playgrounds are available.

During winters people spend most of their time within their homes, in some areas people migrate to plains to earn a living. Due to exquisite scenic beauty and extremely pleasant weather the northern areas of Pakistan offer a number of attractions for the tourists, e.g. Murree, Ayubia, Nathiagali, Abbotabad, Shugran, Naran, Kalam and the valleys of Hunza and Chitral.

Q12. Write a comprehensive note on the Hindu Kush Mountain Range.

Ans: The Hindu Kush Mountain Range:

The Hindu Kush constitutes the main range of the western border mountains. Most of these ranges are located in Afghanistan. In Pakistan territory they send off a number of branches south towards Chitral, Dir and Swat. Trich Mir peak in the north is the highest peak of the range (about 7700 meters). These peaks remain snow-capped throughout the year.

The height decreases southwards in Mohmand territory and Malakand Hills to only 1500 meters. South of the river Kabul, the north-south strike changes to the west-east aligned Safed Koh Range.

Q13. Write a comprehensive note on the Safed Koh Range.

Ans: Safed Koh Range:

Mountains of this range are located in the South of the Kabul River. They lie in east-west direction. Their height ranges up to 3600 meters above sea level. These are called White Mountains (Safed Koh) because their peaks are always covered with snow.

The Khyber Pass situated in the close vicinity of Peshawar is the major pass that connects Afghanistan with Pakistan. This pass located in the Safed Koh Range is 48 km long. The River Kurram flows in the south of this mountain range. Kohat valley is located at the extreme end of the Kurram Pass which connects Pakistan with Afghanistan.

Q14. Write a comprehensive note on the Waziristan Hills.

Ans: Waziristan Hills:

The fertile Peshawar valley lies in the south of the Kabul River. The valley is irrigated by the River Swat and the Warsak Dam, built on River Kabul. Forming a rampart between Pakistan and Afghanistan, Waziristan Hills lie between the Gomal and Kurram rivers along the Safed Koh. This area is very rich in mineral wealth.

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Bannu near Tochi Pass and Dera Ismail Khan near Gomal Pass are the two most important cities of the area. Kurrum Dam and the Kurrum River are the main sources of irrigation in the Bannu valley.

Q15. What shortly about Balochistan Mountain Ranges?

Ans: Balochistan Mountain Ranges:

The Sulaiman Range lies in the east of the upper Balochistan mountain ranges and the north-eastern part of Balochistan. Toba Kakar Mountains are in the north-west. The Lower Hills include the eastern slants of the Sulaiman Range.

Low altitude hill ranges of Makran, Kharan and Chaghi lie in the west. Pab and Kirthar Mountain Ranges are in the south-east.

Q16. Give the location and area of the Salt Range of Pakistan.

Ans: The Salt Range:

The Salt Range begins in the east at Tilla Jogi and Bakralla ridges and extends to the west of the River Jhelum. After covering some distance it turns north-west and crosses the Indus at Kala Bagh.

On the west bank of the Indus the Salt Range extends towards south, covering the districts of Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan in the KP Province. Average height of the Plateau and the hills of the region is 671 meters, but at a point near Sakesar it rises to about 1525 meters above sea level.

Q17. Narrate the arid regions of Pakistan. Enlist some of them.

Ans: Arid Regions:

The areas receiving less than 12cm rain per year are termed as arid regions. Following areas of Pakistan fall in this category:

- **The Suleiman Range:**

The Suleiman Range lies in the west (on the right bank) of the river Indus. Takht-e-Suleiman is the highest peak of the range (height 3535 meters).

- **Kirthar Hills:**

Dry Kirthar Hills lie in the south of the Suleiman Range.

Q18. What do you mean by the term "Environment"?

Ans: Meaning of Environment:

"The natural conditions, such as air, water and land, in which people, animals and plants live." Environment hazards are of two kinds; of natural origin and of human origin.

Q19. Explain how water-logging and salinity are the main hazards to human environment?

Ans: Water-logging:

When the sub-soil water table rises so high that it comes very close to the surface level, the condition is called water-logging, this is a very dangerous disease of the soil as it makes agriculture almost impossible.

Salinity:

Another disease directly related to water-logging is salinity; salts present in the lower layers of the earth get dissolved in the water and water brings these salts to the surface of the earth, the water evaporates due to sun, leaving behind the salt deposits on the surface of the soil. The salt layer keeps thickening and takes away all the fertility of the land and this makes the land infertile.

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Earthen (*katcha*) canals are the main cause of water-logging and salinity. The water running in the canals keeps absorbing in the soil, causing the sub-soil water table to rise. Canal irrigation system was first introduced, in the area which is now Pakistan, in the year 1859.

The problem of water-logging and salinity started showing up in early years of the 20th century. Efforts to solve the problem started in the year 1912. Between the period from 1912 to 1954 different steps for the solution of the problem were taken; water level in the canals was lowered, earthen canals were lined with bricks or concrete, tube wells were installed and drains (*nullahs*) were built for draining the excessive water from the water-logged areas. More organized and systematic efforts started in 1953-54 under the Colombo Plan; land surveys were made and detailed maps prepared. These surveys revealed that 65000 sq kilometers of land had been affected by water-logging and salinity.

SCARP (Salinity Control and Reclamation Program):

SCARP (Salinity Control and Reclamation Program) was initiated for the control of water-logging and salinity as well as for the reclamation of the affected land. Under **SCARP 1 scheme** thousands of tube wells were installed, drains were built and flood information and control centres were established. About 4 million acres of land was thus secured with the help of embankments and tree plantation. The measures adopted by the governments with the help of international donor agencies helped fight the menace to a great extent but the problem was not fully solved, according to an estimate in the provinces of the Punjab and Sind hundred thousand acres of agricultural land is still being destroyed each year due to water-logging and salinity.

Q20. How is it possible to prevent deforestation?

Ans: Tree plantation is the best way to prevent deforestation. Trees prevent land erosion, improve atmosphere and increase rainfall. Tube-wells gradually bring the underground salts to the surface of the soil, these salts prevent plant growth.

Q21. Narrate the components of the environment.

