Structure and Physiography

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 Peninsular Block is made mainly of very ancient:

(a) alluvium and clay **(b)** basalts and corals
(c) sandstones and shales **(d)** gneisses and granites

2. Which describes the northern plain?

(a) alluvial plains of the Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra
(b) the Andaman and Nicobar groups and Lakshadweep
(c) a narrow submerged west coast and a broad emergent east coast
(d) dunes and barchans with under 150 mm of rain

3. Which describes the Peninsular Block?

(a) coral islands far out at sea
(b) a flat ice-covered plateau
(c) young, weak and flexible, still being uplifted
(d) ancient gneisses and granites, rigid since the Cambrian

4. Where are the Maikal range?

(a) the Western Ghats **(b)** the Eastern Ghats
(c) the northern edge of the Deccan plateau **(d)** the Meghalaya plateau

5. Where is Saddle Peak?

(a) the Nilgiri hills **(b)** Great Nicobar
(c) South Andaman **(d)** North Andaman

6. Anaimudi is 2,695 m high and Mount Diavolo is 515 m high. How many metres higher is the taller one?

(a) 2,180 m **(b)** 2,190 m **(c)** 3,210 m **(d)** 2,280 m

7. The northern plains stretch about 3,200 km from east to west. Suppose they were 190 km wide all along. What would their area be?

(a) 1,216,000 sq km **(b)** 3,390 sq km
(c) 608,000 sq km **(d)** 60,800 sq km

8. Suppose the Bhabar is 9 km wide and the Tarai south of it is 17 km wide at a place. How far is it across both belts?

(a) 153 km **(b)** 8 km **(c)** 26 km **(d)** 36 km

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

9. Name India’s three geological divisions.

10. Describe each physiographic division: (a) the coastal plains (b) the islands

11. Where is each part of the Western Ghats? (a) the Cardamom hills (b) Sahyadri

12. Which island group is described? (a) raised parts of submarine mountains (b) 220–440 km off the Kerala coast

13. Describe each belt of the northern plain: (a) Khadar (b) Bhangar

14. Where are Saddle Peak (738 m) and Mount Thuiller (642 m), and how much higher is the taller?

15. In which state is each coast? (a) the Malabar coast (b) the Goan coast

16. A Himalayan stream falls 494 m in 19 km; a Peninsular river falls 246 m in 246 km. Find each gradient in m per km. What landforms show the Himalayan rivers are in a youthful stage?

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

17. Compare the island groups of the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal.

18. Match each with its feature: (a) the northern plain (b) the northern and north-eastern mountains (c) the coastal plains. Choose from: a narrow submerged west coast and a broad emergent east coast; parallel ranges of the Himalayas and the north-eastern hills; alluvial plains of the Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra.

19. (a) Arrange these peaks from highest to lowest: Dodabetta (2,637 m), Anaimudi (2,695 m), Mount Thuiller (642 m). (b) How much higher is the highest than the lowest? (c) Where is each peak?

20. Suppose the northern plain is 300 km wide at a place, with a Bhabar belt of 10 km and a Tarai belt of 18 km at its northern edge. (a) How wide is the rest, the belt of Bhangar and Khadar? (b) What happens to streams in the Bhabar and the Tarai? (c) Distinguish Bhangar from Khadar.

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Answer key

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Q	Answer	Working
1	(d) gneisses and granites	—
2	(a) alluvial plains of the Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra	—
3	(d) ancient gneisses and granites, rigid since the Cambrian	—
4	(c) the northern edge of the Deccan plateau	—
5	(d) North Andaman	—
6	(a) 2,180 m	2,695 − 515
7	(c) 608,000 sq km	3,200 × 190
8	(c) 26 km	9 + 17
9	The Peninsular Block, the Himalayas and other Peninsular mountains, and the Indo-Ganga-Brahmaputra Plain.	—
10	(a) a narrow submerged west coast and a broad emergent east coast (b) the Andaman and Nicobar groups and Lakshadweep	—
11	(a) Kerala, in the far south (b) Maharashtra	—
12	(a) Andaman and Nicobar (b) Lakshadweep	—
13	(a) new alluvial deposits (b) old alluvial deposits	—
14	Saddle Peak: North Andaman; Mount Thuiller: Great Nicobar; Saddle Peak by 96 m	738 − 642
15	(a) Karnataka and Kerala (b) Goa	—
16	Himalayan 26, Peninsular 1 m per km; gorges, V-shaped valleys, rapids and waterfalls	494 ÷ 19; 246 ÷ 246
17	The Bay of Bengal has about 572 islands, raised submarine mountains with some volcanic ones (Barren Island); Lakshadweep has about 36 coral islands, 11 inhabited, 220–440 km off Kerala.	—

Q	Answer	Working
18	**(a) alluvial plains of the Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra (b) parallel ranges of the Himalayas and the north-eastern hills (c) a narrow submerged west coast and a broad emergent east coast**	—
19	**(a) Anaimudi, Dodabetta, Mount Thuiller (b) 2,053 m (c) Dodabetta: the Nilgiri hills; Anaimudi: the Anaimalai hills; Mount Thuiller: Great Nicobar**	2,695 − 642
20	**(a) 272 km (b) Streams drop boulders and vanish in the Bhabar and re-emerge as marshes in the Tarai. (c) Bhangar is old alluvium; Khadar is new alluvium.**	300 − 10 − 18

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