Climate

Standard difficulty · 20 questions · 40 marks · Time: 37 minutes

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: ____ / 40

Write full answers in Sections B and C. Answers are on the last page — try every question first!

Section A — Choose the correct answer — 8 × 1 = 8 marks

1. The south-west monsoon sets in over the Kerala coast by about:
   (a) 15th July **(b)** 1st September **(c)** 1st May **(d)** 1st June

2. What is meant by “blossom showers”?
   (a) the name for nor’westers in Assam
   (b) hot, dry, oppressive winds over the northern plains
   (c) showers that make coffee flowers bloom in Kerala
   (d) dreaded evening thunderstorms of Bengal and Assam

3. In which months does the traditional season of Hemanta fall?
   (a) January–February **(b)** May–June
   (c) March–April **(d)** November–December

4. What is the effect of relief on India’s climate?
   (a) windward slopes get heavy rain and leeward sides stay dry
   (b) unequal heating creates the pressure zones that reverse the winds
   (c) coasts are equable while the interior has extremes
   (d) the south is tropical, the north sub-tropical and temperate

5. A place in India receives 32 cm of rain a year. In which rainfall category is it?
   (a) low (50–100 cm) **(b)** high (over 200 cm)
   (c) inadequate (under 50 cm) **(d)** medium (100–200 cm)

6. The south-west monsoon reaches the Kerala coast by about 1st June. Suppose it reaches a town 23 days later. On what date is that?
   (a) 23 June **(b)** 25 June **(c)** 24 June **(d)** 1 July

7. In the Thar desert the day temperature may be around 40 °C and the night temperature 21 °C. What is the range between day and night?
   (a) 19 °C **(b)** 21 °C **(c)** 61 °C **(d)** 24 °C

8. Suppose a hill station gets 270 cm of rain a year and a desert town gets 18 cm. How many times as much rain does the hill station get?
   (a) 15 times **(b)** 18 times **(c)** 150 times **(d)** 25 times

Section B — Short answer — 8 × 2 = 16 marks

9. What is the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone?

10. What is each? (a) mango showers (b) the loo

11. Name the months of each traditional season: (a) Hemanta (b) Shishira

12. What is the effect of each on India's climate: (a) distance from the sea (b) relief

13. Where does each bring rain? (a) the Bay of Bengal branch moving north-east (b) the Arabian Sea branch over Saurashtra and Kachchh

14. Suppose the monsoon reaches town A 18 days and town B 30 days after it reaches Kerala on 1st June. On what dates does it reach each, and which town is likely further north?

15. Find the difference in temperature on the same day: (a) a cold desert at −15 °C and a coastal city at 32 °C (b) a desert town at 35 °C and a hill town at 24 °C.

16. India's average annual rainfall is about 125 cm. Place A gets 24 cm and place B 85 cm. How far above or below the average is each, and in which rainfall category is each?

Section C — Longer answers — 4 × 4 = 16 marks

17. India's climate has unity and diversity. Explain with examples.

18. Match each with its description: (a) mango showers (b) the loo (c) nor'westers. Choose from: pre-monsoon showers in Kerala and coastal Karnataka that help mangoes ripen; hot, dry, oppressive winds over the northern plains; dreaded evening thunderstorms of Bengal and Assam.

19. Suppose the monsoon bursts over Kerala on 1st June, reaches a city in central India 15 days later and a city in the north-west 34 days later. (a) On what dates? (b) How many days apart are the two cities' onsets? (c) What is meant by a "break" in the monsoon?

20. Three stations record (a) 332 cm, (b) 142 cm, (c) 377 cm of rain a year. (i) Put each in its rainfall category. (ii) Find the average of the three, to one decimal place. (iii) Why is the windward side of the Western Ghats so wet?

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Answer key

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Q	Answer	Working
1	**(d) 1st June**	—
2	**(c) showers that make coffee flowers bloom in Kerala**	—
3	**(d) November–December**	—
4	**(a) windward slopes get heavy rain and leeward sides stay dry**	—
5	**(c) inadequate (under 50 cm)**	—
6	**(c) 24 June**	1 June + 23 days
7	**(a) 19 °C**	40 − 21
8	**(a) 15 times**	270 ÷ 18
9	**A low-pressure zone where the trade winds converge and air rises; in July it lies over the Ganga plain as the monsoon trough.**	—
10	**(a) pre-monsoon showers in Kerala and coastal Karnataka that help mangoes ripen (b) hot, dry, oppressive winds over the northern plains**	—
11	**(a) November–December (b) January–February**	—
12	**(a) coasts are equable while the interior has extremes (b) windward slopes get heavy rain and leeward sides stay dry**	—
13	**(a) widespread rain in the Brahmaputra valley (b) only scanty rain over western Rajasthan**	—
14	**A: 19 June; B: 1 July; town B**	1 June + 18; 1 June + 30
15	**(a) 47 °C (b) 11 °C**	32 − (−15); 35 − 24
16	**A: 101 cm below, inadequate (under 50 cm); B: 40 cm below, low (50–100 cm)**	compare with 125
17	**All of India has a monsoon rhythm, yet temperatures range from about 55 °C in western Rajasthan to minus 45 °C near Leh, and rainfall from over 1,000 cm in the Khasi hills to under 10 cm in Jaisalmer.**	—
18	**(a) pre-monsoon showers in Kerala and coastal Karnataka that help**	—

Q	Answer	Working
	mangoes ripen (b) hot, dry, oppressive winds over the northern plains (c) dreaded evening thunderstorms of Bengal and Assam	
19	**(a) 16 June and 5 July (b) 19 days (c) a dry spell of one or more weeks during the rainy season**	1 June + 15; 1 June + 34; 34 − 15
20	**(i) (a) high (over 200 cm) (b) medium (100–200 cm) (c) high (over 200 cm) (ii) 283.7 cm (iii) Moist Arabian Sea winds rise up the slopes, cool and shed heavy rain.**	(332 + 142 + 377) ÷ 3

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