

Chp-1 Geographical Diversity of India

ANSWER KEY

GEAR UP

PAGE 2

If I lived in the mountain village (first picture):

I would wake up early to the fresh, cold air and the sound of animals moving outside. My day would begin by helping my family look after yaks and sheep, taking them to graze on the open land. The mountains would surround us, making the place quiet and peaceful. I would walk long distances to school and enjoy simple meals made from local crops and milk. Life would be hard because of the cold weather, but it would also be calm and close to nature. Evenings would be spent with family, sharing stories under the wide, open sky.

(Answer may vary)

PROGRESS

PAGE 6

1. (✓) 2. (✓) 3. (✓) 4. (✓)

PROGRESS

PAGE 13

1. (✓) 2. (✓) 3. (✓) 4. (✓)

LET US PRACTISE

PAGES 14–16

- A.** 1. (c) Himalayan Region
 2. (b) Collision of the Indian Plate with the Eurasian Plate
 3. (c) Fertile soil and rivers
 4. (c) Aravallis
- B.** 1. Arabian 2. cold 3. Royal Bengal Tiger
 4. Arabian
- C.** 1. The Himalayas are the highest mountain range in India.
 2. The river known as the lifeline of the Thar Desert is the Luni River.
 3. The Island group known for coral atolls is Lakshadweep.
 4. The highest peak in the Aravalli Hill is Guru Shikhar.
- D.** 1. The three ways in which the Himalayas are important to India are:
- They act as natural barrier protecting India.
 - They are the source of major rivers that feed the Northern Plains.
 - They influence the climate by blocking cold winds and attracting monsoon rains.

2.

Northern Plains	Peninsular Plateau
1. Formed by alluvial deposits from rivers	1. Made of hard, crystalline rocks
2. Very fertile and densely populated	2. Has uneven terrain with plateaus
3. Rivers like Ganga & Brahmaputra	3. Divided by the Narmada into

3. Andaman and Nicobar Island and Lakshadweep Islands are the two major island group of India.
 - Andaman and Nicobar Island – located in the bay of Bengal, volcanic origin and dense tropical forests.
 - Lakshadweep Islands – located in the Arabian Sea; made of coral atolls.
 4. Geographical diversity of India affect the lifestyle of its people in the following ways:
 - Climate and terrain shape occupations (farming in plains, herding in deserts, fishing on coasts.)
 - Food habits vary based on local crops
 - Houses and clothing adapt to local weather (mud houses in deserts, wooden houses in mountains)
 - Festivals and culture reflect the environment.
- E.**
1. The Himalayas were formed due to the collision of the Indian Plate with the Eurasian Plate. As the Indian Plate moved northward, it pushed against the Eurasian Plate, causing the land to fold and rise. Over millions of years, these folds grew into the Himalayan mountain ranges. The Himalayas have three parts: the Greater Himalayas (the Himadri), the Lesser Himalayas (the Himachal) and the Outer Himalayas (the Shivalik Hills). They act as a major water source by feeding rivers like the Ganga, Brahmaputra and Indus. These features make the region vital as a ‘Water Tower of Asia’ and essential for millions living downstream.
 2. The Thar Desert has a hot and dry climate with very little rainfall, and summers become extremely hot. Its landscape is marked by sandy soil, dunes and sparse vegetation. People adapt to these harsh conditions by living in mud houses that stay cool, rearing animals like camels for transport and livelihood and practising farming only in areas where irrigation is available. They also wear traditional clothing to protect themselves from heat and dust. Since water sources are scarce, communities depend on wells and tankas to store water, and villages remain scattered due to the desert’s limited resources. The vibrant local festivals, music and dance reflect the rich culture of the desert people.
 3. The Peninsular Plateau is made of hard, crystalline rocks and forms one of India’s major physical divisions. It is divided by the Narmada River into the Northern Plateau and the Deccan Plateau. The region includes some of the world’s oldest fold mountains, such as the Aravalli Hills, which are rich in minerals like marble and zinc. Economically, the plateau supports activities like mining because of its rich mineral resources and agriculture in suitable areas. The biodiversity of this region includes diverse forest types and ecosystems influenced by the monsoon, with many plant species—especially angiosperms—being endemic to the Western Himalayas that adjoin parts of the plateau.
 4. The Western Ghats run along the western edge of the Peninsular Plateau, while the Eastern Ghats lie along the eastern edge. The Western Ghats are higher and more continuous, whereas the Eastern Ghats are lower and broken in many parts. Most rivers originating in the plateau flow eastward because the land slopes towards the Bay of Bengal, cutting through the Eastern Ghats. The Western Ghats cause many short rivers to flow westward into the Arabian Sea. Life in the Western Ghats is shaped by dense forests, plantations and heavy rainfall, while life along the Eastern Ghats depends on farming and settlement along river valleys. In the Deccan Plateau, people depend on mining, agriculture and traditional occupations, as the region is made of hard, crystalline rocks and divided by the Narmada into the Northern Plateau and the Deccan Plateau.

