

Drainage

Q1. Choose the right answer from the four alternatives given below.

(i) In which of the following states is the Wular Lake located?

(a) Rajasthan (b) Punjab (c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Jammu and Kashmir

Answer: Jammu and Kashmir.

(ii) The river Narmada has its source at

(a) Satpura (b) Amarkantak (c) Brahmagiri (d) Slopes of the Western Ghat.

Answer: Amarkantak

(iii) Which one of the following lakes is a saltwater lake?

(a) Sambhar (b) Wular (c) Dal (d) Gobind Sagar

Answer: Sambhar

(iv) Which one of the following is the longest river in Peninsular India?

(a) Narmada (b) Godavari (c) Krishna (d) Mahanadi

Answer: Godavari

(v) Which one amongst the following rivers flows through a rift valley?

(a) Mahanadi (b) Krishna (c) Tungabhadra (d) Tapi

Answer: Tapi

Q2. Answer the following questions briefly.

(i) What is meant by a water divide? Give an example.

Answer: Any elevated area, such as a mountain or an upland, separates two drainage basins. Such an upland is known as a water divide.

(ii) Which is the largest river basin in India?

Answer: Ganga River basin is the largest river basin in India.

(iii) Where do the rivers Indus and Ganga have their origin?

Answer: Indus river origin – Near Manasarovar Lake, Tibet
Ganga River origin – Gangotri glacier in Uttarakhand

(iv) Name the two headstreams of the Ganga. Where do they meet to form the Ganga?

Answer: The two major streams of the Ganges are the Alaknanda and the Bhagirathi. They both meet in Devprayag to form the Ganges.

(v) Why does the Brahmaputra in its Tibetan part have less silt, despite a longer course?

Answer: In Tibet, the river has a small amount of water and less silt, as it is a cold and dry region. In India, it passes through an area with high rainfall. Therefore, the river has a large amount of water and a large amount of silt.

(vi) Which two peninsular rivers flow through a trough?

Answer: Narmada and Tapi are two peninsular rivers that flow through a trough.

(vii) State some economic benefits of rivers and lakes.

Answer: Rivers have been of fundamental importance in human history. Water from rivers is a basic natural resource, which is necessary for various human activities. Therefore, the Riverbank has attracted inhabited people since ancient times. The use of rivers for irrigation, navigation and hydropower generation is of particular importance - especially in a country like India, where agriculture is the major source of livelihood of most of its population.

Q3. Below are given names of a few lakes of India. Group those under two categories – natural and created by human beings.

(a) Wular (b) Dal (c) Nainital (d) Bhimtal (e) Gobind Sagar (f) Loktak (g) Barapani (h) Chilika (i) Sambhar (j) Rana Pratap Sagar (k) Nizam Sagar (l) Pulicat (m) Nagarjuna Sagar (n) Hirakund

Answer:

Natural Lakes:

1. Wular
2. Dal
3. Nainital
4. Bhimtal
5. Loktak
6. Chilika
7. Pulicat
8. Sambhar
9. Barapani

Man-made lakes:

1. Gobind Sagar
2. Rana Pratap Sagar
3. Nizam Sagar
4. Nagarjuna Sagar
5. Hirakud

Q4. Discuss the significant difference between the Himalayan and the Peninsular Rivers.

Answer:

Himalayan Rivers:

1. These are perennial rivers.
2. Get water from rain and snowfall.

Peninsular Rivers:

1. These are seasonal rivers.
2. Dependent on rainfall. During the dry season, the rivers dry up.

Q5. Compare the east-flowing and the west-flowing rivers of the peninsular plateau.

Answer:

West flowing rivers:

1. There are only 2 long west flowing rivers - Narmada and Tapi.
2. They flow into the Arabian Sea
3. Their tributaries are small in number
4. Form estuaries
5. Take less sediment

East flowing rivers:

1. Mahanadi, Kaveri, Godavari, Krishna, several major rivers
2. They flow into the Bay of Bengal
3. There are many tributaries
4. Forms Deltas
5. Carry larger sediments than rivers flowing westward

Q6. Why are rivers important for the country's economy?

Answer: Rivers have been of fundamental importance in human history. The water of rivers is a basic natural resource, which is necessary for various human activities. Therefore, the Riverbank has attracted inhabited people since ancient times. These settlements have now become big cities. List the cities in your state that are situated on the banks of a river. The use of rivers for irrigation, navigation, hydropower generation assumes special significance - especially in a country like India, where agriculture is the major source of livelihood for most of its population.