Ans: Components of the Environment:

Two factors play important role in the formation of our environment:

i. Abiotic Factors:

For example natural properties of the soil, rocks, sunshine, water and air.

ii. Biotic Factors:

Humans, animals and plants.

Q22. Illustrate the main factors which cause changes in the environment?

Ans: Factors Causing Environment Changes:

Following factors cause changes in the environment:

- i.** Density of population.
- ii.** Ratio of urban and rural population.
- iii.** Urban and rural planning.
- iv.** Sanitary habits and disposal of the refuse.
- v.** Drainage and sewerage system.
- vi.** Energy consumption and resultant air pollution problems/ traffic.
- vii.** Industrial waste.

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- viii. Forests and plantation.
- ix. Rains and water courses
- x. Radiations and emission from electronic devices and machines.
- xi. Noise.

Q23. Elaborate "How does climate affect the human life"?

Ans: Impact of Climate and Environmental Pollution on Human Life:

The climate in different parts of the earth is not the same. It differs from place to place. These variations in the climate have deep effects on people and their way of life. We can study this difference in our own country.

In the northern and north western highlands people build houses with sloping roofs to make them safe from heavy rainfall and snowfall. In Karachi, Hyderabad and other Sind areas, sea breeze blows throughout the year, this reduces the effect of high temperature. Windows and ventilators are provided at such height in the houses as to receive maximum sea breeze.

To the south of the Hindu Kush there are a number of rivers which make the land fertile. They pass through Chitral, Swat and Dir. In the villages of these valleys people farm and cultivate land. River Indus provides Pakistan with its best agricultural land and irrigation system. That is why a very big portion of country's population lives in the Indus plains. Most of the big cities and towns of Pakistan are situated in this area.

Q24. Highlights the hazards caused for human life due to environmental pollution.

Ans: Hazards of Environment Pollution:

Following are some of the hazards caused for human life due to environment pollution:

i. Diseases:

- (a) Deformities of the newborn children.
- (b) Kidney disorders.
- (c) Disorders of the digestive system.
- (d) Disorders of the nervous system.

ii. Loss of Natural Resources:

- (a) Deforestation and destruction of plants.
- (b) Loss of fish and other marine life.
- (c) Reduction of the agriculture produce.

Q25. Narrate the area and population of Pakistan.

Ans: Area and population of Pakistan:

Pakistan is one of the large countries of South Asian region. It has an area of **796096 km²** and a population of **207,774,520** according to **2017** census. Pakistan is a federation comprising four provinces. Islamabad, the federal capital of Pakistan, is one of the most modern and elegantly planned capitals of the world.

According to 3rd June 1947 plan every area of the country became a part of Pakistan first and then it became a part of federation.

Q26. Write the characteristics of Thal desert briefly.

Ans: Thal:

A vast area of the Sindh Sagar Doab, stretched over the districts of Mianwali, Bhakkar, Khushab, Lieah and Muzzafar Garh is called Thal. Large tracts

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of land in this area are arid due to scarcity of water, rainfall is very low. Dust storms are frequent especially during the summer; large crescent shaped sand dunes are abundant. Some area of the desert has been irrigated with canals and tube wells but a larger portion is still barren.

Q27. Write the characteristics of Cholistan desert briefly.

Ans: Cholistan:

The area lying on the southern border of the former Bahawalpur Division (Districts of Bahawalpur, Bahawalnagar, and Rahim yar khan) is formed of vast tracts of barren land, marked with sand dunes. This area is called cholistan and this is in fact an extension of the Rajputana desert lying adjacent to it in the Indian territory. Rainfall is scanty and agriculture, absolutely poor due to scarcity of water, but the canal irrigated areas are fertile.

Q28. Write the characteristics of The Nara and Tharparker deserts briefly.

Ans: The Nara and Tharparker Deserts:

The southern border of district Khairpur in Sindh is known as Nara desert and a vast area in Mirpur Khas and Sangarh districts is known as Tharparker desert. Rainfall is extremely low; the area is full of crescent shaped yellow sand dunes. Vegetation is almost absent; nothing is seen except thorny bushes. Extremely hot winds blow at day time, these winds, locally called loo, make life uncomfortable.

Q29. Write the characteristics of Kharan desert briefly.

Ans: Kharan Desert:

Kharan Desert is located between the Ras Koh and Siahan hills and Khargoshkan Desert between the Ras Koh and Chaghi hills. Local people call them Dasht. Sometimes these areas do not receive rainfall for several consecutive years.

EXERCISE

Q1. Tick the correct option.

- i. Durand Line is _____ km long.
A. 1600 B. 1800 C. 2000 D. 2250
- ii. Sibbi and _____ are among the hottest places on the earth.
A. Quetta B. Lasbella
C. Jaccobabad D. Awaran
- iii. Murree and Hazara Hills are part of the _____ Mountain range.
A. Pir Panjal B. Greater Himalaya
C. Shiwalik D. Karakoram
- iv. K2 is the _____ highest mountain in the world.
A. First B. Second
C. Third D. Fourth
- v. The _____ mountain range makes the boundary line between Pakistan and Afghanistan.
A. Margalla B. Safed koh
C. Koh e Kirthar D. Koh e Suleman

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- vi. **The Thal desert is situated in the province of Pakistan.**
 A. Punjab B. Sindh
 C. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa D. Baluchistan
- vii. **The border line between Pakistan and China is _____ km long.**
 A. 592 B. 650 C. 700 D. 850
- viii. **The total area of Pakistan is _____ square Km.**
 A. 796096 B. 352025
 C. 333423 D. 780000
- ix. **The river Indus originates from lake _____.**
 A. Saiful Malook B. Indus
 C. Mansarowar D. Atta abad
- x. **At one point near Sakesar, the Salt range rises to the height of _____ meter from the sea level.**
 A. 1525 B. 500
 C. 2100 D. 1200
- xi. **The Muslim bagh and Ziarat hills are situated in the _____ plateau.**
 A. Balochistan B. Potohar
 C. Kalabagh D. Sindh
- xii. **Only _____ percent of the Pakistan area is covered with forests.**
 A. 4 B. 6 C. 8 D. 10
- xiii. **The only continent in the world so far immunes from deforestation is _____.**
 A. Antarctica B. Europe
 C. Asia D. Africa
- xiv. **The coastal line of Pakistan is _____ km long.**
 A. 300 B. 500 C. 700 D. 900
- xv. **The national bird of Pakistan is _____.**
 A. Sparrow B. Pigeon
 C. Dove D. Chikor

ANSWERS:

i. D	ii. C	iii. A	iv. B	v. B
vi. A	vii. A	viii. A	ix. C	x. A
xi. A	xii. A	xiii. A	xiv. C	xv. D

Q2. Answer these questions in 3 to 4 lines.