- F. 1. Life in the cold desert is extremely harsh, with winter temperatures falling below -20°C . Houses are built using stone and mud bricks to retain heat, and the community celebrates Buddhist festivals like Hemis with colourful masks and traditional music.
2. Animals like yaks are important because families rear them for wool, which helps them meet their daily needs in the cold climate.
3. Tourism is seasonal because trekkers and tourists visit mainly in summer, as the weather is too cold and harsh during winter for travel.

ASSERTION-REASON QUESTIONS

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1. (c) (A) is true but (R) is false.
2. (a) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

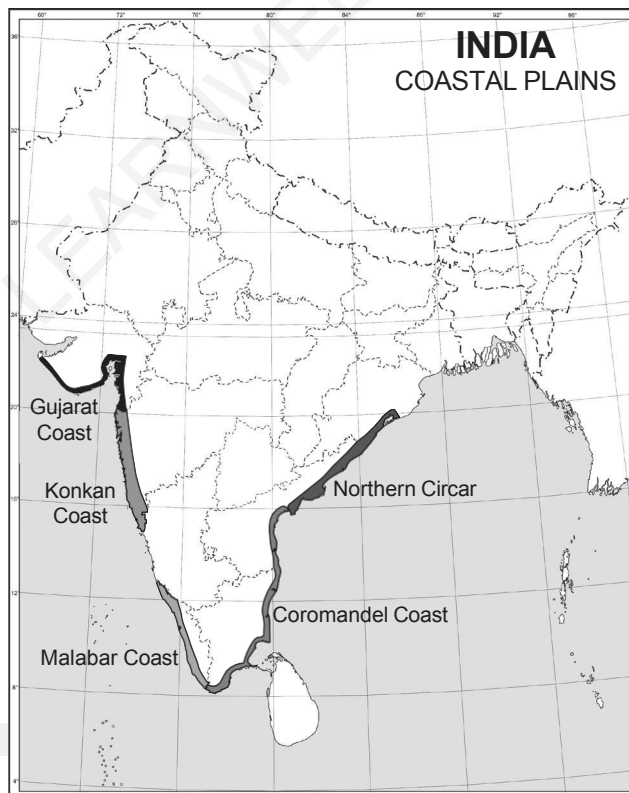
PICTURE-BASED QUESTIONS

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1. The picture shows a plateau with steep slopes, similar to the Peninsular Plateau of India, which is made of hard, crystalline rocks and includes regions like the Northern Plateau and the Deccan Plateau.
2. According to the text, such regions have many minerals because they are made of hard, crystalline rocks that are millions of years old. The text also states that the Aravalli Hills, which are part of India's old fold mountains, are rich in minerals like marble and zinc, showing that ancient plateau regions contain valuable natural resources.

MAP SKILLS

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Building a large city in the Thar Desert would be difficult because the region receives very little rainfall and suffers from an acute shortage of water. The climate is extremely hot during the day and very cold at night, which makes living conditions harsh. The area has sandy soil, very little vegetation, and shifting sand dunes that make construction and farming challenging. Strong winds often cause dust storms, adding to the difficulty. These problems can be overcome by bringing water through canals and pipelines, using modern construction methods to protect buildings from heat and sand, planting trees to stabilise the soil, and adopting efficient irrigation techniques. Such measures can help make life and development possible in the desert.

(Answer may vary)

You can actively learn about the geography of different regions by observing maps, reading about landforms, climate and resources, and exploring how these factors shape people's daily lives. Watching educational videos, visiting museums, or travelling to nearby places can also help you see how geography influences culture, food, clothing and occupations. Talking to people from different regions, participating in school projects, and comparing your region with others help you understand their needs and challenges. When you learn how geography affects lifestyles and traditions, you become more respectful, open-minded and appreciative of the diversity found across different parts of the world.