



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: IX	Department: : SOCIAL SCIENCE	Subject: Geography
Chapter 4 Question Bank :4	Topic: Climate	Year :2023-24

1.	Define 'weather and climate'.
A.	Weather – The conditions of the atmosphere at a given place for a short period of time with regard to its temperature, atmospheric pressure, wind humidity and precipitation. Climate – The sum total of weather conditions and variations over a large area for a long period of time (more than 30 years).
2.	What are the elements of weather and climate?
A.	The elements of weather and climate are – temperature, atmospheric pressure, wind, cloud and precipitation.
3.	What do you understand by the word 'monsoon'?
A.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is derived from the Arabic word 'mausim', which means season.• The term refers to the seasonal reversal of the wind direction through the year.
4.	India has diverse climatic conditions. Explain this statement.
A.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In summer, Rajasthan may record 50°C whereas; it may about 20°C in Jammu and Kashmir.• In winter, Jammu and Kashmir may record -45°C. On the other hand Thiruvananthapuram may have 20°C.• Meghalaya receives 400 cms. of rainfall in a year but it drops to less than 10 cms. in Ladakh and western Rajasthan.• Precipitation is mostly in the form of snowfall in the Himalayas while it only rains over the rest of the country.• Most of the country receives rainfall from June to September excepting Tamil Nadu and the northern part of the country, which receives rainfall during October and November.
5.	What are the controls affecting the climate of India? OR Explain the major factors influencing the climate of India.
A.	The important factors that influence the climate of India can be identified as follows: (a) Latitudinal Location- India lies in the Northern Hemisphere with the Tropic of Cancer (23°30'N) passing almost through the middle of India. Areas to its south have tropical type of climate, while areas to its north have characteristics of sub-tropical climate. (b) Altitude - The mountainous areas to the north of India have average altitude of about 6,000 meters. The Himalayas prevent the cold winds from Central Asia from entering the subcontinent. It is because of these mountains that this subcontinent experiences comparatively milder winters as compared to central Asia. (c) Relief Features – Relief plays a major role in determining the climate of a place. High mountains act as barriers for cold or hot winds. They may also cause precipitation if they are high enough and lie in the path of rain-bearing winds. (d) Pressure and Winds. The pressure and wind conditions over India are unique. They result in seasonal reversal of the wind system and monsoon winds dominate the climate of India.

	(e) Distance from the sea. Places at coastal locations, e.g. Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, have maritime or equable climate due to the moderating influence of the sea. But places in the interior of the country, far from the sea, experience extreme climate due to continentality, e.g. Delhi.
6.	The bulk of rainfall in India is concentrated over a few months.
A.	The bulk of rainfall is concentrated over the months of June-September. As winter approaches, there is a reversal in the direction of surface winds and monsoons withdraw from the Northern Plains.
7.	Which winds account for rainfall along the Malabar coast?
A.	Malabar Coast gets rains from South-West Monsoon Winds.
8.	Why does India have a monsoon type of climate?
A.	India has monsoon type of climate because of strong influence of the monsoon winds on the Indian Subcontinent. The summer monsoon causes heavy rainfall when they blow from sea to land. The winter monsoon winds blow from the interior of the continent to the sea and do not cause much rain.
9.	The Tamil Nadu coast receives winter rainfall.
A.	Winter rains in Tamil Nadu are caused due to the north-east trade winds.
10	Which part of India does experience the highest diurnal range of temperature and why?
A.	Part of India that experiences the highest diurnal range of temperature is Thar Desert. This is present towards western side of India in the state of Rajasthan. This is because it is filled with sand which gets heated up quickly during day and cooled up very quickly during nights. There is no sea closer to this area and hence there is no moderating effect.
11.	How are the 'breaks' in monsoon rainfall explained?
A.	Monsoon tends to have 'breaks' in rainfall; which means that there are wet and dry spells in between. The monsoon rains take place only for a few days at a time and then come the rainless intervals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The breaks in monsoon rains are related to the movement of the 'monsoon trough of low pressure'. • When the axis of the monsoon trough lies over the plains, rainfall is good in these parts. • When the axis shifts closer to the Himalayas, there is widespread rainfall in the mountains and longer dry spells in the plains.
12.	Describe the general weather conditions of the cold weather season.
A.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starts by mid-November in northern India and continues till February. • December and January are the coldest months. • Temperature decreases from the south (24°C - 25°C) to north (10°C - 15°C). • Days are warm and nights are cold. Frost is common in higher regions. • The cold north-east trade winds prevail over the country. They give rainfall to the eastern coast along Tamil Nadu. • The north-western plains get light rainfall from western disturbances which are of great importance for the growing of rabi crops. • Peninsular India does not have a well-defined cold weather season. • It is generally cool, dry, fine weather with clear skies and low humidity and low temperatures.

