Rhythms of Nature

Standard difficulty · 20 questions · 40 marks · Time: 54 minutes

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: ____ / 40

Show your working for 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. Day and night happen because the Earth:

(a) stops each evening **(b)** moves away from the Sun at night
(c) moves around the Moon **(d)** spins on its axis

2. Grishma ritu is the season of:

(a) summer **(b)** winter **(c)** pre-winter **(d)** autumn

3. Gram (chickpea) is mainly grown in:

(a) summer **(b)** all year round **(c)** rainy season **(d)** winter

4. Which of these changes takes MANY YEARS?

(a) a shower of rain **(b)** the colour of the sky at sunset
(c) a flash of lightning **(d)** a sapling growing into a big tree

5. Which of these changes happens in just a few minutes?

(a) a soap bubble bursting **(b)** a baby growing into an adult
(c) a river changing its course **(d)** a mountain wearing down

6. The Earth spins once in about 24 hours. About how many hours are there in 27 days?

(a) 324 hours **(b)** 648 hours **(c)** 51 hours **(d)** 672 hours

7. On one day the Sun rises at 5:50 a.m. and sets at 5:40 p.m. How long is the daytime?

(a) 11 hours 50 minutes **(b)** 12 hours 10 minutes
(c) 12 hours 50 minutes **(d)** 11 hours 20 minutes

8. On a winter morning it is 3 °C in Srinagar and 34 °C in Kochi. How many degrees warmer is Kochi?

(a) 36 °C **(b)** 37 °C **(c)** 31 °C **(d)** 34 °C

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

9. What causes day and night?

10. Write the English name of each season: (a) Varsha (b) Sharad

11. In which season is each mainly grown (summer, rainy season or winter)? (a) rice (b) mustard

12. Does it take "minutes" or "years"? (a) a sapling growing into a big tree (b) a rainbow fading

13. The Sun rises at 6:15 a.m. and sets at 5:45 p.m. How long is the daytime, and how long is the night until the next sunrise (at the same time)?

14. A rain gauge in Meghalaya recorded 64 mm, 74 mm, 86 mm, 72 mm and 60 mm on five days. What was the total rainfall?

15. Ravi is 11 years old. A banyan tree in his village was planted 18 years before he was born. How old is the tree?

16. About how many times does the Earth spin around in 8 weeks and 5 days?

Section C — Word problems — 4 × 4 = 16 marks

17. Explain day and night with a torch and a ball.

18. In June the Sun rises at 6:05 a.m. and sets at 6:50 p.m. In December it rises at 6:40 a.m. and sets at 6:35 p.m. (a) How long is the daytime in each month? (b) How much shorter is the December day? (c) In which season are days longer?

19. A farmer grows bajra, gram (chickpea) and peas. In which season is each mainly grown? Why do crops need the right season?

20. Sort these changes into those that take minutes and those that take many years, and add one change that happens every year: a flash of lightning; a river changing its course; clouds moving across the sky; a sapling growing into a big tree.

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Answer key

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Q	Answer	Working
1	**(d) spins on its axis**	—
2	**(a) summer**	—
3	**(d) winter**	—
4	**(d) a sapling growing into a big tree**	—
5	**(a) a soap bubble bursting**	—
6	**(b) 648 hours**	24 × 27 = 648
7	**(a) 11 hours 50 minutes**	5:40 p.m. − 5:50 a.m.
8	**(c) 31 °C**	34 − 3 = 31
9	**The Earth spins on its axis; the side facing the Sun has day and the other side has night.**	—
10	**(a) rainy season (b) autumn**	—
11	**(a) rainy season (b) winter**	—
12	**(a) years (b) minutes**	—
13	**Day: 11 hours 30 minutes; night: 12 hours 30 minutes**	11 hours 30 minutes + 12 hours 30 minutes = 24 hours
14	**356 mm**	64 + 74 + 86 + 72 + 60
15	**29 years**	11 + 18 = 29
16	**61 times**	once a day: 8 × 7 + 5 = 61
17	**In a dark room, shine a torch (the Sun) on a ball (the Earth) with a mark for India. Turn the ball slowly. When the mark faces the torch it is day there; when it turns away it is night. The Earth turns once in about 24 hours.**	—
18	**(a) June: 12 hours 45 minutes; December: 11 hours 55 minutes (b) 50 minutes (c) Summer.**	—
19	**bajra: rainy season; gram (chickpea): winter; peas: winter. Each crop needs a certain amount of warmth and water, which comes only in its season.**	—
20	**Minutes: a flash of lightning; clouds moving across the sky. Years: a river changing its course; a sapling growing into a big tree. Every year: for example the monsoon, the seasons or a mango tree flowering.**	—