Q.a Narrate the location of Pakistan.

Ans: Location of Pakistan:

Pakistan lies between the latitudes of 23.45° to 37.05° north and between the longitudes of 60.50° to 77.50° east. The land of Pakistan stretches over 1600 km north to south and it is about 850 km wide from east to west.

Q.b Why are climatic changes caused?

Ans: Factors Responsible for Climatic Changes:

Following are the main factors responsible for determining the climate of an area and bringing about climatic changes i.e.

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- i. **Location:**
Distance from the equator, poles, sea and mountains etc.
- ii. **Altitude:**
Height above sea level.
- iii. **Air:**
General behaviour of the air which causes winds, cyclones thunderstorms, dust storms and monsoon, air pressure and humidity.
- iv. **Other factors:**
Water courses like rivers and streams, forests, properties of the soil and the earth crust. Density of the population, industrial establishments, town planning and energy consumption behaviour of the people living in the area.
- v. **Precipitation (rain, snow or hail):**
Precipitation phenomena are indirectly related with the factors mentioned above.

Q.c Write the names of the four temperature zones of Pakistan.

Ans: Temperature Zones:

Pakistan is divided into FOUR major zones on the basis of temperature variation:

- i. Highlands (Northern and North-Western Mountains Region)
ii. Plains (Upper and Lower Indus Plains)
iii. Balochistan Plateau and Thar Desert
iv. Coastal Areas

Q.d Write the names of any three important glaciers of Pakistan.

Ans: Glaciers:

Most of the major rivers of Pakistan receive water or originate from:

- i. Glaciers of the Karakoram Range
ii. Glaciers of the Hindu Kush Range
iii. Glacier of the Himalaya Range

Q.e Write the characteristics of desert areas of Pakistan briefly.

Ans: Characteristics of Desert Areas:

Large tracts of land in the desert area are arid due to scarcity of water, rainfall is very low. Dust storms are frequent especially during the summer; large crescent shaped sand dunes are abundant.

Some area of the desert has been irrigated with canals and tube wells but a larger portion is still barren.

Rainfall is scanty and agriculture, absolutely poor due to scarcity of water, but the canal irrigated areas are fertile.

Rainfall is extremely low the area is full of crescent shaped yellow sand dunes. Vegetation is almost absent; nothing is seen except thorny bushes.

Extremely hot winds blow at day time, these winds, locally called **Loo**, make life uncomfortable. Sometimes desert areas do not receive rainfall for several consecutive years.

Q.f Write the characteristics of coastal areas of Pakistan briefly.

Ans: Characteristics of Coastal Areas:

Pakistan's coastline is 700 kilometers long. Five hundred kilometer coast from Karachi in the east to Jiwani in the west is called Makran Coast. This coastline,

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mostly straight, is indented on some points near Somniani, Urmara, Gawadar and Pasni.

On the back of the narrow coastal strip of the Makran Beach there are 15 to 65 meters high rock cliffs. Behind these cliffs is 16 to 32 kilometers wide coastal plain which is largely covered with sand dunes but small hills are also found here and there.

Some points at Makran Coast have been developed as tourist attractions i.e. Clifton, Manora, Hawks Bay, Rasmalan, Urmara, Gawadar, Jiwani.

Q.g Write the names of four sub ranges of Himalaya Mountain.

Ans: Sub ranges of Himalaya Mountain:

Himalaya range is further divided into four sub-ranges.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| i. The Shiwalik Range | ii. The Pir Panjal Range |
| iii. The Central Himalayas | iv. The Karakoram Range |

Q.h What is meant by global warming?

Ans: Global Warming:

Forests are being cut rapidly and the area under forests is being reduced to a dangerously low level, use of mineral fuel is massively increasing. This has caused a marked increase in the greenhouse effect, resulting an increase in the temperature; (the process is called global warming).

The process will continue increasing if its causes are not removed.

Effects of global warming:

The use of coal, oil and natural gas has enormously increased during the last three hundred years resulting in a marked rise in the level of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, for example 30% increase in the volume of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) present in the air, has been recorded after 1730. Plants and trees are a natural source of reducing the CO₂ level in the air.

The situation of global warming has aggravated to such a degree that the increase of a few more degrees in the temperature may create environmental hazards of enormous magnitude; for example the polar snowcaps will start melting, water level in the oceans will rise and many low-lying coastal areas will submerge under water.

Q.i What is Green House Effect?

Ans: Green House Effect:

In order to grow out-of-season crops the agriculturists fabricate transparent plastic or glass compartments to produce controlled temperature and humidity level. These compartments are called green-houses. Greenhouse gases occur naturally and encircle our globe like a warm blanket, without greenhouse gases, our planet would be too cold to sustain life.

Effects of Green House Effect:

As we know it, the air contains Carbon Dioxide, Methane, Nitrous Oxide and other greenhouse gases in low quantities. These gases absorb heat, so under a natural process these gases keep our globe warm to a certain degree. When the sunlight touches the surface of the earth, after passing through the atmosphere, some part of it is reflected back and the remaining part is absorbed in the earth.

The heated earth surface gives out **infra-red light** which is absorbed by the greenhouse gases. The heat absorbed through this process maintains a level of

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temperature which is essential for the existence of life on the globe. All this process is called greenhouse effect.

Q.j What is desertification?

Ans: Desertification:

Desertification is a process by which fertile land in the Earth's dry regions steadily loses its productive capacity and becomes unproductive, desert land.

Desertification is a type of land degradation in drylands in which biological productivity is lost due to natural processes or induced by human activities whereby fertile areas become increasingly arid.

Desertification refers to the persistent degradation of dryland ecosystems by climatic variations and human activities. It occurs on all continents (except Antarctica) and affects the livelihoods of millions of people, including a large proportion of the poor in drylands.