<p>13.</p> <p>A.</p>	<p>Describe the main features of the hot weather season.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is experienced from March to May. • March has the highest temperature of 38°C in the Deccan, April – Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh - 42°C, May north-western part of India - 45°C. • As a result of intense heating, a low pressure area (a monsoon trough) is developed mainly in the north-western part of India by the end of May. It extends from the Thar Desert to Patna and Chotanagpur Plateau. • “Loo” – the strong, hot and dry winds blow during the day over northern and north-western India. Direct exposure to these winds sometimes proves fatal. • Dust storms in the evening are very common during May in north and north-western India. They bring temporary respite from the oppressing heat as they lower the temperature slightly and bring light rain and cool breeze. • Locally formed thunderstorms associated with violent winds, torrential downpour accompanied by hail stones, known as Kalbaisakhi in West Bengal. • Pre-monsoon showers, locally called ‘mango-showers’, are a common phenomenon in Kerala and Karnataka. They help in the early ripening of mangoes.
<p>14.</p> <p>A.</p>	<p>What is October Heat?</p> <p>The months of October and November are a period of transition from hot rainy season to dry winter condition. Due to this temperature falls and the pressure rises. The increase in pressure is marked by clear skies and rise in temperature. But the land is still moist. Due to high temperature conditions and humidity, the weather becomes oppressive. We perspire and feel uneasy. This is known as October Heat.</p>
<p>15.</p> <p>A.</p>	<p>Explain the progress of the advancing monsoon in India along with its characteristic features.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A low-pressure area is developed over the interior parts of India in summer. Winds from the southern hemisphere are attracted towards this low pressure area. They cross the equator and reach India as the south-west monsoon winds. Near peninsular India they divide into 2 branches – Arabian Sea Branch and Bay of Bengal Branch. • Arabian Sea Branch of the monsoon is obstructed by the Western Ghats and brings heavy rainfall to the windward side of the Western Ghats. • They a fair amount of rainfall in the Deccan Plateau and Madhya Pradesh. • Thereafter, they enter the Ganga plains and mingle with the Bay of Bengal Branch. • Another part of the Arabian Sea branch strikes the Saurashtra Peninsula and Kutch and passes over Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana and joins the Bay of Bengal Branch. • The Bay of Bengal branch strikes the north-eastern parts of the country, causing heavy rainfall in the region. • The lofty mountains cause the winds to deflect towards the west over the Ganga Plains. • The alternation of dry and wet spells due to the variation of intensity, frequency and duration of the tropical depressions cause floods in one and droughts in the other. • These winds irregular and unpunctual in their arrival as well as retreat.
<p>16.</p> <p>A.</p>	<p>Why does the rainfall decrease from the east to the west in Northern India?</p> <p>Rainfall decreases from the east to the west in Northern India because there is a decrease in the moisture content of the winds. As the moisture-bearing winds of the Bay of Bengal branch of the southwest monsoon move further and further inland, the moisture gradually decreases and results in low rainfall when moving westwards. Consequently, states like Gujarat and Rajasthan in western India get very little rainfall.</p>

<p>17.</p> <p>A.</p>	<p>Discuss the unifying role of the monsoons in India.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Himalayas protect the sub-continent from extremely cold winds and enables northern India to have uniformly high temperature. • The peninsular plateau under the influence of the sea has moderate temperature. • The seasonal alternation of wind systems and weather conditions provide a rhythmic cycle of seasons. • The Indian landscape, its animal and plant life, its entire agricultural calendar and the life of the people, including their festivities revolve around the phenomena of monsoon. • Year after year, the people of India, from north to south and from east to west eagerly await the arrival of the monsoon despite its uncertainties and uneven distribution of rainfall. • Monsoon winds bind the whole country by providing water to set agricultural activities in motion. • River valleys which carry water also unite as a single river valley unit.
<p>18.</p> <p>A.</p>	<p>Mawsynram receives the highest rainfall. Why?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located on the crest of the southern range of Khasi Hills. • The Bay of Bengal Branch of the south-west monsoons strikes this region directly from the south. • The moisture laden winds rise and cause heavy rainfall.
<p>19.</p> <p>A.</p>	<p>What are the characteristic features of the retreating monsoons?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October to November. • The monsoon trough of low pressure becomes weaker and is replaced by high pressure. • High temperatures and humidity, weather becomes oppressive due to October heat. • Tropical cyclones, originating in the Bay of Bengal, hit the eastern coast of India and cause heavy rainfall. • Coromandel Coast receives the bulk of its rains in this season.
<p>20.</p> <p>A.</p>	<p>The deltas of the Godavari, Krishna and Cauvery/eastern coast are struck by cyclones frequently. Why?</p> <p>The shift of the low-pressure area from north- western India to the Bay of Bengal in the retreating monsoon season, leads to the formation of tropical cyclones in the latter. They move out and strike the eastern coast of the southern peninsula.</p>
<p>21.</p> <p>A.</p>	<p>Parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat, and the leeward side of the Western Ghats are drought- prone. Why?</p> <p>Parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat and the leeward side of the Western Ghats are drought-prone because of the scanty rainfall received by these regions during the monsoon rains:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aravallis running parallel to Arabian Sea branch, provide no barrier. • The progressive decrease in the humidity of the winds of the Bay of Bengal branch decreases rainfall from east to west. <p><u>Leeward side of the Western Ghats</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the leeward side is the rain-shadow area, the regions lying in this region receive very little rain from the Arabian Sea branch. It is the windward side of the Ghats that receives the maximum rain.

22. Seasonal reversal of the wind direction takes place over the Indian subcontinent. Why?

- A.**
- India lies in the belt of the north-east trade winds.
 - With the apparent northward movement of the sun, temperature rises over the subcontinent. An intense low-pressure area develops over the dry north-western part of the country by May.
 - The trade winds from the southern hemisphere are attracted towards it. They cross the equator and blowing over the Indian Ocean reach India as the south-west Monsoon winds.
 - These moisture laden winds replace the north-east trade winds in the summer.