

Chapter-6

Major Landforms of the Earth

A. Fill in the blanks:

1. The Aravalli is a **Fold** mountain.
2. A plateau is called a **tableland**.
3. Plateaus are rich in **minerals**.
4. The Himalayas are an example of **young fold** mountains.
5. Rivers in the **plains** flow slowly.

B. Give reasons.

1. Farming is not always possible in the mountains.

Ans. Farming is not possible on mountain because of the slopes and there are erosions due to water and rains. The mountains are also not flat as they have steep slopes, narrow peaks and deep valleys.

2. Most plateaus are thinly populated.

Ans. Most plateaus are thinly populated as plateaus are highlands with a broad and flat surface. They rise abruptly around the plains.

3. Plains are thickly populated.

Ans. Plains are thickly populated as they have the most favourable conditions for human settlements. Plains are fertile and the climate is suitable for agriculture. The flat land makes agriculture easy. The rivers flow slowly over the plains.

C. Answer these questions in brief:

1. What is a mountain? How is it different from a hill?

Ans.1 A mountain is a landform which is higher and steeper. It rises above the surrounding terrain in a limited area. It is different from a hill as it is smaller in height.

2. Give two differences between old fold mountains and young fold mountains?

Ans.2

Young fold mountains	Old fold mountains
1. recently formed	Formed a long time ago.
2. Steep slopes	Gentle slopes

3. Name one important occupation of people living in plateaus?

Ans.3 Mining is the important occupation of people living in plateaus.

4. How are river plains formed?

Ans.4 River plains are formed by rivers flowing down mountains, rivers erode and transport a lot of materials, which they deposit to form plains.

D. Answer these questions in details.

1. Classify and explain the different types of mountains. Give an example of each?

Ans.1 There are three types of mountains. They are-

1. Fold mountains – they are the mountains formed by the compression of the Earth's crust and folding of rock layers into a series of waves. For eg. The Himalayas are Fold Mountains.
2. Block mountains—Block Mountains are formed by the tensional forces which break the Earth into blocks. When these blocks are raised block mountains are formed. For eg. The Vindhya are Block Mountains.
3. Volcanic Mountains—Volcanic Mountains are formed by volcanic activity. Materials like cinder, ash, dust and liquid mud accumulate and solidify to form volcanic mountains. Example of volcanic mountain is Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania.

2. Describe the various ways in which mountains are useful to us?

Ans.2 Mountains are useful to us in many ways:

1. Mountains act as barriers from winds. They cause rainfall.
2. Glaciers found in the mountains are source of rivers.
3. Mountains slopes are ideal for rearing cattle due to the presence of green pastures.
4. Mountains are also known to attract tourist due to their scenic beauty.
5. The dense vegetation of mountains is home to many animals and birds.

3. What are the features of plateaus?

Ans.3 Features of plateaus are:

1. Plateaus are elevated flat lands. It is a flat topped table land standing above the surrounding area.
2. Plateaus have one or more sides with steep slopes.
3. Their height often varies from few hundred metres to several thousand metres.
4. Plateaus may be young or old. The Deccan plateau in India is one of the oldest plateaus.
5. The Tibet plateau is the highest plateau in the world.
6. Plateaus are storehouse of minerals like gold, diamond, iron, coal, etc.

4. Why do rivers flow slowly in the plains?

Ans.4 The base level of river is almost same as the sea level as river enters plains and approach sea. As there is not much difference in height, water speed reduces. Sediments deposited at the mouth of river obstruct the water movement in river. At plains, rivers move in meanders instead of straight and this can reduce the speed as well. This is the reason why rivers flow slowly in the plains.

End of the Chapter