Q3. Answer the following questions in detail.

Q.A Write a note on Balochistan and Potwar Plateaus in detail.

Ans: Balochistan Plateau:

Balochistan Plateau covers enormous area of land. At different points it is 600 to 900 meters high from sea level; its average altitude is 650 meters. The plateau is located in the midst of the Kirthar Hill Range. Muslim Bagh and Ziarat Hills are a part of the Balochistan Plateau.

The area represents a variety of physical features; features of one part drastically differ from the other part. In the north-western desert area of the plateau, rainfall is scanty and agriculture is impossible. Hamun Mashkel is a vast salt water lake located in the desert.

The mountains of Toba Kakar and Chaghi separate the plateau from Afghanistan territory. Beautiful historic city of Quetta is the capital of the Balochistan province. The Plateau is famous for its wealth of natural resources of which natural gas is the most important; coal, chromites, copper and iron ore are also found in sizeable quantities.

The Potwar Plateau:

Plateau is a large stretch of relatively level land that is higher than the land around it, having at least on one side a steep slope falling abruptly to the lower land. A vast area of Pakistan is covered by Plateaus.

The Potwar Plateau is bounded on the east by the River Jhelum, on the west by the River Indus and on the south by the Salt Range. In the north the Plateau extends to the northern slopes of the Kala Chitta Range and to the Margalla Hills.

Potwar Plateau covers a vast area in Rawalpindi, Jhelum and Mianwali and Attock districts of the Punjab. Valleys of Soan and Haro rivers lie across the Potwar Plateau. The Plateau is raised to an altitude of 300 to 600 meters. The plateau generally is poor agriculturally but very rich in minerals.

Q.B Define environmental pollution. Identify environmental pollutants.

Ans: Environmental Pollution:

Pollutant is a substance that pollutes. To pollute means to make air, water, soil, etc. dangerously impure or unfit for use.

Things that pollute human atmosphere are of numerous kinds.

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Types of Environmental Pollution:

Following are the types of environmental pollution:

1. Air Pollutants
2. Water and Subsoil Pollutants
3. Land/Soil Pollution

1. Air Pollutants:

Gases and those suspended particles in the air which adversely affect human beings and animals are classified as air pollutants. Obviously, in big cities the problem of air pollution is more serious than in the rural areas, in industrial areas as compared to agricultural or arid areas. Smog is the combination of smoke and fog which has now become a common sight in big cities, busy highways and industrial areas. Some major air pollutants are:

- i. Oil and fuel (petrol, diesel, gas) combustion in motor vehicles and factories, furnaces, homes, etc.
- ii. Coal.
- iii. Atomic devices.
- iv. Dangerous chemicals, i.e. asbestos, fibres, tin, mercury, lead, zinc, aluminium, beryllium, etc.
- v. Radiations emitted from high-tension electric wires and electric transmissions and networks.
- vi. Pollen grains.

2. Water and Subsoil Pollutants:

Water is the second largest source of pollution. Water pollution can be classified into four kinds:

i. Pollution due to micro-organisms:

Pollution due to micro-organisms for example the germs which cause diseases like Hepatitis etc.

ii. Organic pollution:

Organic pollution for example sewerage in the urban localities, pesticides, fertilizers and animal refuse.

iii. In-organic pollution:

In-organic pollution, i.e. poisonous water running out of factories, which may contain chemicals like Arsenic, Lead, Potassium, Phosphorus and hundred others of the kind. One example is the water produced by tannery industry in Kasur, which is causing cancer on large scale.

iv. Sedimental pollution:

Sedimental pollution means the substance that provides favourable environment for the growth of sub-water plants. This water is difficult to filter because it chokes the filters and if consumed by humans it damages the kidneys.

Pollution contaminates water in the following ways:

- i. Pollution of natural water courses, e.g. rivers, canals and streams. This type of pollution is generally caused due to throwing of industrial waste into these water courses.
- ii. Streams of contaminated and polluted water created by the industrial waste, open drains and uncovered sewerage system.

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- iii. Pollution of natural underground water due to seepage of polluted and poisonous water. Industrial waste poisons the natural underground water courses.
- iv. Substandard and unhygienic underground sewerage system.
- 3. **Land/Soil Pollution:** Land or soil is polluted in a number of ways, e.g.
 - i. Ugly outlook due to accumulation of trash, plastic bags, empty tins, cans and household refuse at public places.
 - ii. Indecent town planning and non-civic habits of the people.
 - iii. Cutting of forests. (As per international standards at least 25 percent of the land in every country should be covered with forests).
 - iv. Absorption of poisonous chemicals, herbicides, pesticides and insecticides into the soil through water.
 - v. Overgrazing of pastures and unnecessary burning and cutting of plants.

Q.C What are the remedies of environmental pollution? Discuss in detail.

Ans: Remedies / Measures to Prevent Environmental Pollution:

We should adopt the following measures to prevent environmental pollution:

1. **Creation of General Awareness:**

Environmental pollution is a great menace to the future of humanity, it is our prime responsibility to create general awareness in the people, through education and information, about the gravity of its consequences and about an individual's role in preventing the hazards caused by environmental pollution.

2. **Population Planning:**

Population growth is the root of all problems related with environmental pollution. To prevent environmental pollution, population growth has to be planned and restricted.

3. **Prevention of Urbanization:**

Bigger cities have bigger pollution problems. To prevent environmental pollution, expansion of cities has to be restricted. Cities and townships should be provided with green belts, parks and open spaces.

4. **Plantation:**

Trees and plants are the prime source of environmental purification. Trees inhale Carbon Dioxide and exhale Oxygen, reduce temperature and create healthy effect on all human activities both physically and psychologically. As per international standards area under forests should form at least 25% of the total area of a country.

5. **Conservation of Resources:**

Human race should adopt a simpler way of life which is closer to nature. Nature has given us a never ending treasure of resources. This treasure will never fail us if we utilize it with restraint and patience and always keep in mind that we have to take only our share out of it and not to encroach upon others' share.

Q.D What is natural vegetation? Write a note on Pakistan's natural vegetation and wildlife.

