

ST. ANDREWS SCOTS SR. SEC. SCHOOL
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CLASS: VII	SUB: SOCIAL SCIENCE	TOPIC: GEOGRAPHY	CH-1
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2026-27

GEOGRAPHICAL DIVERSITY OF INDIA

A. Tick (✓) the correct option:

1. Which country is the seventh-largest in the world? **India**
2. What is the meaning of the Sanskrit word 'Himalaya'? **Home of snow**
3. The Gangetic Plains are also known as India's: **Food Bowl**
4. Which mountain range is among the oldest in the world? **The Aravalli Hills**
5. Which of the following regions is famous for mangrove forests and the Royal Bengal Tiger? **The Sundarbans**
6. Which of the following is an example of a cold desert in India? **Ladakh**
7. The Deccan Plateau is located between which two mountain ranges/hills? **The Western Ghats and the Eastern Ghats**

B. Fill in the blanks:

1. The Himalayas are divided into three main ranges: the Himadri, the Himachal, and the Shivalik.
2. A piece of land that has water on three sides is called a Peninsula.
3. The Lakshadweep Islands are mostly made of coral.
4. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands are a group of more than 500 islands.
5. The Aravalli Hills are a natural barrier that stops the Thar desert from spreading further east.
6. The Indian subcontinent includes India and its neighbours like China, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Bhutan.

7. The Peninsular Plateau is surrounded by the Arabian Sea to the west, the Bay of Bengal to the east, and the Indian Ocean to the **south**.

C. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false statements:

1. The Northern Plains are very fertile because rivers from the Himalayas deposit rich alluvial soil. **True**
2. Mount Everest is found in the Himachal range. **False**
3. The cold desert of Ladakh gets a lot of rain. **False**
4. The Peninsular Plateau is shaped like a circle. **False**
5. The Sundarbans is famous for its Royal Bengal Tiger. **True**
6. India is the largest country in the world. **False**
7. The Himalayas were formed when the Indian landmass collided with the Eurasian Plate. **True**

D. Answer the following questions in brief:

1. Why is India sometimes called a 'mini-continent'?

India is called a mini-continent because it has diverse landforms, climates, and cultures.

2. Explain why the Himalayas are called the 'Water Tower of Asia.'

The Himalayas are called the "Water Tower of Asia" because many rivers originate from them.

3. What is a 'taanka' or 'kund,' and why is it important in the Thar Desert?

A 'taanka' or 'kund' is a rainwater storage system used in the Thar Desert due to water scarcity.

4. How is a plateau different from a peninsula?

A plateau is a flat elevated land, while a peninsula is land surrounded by water on three sides.

5. Why are the Andaman and Nicobar Islands important from a historical perspective?

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands are important because they had the Cellular Jail during British rule.

6. What is a peninsula? How is it different from an island?

A peninsula is surrounded by water on three sides, while an island is surrounded by water on all sides.

7. How do the Aravalli Hills act as a natural barrier?

The Aravalli Hills stop the Thar Desert from spreading eastwards.

E. Answer the following questions in detail:

1. Describe the geological process that led to the formation of the Himalayas. How is this process still affecting the mountains today?

The Himalayas were formed millions of years ago when the Indian Plate moved northwards and collided with the Eurasian Plate. This collision caused the land to fold and rise, forming high mountain ranges.

This process is still continuing today, so the Himalayas are slowly rising and sometimes experience earthquakes due to movement of tectonic plates.

2. Discuss the importance of the Great Northern Plains to India. What are the main reasons they are so fertile and densely populated?

The Great Northern Plains are very important for India because:

- They are extremely fertile due to rich alluvial soil deposited by rivers like the Ganga, Yamuna, and Brahmaputra.
- They have plenty of water supply from rivers.
- The land is flat, making it suitable for farming, transport, and building cities.
- Due to these reasons, the region is densely populated and is called the “food bowl of India.”

3. Explain how the people of the Thar Desert and the people of Ladakh have adapted to their different environments. Give examples for both regions.

Thar Desert:

- People wear loose, light cotton clothes to protect from heat.
- Houses are made of mud with thick walls to keep cool.
- Water is conserved using taankas and kunds.
- People depend on camels for transport.

Ladakh:

- People wear heavy woollen clothes to protect from cold.
- Houses are built with thick walls to retain heat.
- They grow limited crops like barley due to short summers.
- Use of yaks for transport and milk.

4. Describe the Peninsular Plateau. Mention its shape, the bodies of water that surround it, and the mountain ranges along its edges.

The Peninsular Plateau is triangular in shape. It is surrounded by:

- Arabian Sea on the west
- Bay of Bengal on the east
- Indian Ocean on the south

It is bordered by the Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats. It is one of the oldest landmasses in India and is rich in minerals.

5. Write a detailed note on India's islands, including the names of the two main groups and their unique features.

India has two main groups of islands:

1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Bay of Bengal):

These are mostly volcanic islands with dense forests. The Barren Island has an active volcano.

2. Lakshadweep Islands (Arabian Sea):

These are coral islands formed by coral reefs and are known for lagoons and marine life.

These islands are important for tourism, biodiversity, fishing, and strategic location.

6. What is delta? Explain its formation and importance using the example of the Sundarbans.

A delta is a landform formed at the mouth of a river where it deposits sediments. The Sundarbans Delta is formed by the Ganga-Brahmaputra rivers.

Importance:

- Very fertile land for agriculture
- Home to mangrove forests
- Habitat of animals like the Royal Bengal Tiger
- Supports fishing and human settlements

7. How does India's geographical diversity contribute to its cultural richness, including its different languages, foods, and traditions?

India has diverse physical features like mountains, plains, deserts, plateaus, and coastal areas. This diversity leads to:

- Different languages in different regions
- Variety of foods based on climate and crops
- Unique clothing, traditions, and festivals

Thus, India's geographical diversity makes it culturally rich and diverse.