Ans: Natural Vegetation:

Natural vegetation refers to a plant community, which has grown naturally without human aid and has been left undisturbed by humans for a long time.

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Vegetation has vast meaning. Everything which grows from the soil is included in it e.g. trees, small plants, bushes and climbers etc. The plants which grow from the soil are of two kinds. One kind of plants is grown by human beings, other kinds grow naturally; later category is called natural vegetation.

Vegetation and its Areas:

- i. Climate of the Indus plain and the Balochistan Plateau is mostly dry and of desert and semi-desert type.
 - ii. In the northern mountainous regions the climate is wet.
 - iii. Altitude (height from sea level) has direct effect on vegetation.
- The land of Pakistan offers all stages of altitude, from low-lying plains to the snowcapped mountain peaks.

Kinds of Vegetation:

Pakistan's northern mountainous region is full of forests. These forests have variety of trees, these trees are locally known as deodar, sanobar (juniper), diar, cheer, partal etc. Southern Himalayan region is located at a lower altitude as compared to the northern regions. This region receives heavy rainfall and is thickly covered with deodar, juniper, poplar and willow trees. In the comparatively arid regions of Kohe-Suleman and Kohistan-e-Namak (Salt Range), shisham trees are found. These are of deciduous type and are sparsely populated.

Dry and moderate regions, for instance, the vast regions of Balochistan Plateau, are covered with different types of wild grass, small bushes and the dwarf palm. In the arid western hills juniper, jhao, and pistachio trees are found in abundance. Junipers of Ziarat (Balochistan) are the world's oldest trees of their kind. Some of these very precious trees are 5000 years old, but unfortunately this treasure is diminishing with the passage of time due to indiscriminate cutting and disease. In the Indus plain dwarf thorny trees are found in abundance, these trees can survive under 45°C temperatures. In the flood regions of the Indus Plain, forests can sustain dry weather only if they receive abundant supply of rain-water at least for six weeks in the monsoon. Different types of mangrove trees are found in the coastal forests.

Wildlife:

There is a large variety of birds and animals found in the different areas of Pakistan most important and well-known are the following: different kinds of deer, wild boar, bear, leopard, lion, wolf, fox, jackal, monkey, crocodile and birds especially the water-birds.

The markhor is the national animal of Pakistan. In the marshy coastal regions many kinds of mammals are found i.e. luddhars, indus dolphins, fish-eater cats, hog deer, and wild boar. During the migratory period about one million birds of different kinds arrive in Pakistan's deltas and marshy regions. Our rivers and coastal areas provide suitable breeding places both for salt water and fresh water fish. Herring, mackerel, shark and shellfish are among the most well known varieties.

Ice leopard, Marco Polo sheep and stag are among the most endangered species of our animals; these have been preserved in the sanctuaries provided for them in the remote Himalaya areas.

Hunting of Houbara Bustard talore (a Cholistan bird of the size of big hen), which was ruthlessly hunted in the past, has now been banned. Chakore is our

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national bird, other common birds found in Pakistan include; pigeon, dove, parrot, myna, eagle, quail, partridge, pheasant, peacock and domestic sparrow.

Q.E Write a note on the importance of forests. Also explain the causes of deforestation in Pakistan.

Ans: Importance of forests:

Forests play a vital role in the economy of a country; they contribute in a variety of ways.

- i. Forests prevent land erosion, produce timber and firewood, wood is used in the manufacturing of furniture, wood pulp is the basic raw material for all paper industry.
- ii. Sports goods and match industry depends largely on wood. Forests provide raw material for turpentine oil and different types of gums and fibers.
- iii. Forests keep the atmosphere pleasant; provide water vapours to the air, causing rain.
- iv. Decomposed foliage serves as green manure which adds natural fertility to the soil.
- v. Forests provide breeding place and habitats to the wildlife and in this way contribute indirectly to the production of milk and meat.
- vi. For a big section of our population forests are sole source of earning.
- vii. Forests add to the fertility of the land in many ways and prevent water-logging and salinity.
- viii. Oxygen is the lifeline for all living things- humans and animals.
- ix. Forests are the single largest source of Oxygen production.
- x. Due to the exceeding volume of Carbon Dioxide in the air the greenhouse effect is intensifying day by day, this process is called global -warming.

Causes of Deforestation in Pakistan:

Pakistan has forests on only 4% of our land (this area excludes northern areas of Pakistan). In order to reach the global standards of 20-25 per cent we need to enhance our forest area at least five times of its present coverage.

Following are the major reasons that count for the scarcity of forests in our country:

- i. A large part of our landform consists of dry, hilly area; these conditions make forestation impossible or extremely difficult.
- ii. Water supply is insufficient.
- iii. Majority of the population is illiterate and do not understand the importance of forests.
- iv. In order to accommodate the fast increasing population more land is required, forests are being cut for reclaiming more land for human settlement and more agriculture.
- v. Trees are cut to meet wood and timber demand but new trees are not planted to replace the old ones.
- vi. Selling firewood is the only source of income for a great number of poor people living in the forest regions.
- vii. Wood is consumed in huge quantities as building material, and in furniture, paper and match industry.

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IMPORTANT QUESTION / ANSWERS

Q1. What is the full name and total area of Pakistan?

Ans: The full Name of Pakistan is Islamic Republic of Pakistan. It covers an area of 796,096 Square kilometers.

Q2. Give an account of Physical Features of Pakistan.

Ans: Physical Features of Pakistan:

Pakistan is divided into three major parts with respect to Physical Features:

(a) Mountain Ranges

(b) Plateau

(c) Plains

Q3. Write significance and importance of the location of Pakistan.

Ans: Location of Pakistan:

Pakistan lies between the latitudes of 23.45° to 37.05° north and between the longitudes of 60.50° to 77.50° east. The land of Pakistan stretches over 1600 km north to south and it is about 850 km wide from east to west. India lies in the East of Pakistan, China in the North while Afghanistan in the North-West and Iran in the West. The Arabian Sea is in the South of Pakistan.

Importance of the Location of Pakistan Junction for east and west:

So far as the location of Pakistan is concerned, it occupies specific importance not only in South-Asia but also all over the world. Pakistan is a key source to establish link between East and the West. Following points explain the importance of the location of Pakistan.

Location of India:

In the east of Pakistan, there lies India which has the second largest population in the world after China. Both the countries have common border almost 1600 km.

Durand Line:

Afghanistan is situated to the North-west of Pakistan. The adjoining border with Afghanistan is almost 2250 km which is called the **Durand Line**. It is a landlocked country and has no seaport for trade. Pakistan is facilitating Afghanistan with transit route.

Central Asian Republics:

In the North-west of Pakistan, there are Central Asian Republics Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Kyrgyzstan.

Pakistan's importance for Central Asia:

All these republics are landlocked. These are located away from the ocean. They own no coast. Therefore, they have to pass through Pakistan in order to access the ocean.

Terms with Central Asia:

Central Asian Republics are rich in oil and gas reserves. They are known for the products of oil and gas in the world. These republics are counted among those regions which produce high agriculture yield. Their total population is less than that of Pakistan but they are six times larger than Pakistan with respect to area. Pakistan has religious, cultural and economic relations with these Islamic States.

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China:

China is located in the north of Pakistan. It has emerged as an important economic force in the world. Shahrah-e-Resham (Karakoram Highway) connects Pakistan with China. This Highway is constructed by Pakistan and China collaborated.

Terms with China:

The two countries enjoy exceptional relations. China has stood by Pakistan in every hour of trial. Pakistan is also proud of the friendship with China. Many development projects in Pakistan are going on with the support of China. China has always supported Pakistan. Pak-China Friendship is matchless.

Trade through Arabian Sea:

The Arabian Sea is located in the South of Pakistan. It is the part of the Indian Ocean. Most of the trade between the East and the West is done through the route of the Indian Ocean. Thus, Pakistan has much significance because of its location on an important trade route.

Gulf countries:

The adjoining Muslim countries of the Persian Gulf i.e. Iran, Kuwait, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and Arab emirates are linked with Pakistan, through the Arabian Sea.

Important seaports of Pakistan:

The Arabian Sea has always been the centre of attention among major powers because of the importance of Persian Gulf. Karachi, Port Qasim, Pasni, Gwadar etc. are the important sea-ports of Pakistan.

Terms with Far East Muslim countries:

Our country has established relations with many other countries through the Arabian Sea route. Among them South-east Muslim countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, and Brunei Darussalam), South Asian Muslim countries (Bangladesh, Maldives) and Sri Lanka are included.

Q4. Write the names of the regions of Pakistan with reference to temperature.

Ans: Pakistan is divided into four regions with reference to different land features. The four regions are:

- i. The North and North-West Mountainous region.
- ii. The Upper Indus Plain.
- iii. The Coastal Area of Lower Indus Valley.
- iv. The Plateau of Balochistan.

Q5. What is the temperature of the Upper Indus Plain?

Ans: Temperature:

Sometimes, the temperature exceeds 50°C. However, during the winters, the temperature decreases and the weather becomes pleasant.

Q6. Write a note on the following:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| (a) Rainfall condition in Pakistan | (b) Glaciers |
| (c) Vegetation (Forest) | |

Ans: (a) Rain-fall Condition in Pakistan:

In Pakistan, there are two rainy seasons.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| i. Monsoon Rains in summer. | ii. Winter Rain. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|

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i. Monsoon Rains in summer:

Areas of 50 inches rainfall:

An average of 50 inches rain is experienced annually in Murree, Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Jhelum and Sialkot between the months of July and September because of monsoon-winds of summer.

Areas of 10 inches rainfall:

Towards south, it decreases gradually. Southern plain areas include the areas of South Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan receive less than 10 inches of rain annually. Due to it, deserts are found in these areas.

Areas of least rainfall:

It does not rain on Baluchistan Plateau and north-west mountains during summer. Due to it, these are dry mountain ranges.

ii. Winter Rain:

It rains in the northern plains during winter because of western winds. But it is too less to meet our needs. Because of low rain-fall in southern areas, farmers and other people have to face a lot of problems. To meet the requirements of water, it is utmost necessary to construct dams and canals so that agriculture may be developed.

(b) Glaciers:

Temperature remains low on the areas having high altitude. Due to this, snow continues to fall there. When snow is accumulated and compressed over many years, the snow below takes the shape of thickened ice masses and begins to move downhill. It is called Glacier.

Advantages of glaciers:

Abundant snow-fall on our mountains gives rise to the gigantic glaciers. They continue melting slowly in summer and keep our rivers and streams flowing throughout the year.

They are a source to provide water to our population, agriculture and industry. Our long and unique canal irrigation system owes a great deal to these glaciers.

Huge glaciers of Pakistan:

Siachen, Baltoro, Biafo, Hispar, Rimo and Batura etc. are among huge glaciers of Pakistan.

(c) Vegetation (Forest):

Due to variations in climatic conditions of Pakistan, the following types of forests are found here.

i. Evergreen Forests:

Some northern and north-western areas of Pakistan receive more of rain as compared to that of other areas. Evergreen forests are found here. The most important of them are of deodar trees, firs, blue pine and spruce trees (sahobar).

High quality timber-yard is available by these trees. Oak, walnut and chestnut trees are found in abundance. Murree, Abbotabad, Mansehra, Chitral, Swat and Dir are places full of forests.

ii. Foot hill areas:

In the foot-hill areas of the districts of Peshawar, Mardan, Kohat, Attock, Rawalpindi, Jhelum and Gujrat, mostly phulahi, kao, jand, acacia, wild olive and black berry trees are found.

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iii. Balochistan:

In Quetta and Kallat Divisions of Baluchistan, besides thorny bushes there are tree of mazoo, Pine Nuts, black berry and poplar.

iv. Plain Areas:

There are some forests in plain areas. They consist of sheesham (The Indian Rosewood Tree), Poplar, mulberry, sumbal, Jamun (Black Plum), dharek and eucalyptus trees. The areas, where these forests are found, include Chhanga Manga, Chicha Watani, Khanewal, Toba Tek Singh, Rakh Ghulaman Thai, Bahawalpur, Tounsa, Sakkur, Kotri and Guddu. There are forests of Bela along the rivers. Other than these forests, trees can be seen along the National Highways and canals.

Q7. Name the rainy seasons of Pakistan.

Ans: In Pakistan, there are two rainy seasons.

(i) Monsoon Rains in summer.

(ii) Winter Rain.

Q8. Which areas of Pakistan receive rainfall of more than 50 inches in summer?

Ans: An average of 50 inches rain is experienced annually in Murree, Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Jhelum and Sialkot between the months of July and September because of monsoon winds of Summer.

Q9. Which areas of Pakistan receive rainfall of less than 10 inches in summer?

Ans: Towards south, it decreases gradually. Southern plain areas include the areas of South Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan receive less than 10 inches of rain annually. Due to it, deserts are found in these areas.

Q10. In which areas of Pakistan, least or no rainfall occur?

Ans: It does not rain on Baluchistan Plateau and north-west mountains during summer. Due to it, these are dry mountain ranges.

Q11. What is glacier?

Ans: Temperature remains low on the areas having high altitude. Due to this, snow continues to fall there. When snow is accumulated and compressed over many years, the snow below takes the shape of thickened ice masses and begins to move downhill. It is called Glacier.

Q12. Enlist some advantages of the glaciers.

Ans: Abundant snow-fall on our mountains gives rise to the gigantic glaciers. They continue melting slowly in summer and keep our rivers and streams flowing throughout the year. They are a source to provide water to our population, agriculture and industry. Our long and unique canal irrigation system owes a great deal to these glaciers.

Q13. Write the names of five glaciers located in Pakistan.

Ans: Siachen, Baltoro, Biafo, Hispar, Rimo and Batura etc. are among huge glaciers of Pakistan.

Q14. In which areas of Pakistan evergreen forests are found?

Ans: Some northern and north-western areas of Pakistan receive more of rain as compared to that of other areas. Evergreen forests are found here. Murree, Abbotabad, Mansehra, Chitral, Swat and Dir are places full of forests.

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Q15. Write names of the climatic zones of Pakistan.

Ans: Pakistan can be divided into the following regions with reference to the climate.

- (i) Sub-Tropical Continental Highland.
- (ii) Sub-Tropical Continental Plateau.
- (iii) Sub-Tropical Continental Lowland.
- (iv) Tropical Coastland.

Q16. Which areas of Pakistan are situated in Sub-Tropical Continental Highland?

Ans: This climatic region of Pakistan includes northern highland (Outer as well as Central Himalayas), north-western mountain ranges (Chitral, Swat etc.), Western mountain ranges (Waziristan, Zhob and Loralai) and the mountain ranges of Balochistan (Quetta, Sarawan, Central Makran and Jhalawan).

Q17. Describe the climate of the desert areas of Pakistan.

Ans: The climate of desert areas in Pakistan is too hot and dry. There is much difference between day and night temperature. Heat waves blow during day-time. Dust storms are also experienced. The southern areas of Punjab and northern as well as southern areas of Sindh have specially the characteristics of deserts.

Q18. Describe the climate of Balochistan.

Ans: The climate of Balochistan Plateau is extremely hot during summers and extremely cold during winters. Some areas having high altitude receive snow-fall during winter. This is the driest area of Pakistan.

Q19. How do forests increase the fertility of soil?

Ans: The roots of the trees keep the soil intact. They control the erosion of soil. They hold soil by preventing rain from washing and taking the fertile layer of soil away. Hence, the fertility of soil is maintained.

Q20. Write five advantages of the forests.

Ans: Advantages of the forests:

- (i) **Wildlife:**
Forests are very necessary for wild life (birds and animals).
- (ii) **Fodder source:**
Forests provide us with different kinds of fruit and seeds. They also provide fodder for animals.
- (iii) **Economy maintenance:**
Forests play a key role in the economy of Pakistan.
- (iv) **Providing useful compounds:**
Forests are the source of Lacquer and silk cocoon industry. They also provide us with mushrooms, honey and gum.
- (v) **Raw material providing:**
Raw material of paper and card board industry is obtained from trees.

Q21. What steps have been taken by Government of Pakistan to improve forests?

Ans: The government of Pakistan has taken many steps to increase the area of forests. Department of Forestry is trying hard in this connection. Nurseries are established in all the big cities. Plants are available from these nurseries at reasonable prices.

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Q22. Write the medical and industrial advantages of the forests.

Ans: Industrial advantage:

Forests are the source of Lacquer and silk cocoon industry. They also provide us with mushrooms, honey and gum. Raw material of paper and card board industry is obtained from trees.

Medical advantage:

Herbs are found in the forests. They are used in the preparation of medicines.

Q23. Write names of the endangered species of wildlife in Pakistan.

Ans: The number of snow leopard, Marco Polo Sheep and Brown Bear is decreasing rapidly. The World Wild Life has declared these animals as endangered species.

Q24. Write the names of five animals found on the less high peaks in Pakistan.

Ans: On less high mountain slopes, monkeys, red fox, black deer, leopard, partridge, chakor can be seen.

Q25. Name the species of animals found in plain and desert areas.

Ans: The plain areas of Pakistan are used for agricultural purposes. That's why forests and wild life found on plains are getting shrunk. Jackals, hyenas, mongoose and wolves are found in these areas even today. Chinkara Deer and peacocks are found in desert areas.

Q26. Why is wildlife important? Write the names of national animal and national bird of Pakistan.

Ans: Wild life adds to the beauty of a country. Moreover, they are helpful in maintaining the natural balance.

Markhor is the national animal of Pakistan whereas Chakor is the national bird of Pakistan.

Q27. Enlist any five reasons for decrease of wildlife in Pakistan.

Ans: Allah Almighty has blessed Pakistan with a variety of wildlife. Following are the reasons of continuous decrease in the growth and reproduction of wildlife.

(i) Illegal hunting.

(ii) Poor planning.

(iii) Continuous increase in human population.

(iv) Deforestation.

(v) Shortage of water.

(vi) Shortage of fodder due to increase in the number of domestic animals.

Q28. What is natural region? Write the names of five natural regions of Pakistan.

Ans: Natural Region means a region having latitude, relief and structure, climate, vegetation, livestock and ways of living. Pakistan can be divided into following five natural regions.

(i) Plain Region.

(ii) Coastal Region.

(iii) Desert Region.

(iv) Tropical and Sub Tropical Region.

(v) Dry and Semi Dry Mountain Region.

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Q29. What is environment? What are the hazards to our environment now-a-days?

Ans: Environment:

All the things and factors around us that affect us directly are called environment. It includes physical features of land, climate, soil, vegetation and other factors.

Classified hazards:

Today, our environment is facing following major hazards:

- (i) Salinity and water logging. (ii) Deforestation.
- (iii) Desertification.
- (iv) Increase in environmental pollution.

Q30. Write any four the causes of salinity and water logging.

Ans: Following are the major causes of salinity and water logging:

- (i) Seepage of canal water into ground.
- (ii) Uneven fields.
- (iii) Old and traditional methods of irrigation.
- (iv) Repetition of same crops.

Q31. Which measures have been taken by Government of Pakistan to control salinity and water logging?

Ans: The Government of Pakistan has taken following measures to control the problems of salinity and water logging:

- (i) By installation of tube-wells, the water table goes down. The water obtained by tube-wells brings decrease in water logging.
- (ii) The banks of canals and water channels are strengthened so that water may not seep into the ground.
- (iii) Introducing proper system of irrigation fields.
- (iv) Establishment of laboratories for water and soil testing.
- (v) Training and counseling of farmers.

Q32. Write five reasons for the decreasing of forests.

Ans: There are many reasons for shortage in forests.

The important reasons are:

- (i) Excessive cutting of trees.
- (ii) Increase in wood timber needs due to increase in population.
- (iii) Increase in salinity and water logging.
- (iv) Diseases of trees.
- (v) Decrease in rain-fall.
- (vi) Breaking out of fires in forests.

Q33. Enlist any five problems caused by decrease in forests.

Ans: Decrease in forests gives rise to the following problems:

- (i) Decrease in the income of the government.
- (ii) Increase in soil erosion.
- (iii) Climatic changes.
- (iv) Decrease in water storage capacity of dams due to sedimentation.
- (v) Decrease in wildlife.
- (vi) Deterioration in environmental beauty and attraction.

PAKISTAN STUDIES NOTES FOR 9TH CLASS

Q34. Describe any four reasons of desertification.

Ans: Following are some of the important reasons of this decrease.

(i) **Crop repetition:**

When we grow same crops on a piece of land repeatedly, it lessens its fertility. Due to it, the land becomes barren and turns into desert.

(ii) **Excessive grazing:**

Due to excessive grazing in the fields, the vegetation is uprooted and it changes land into desert.

(iii) **Poor cultivation methods:**

The use of poor methods of cultivation; cutting of trees rapidly increasing soil erosion are also causes of desertification.

(iv) **Population effect:**

Salinity, water logging and fast growing population are also a cause of turning natural land into deserts.

Q35. Write the types of pollution.

Ans: The types of pollution are:

(i) Air Pollution (ii) Water Pollution

(iii) Soil Pollution (iv) Noise Pollution

Q36. Briefly describe any two causes of water pollution.

Ans: Some important causes of this pollution are as I under;

(a) **Domestic waste release:**

The polluted water of houses and industries is released into rivers and canals. It has biocidal effect on crops as well as aquatic life.

(b) **Ground seepage of polluted water:**

The polluted water of the houses, through sewerage system, seeps into the ground and pollutes the underground water.

Q37. State any five causes of soil pollution.

Ans: The major causes of this pollution are:

(i) Releasing used water of houses and factories.

(ii) Spraying pesticides on crops and using chemical fertilizers.

(iii) Natural disasters such as earthquakes and floods etc.

(iv) Salinity and water logging.

(v) Heaps of domestic and industrial wastage.

ADDITIONAL MCQ'S

i. Pakistan and India have fought _____ wars so far.

(a) two

(b) three ✓

(c) four

(d) five

ii. _____ is the main cause of rivalry between Pakistan and India.

(a) Kashmir ✓

(b) Kasur

(c) Narowal

(d) Gilgit

PAKISTAN STUDIES NOTES FOR 9TH CLASS

- iii. **Afghanistan is situated to the North-west of Pakistan.**
 (a) East (b) East-west
 (c) North-west ✓ (d) North
- iv. **The adjoining border with Afghanistan is called the _____.**
 (a) Line of Control (b) Boundary Line
 (c) Pak-Afghan Line (d) Durand Line ✓
- v. **China is located in the _____ of Pakistan.**
 (a) East (b) West
 (c) South (d) North ✓
- vi. **The Arabian Sea is located in the _____ of Pakistan.**
 (a) East (b) West
 (c) South ✓ (d) North
- vii. **_____ Mountain Range is situated along the Afghan border to the south of Waziristan Hills.**
 (a) Himalayan Range (b) Toba Kakar ✓
 (c) Karakoram Range (d) Salt Range
- viii. **Which range of mountain links Pakistan with China?**
 (a) Hindu Kush Range (b) Kirthar Range
 (c) Pamir Range (d) Karakoram Range ✓
- ix. **Central Makran Hills are situated in _____.**
 (a) Afghanistan (b) Balochistan ✓
 (c) Swat (d) Chitral
- x. **There are _____ plateaus in Pakistan.**
 (a) 5 (b) 6 (c) 2 ✓ (d) 3
- xi. **Pakistan is divided into _____ regions with reference to different land features.**
 (a) 4 ✓ (b) 5 (c) 6 (d) 7
- xii. **Pakistan is divided into _____ major parts with respect of Physical feature.**
 (a) 3 ✓ (b) 4 (c) 5 (d) 6
- xiii. **Khyber Pass is situated in:**
 (a) Hindukush (b) Koh-e-Sufaid ✓
 (c) Hamalaya (d) Karakoram
- xiv. **The length of coastal area of Pakistan is _____.**
 (a) 700 km ✓ (b) 800 km
 (c) 900 km (d) 600 km
- xv. **_____ is the desert area of Bahawalpur.**
 (a) Thar ✓ (b) Sandy Area
 (c) Cholistan (d) Inhabited Area
- xvi. **The desert of Thar lies in the province of:**
 (a) Punjab ✓ (b) Sindh
 (c) KPK (d) Balochistan

