

Read the passage. Then answer the questions below 1, 2 and 3.

Anyone visiting Sri Lanka may often hear the word Ayubowan. This word means ‘May you have the gift of long life’. It is with this traditional greeting that everyone is welcomed to Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka is variously known as: Serendip, Ceylon, Teardrop of India, Pearl of the Indian Ocean, etc. These names reveal the richness and beauty of this island nation. Many travellers, from ancient mariners and merchants to present day tourists, have been attracted by the beauty of this island.

Sri Lanka is located in the Indian Ocean, just off the south-eastern coast of India. Shaped like a teardrop, the island of Sri Lanka measures about 415 kilometers from north to south, and about 220 kilometers from east to west, with a total land area of about 65,600 square kilometers. It has more than 1340 kilometers of coastline.

Despite its modest size Sri Lanka has a population of about 20 million. Sri Lanka is a multi-religious, multi racial and multi- lingual country. The four major ethnic groups are the Sinhalese, Sri Lankan Tamils, Indian Tamils and Sri Lankan Moors or Muslims. A fifth group, the Veddhas are the original inhabitants of the island. The ancient history of Sri Lanka is depicted in the Hindu epic the Ramayana and in the Mahavamsa or ‘The Great Chronicle’.

Sri Lanka’s economy has traditionally been based on agriculture. The emphasis is on exporting crops such as tea, rubber, and coconuts. In fact, Sri Lanka is the largest tea exporter of the world. The country is also a major producer and supplier of a variety of spices such as cinnamon, cardamom, pepper, cloves, and nutmeg. Cinnamon first originated in Sri Lanka and was introduced later to the world by the Arab merchants.

Sri Lanka’s archaeological treasures may be compared to other civilizations of the past like the Golden Age of Greece, the Roman Empire and Mayan citadels. The culture has been influenced by the western colonisers and eastern traders. That resulted in developing a unique mix of races and religions, arts and crafts, festivals and costumes in this small country.

Besides the man-made riches, one may find the God-given blessings of nature in Sri Lanka. The island is circled by azure seas and is blessed with sandy beaches, green hills, cascading waterfalls, abundant wildlife and a variety of flowers and fruits. The country abounds with coconut groves, spice gardens, tea estates and many other gardens and woods. Travellers from all over the world come to Sri Lanka. Here, a weary traveller can pass a relaxing day by a palm-shaded lagoon looking at the endless ocean. And for the adventurous, days can be full of excitement snorkelling, swimming, fishing or sailing.

Word	Meaning (Bangla)	Synonym	Antonym
Gift	উপহার	Present, Offering	Loss, Deprivation

Word	Meaning (Bangla)	Synonym	Antonym
Richness	সমৃদ্ধি	Abundance, Wealth	Poverty, Scarcity
Beauty	সৌন্দর্য	Elegance, Loveliness	Ugliness, Unattractiveness
Attracted	আকর্ষিত	Fascinated, Drawn	Repelled, Disgusted
Ancient	প্রাচীন	Old, Historic	Modern, New
Mariners	নাবিক	Sailors, Seafarers	Landlubbers, Non-sailors
Teardrop	অশ্রুবিন্দু	Droplet, Bead	— (No exact opposite)
Coastline	উপকূলরেখা	Shore, Seaboard	Inland, Interior
Modest	বিনয়ী, সাধারণ	Humble, Simple	Arrogant, Extravagant
Multi-racial	বহু জাতিগোষ্ঠীর	Diverse, Mixed	Homogeneous, Single-race
Emphasis	গুরুত্ব	Focus, Stress	Neglect, Ignorance
Exporting	রপ্তানি করা	Selling abroad, Trading	Importing, Buying
Civilization	সভ্যতা	Society, Culture	Barbarism, Chaos
Influence	প্রভাব	Effect, Impact	Insignificance, Weakness
Unique	অনন্য	Distinctive, Special	Common, Ordinary
Azure	নীল	Sky-blue, Cerulean	Dull, Gray
Abundant	প্রচুর	Plentiful, Overflowing	Scarce, Lacking
Adventure	রোমাঞ্চকর অভিজ্ঞতা	Excitement, Exploration	Safety, Routine
Excitement	উত্তেজনা	Thrill, Enthusiasm	Boredom, Indifference
Weary	ক্লান্ত	Tired, Exhausted	Energetic, Refreshed
বঙ্গানুবাদ			

শ্রীলঙ্কা ভ্রমণকালে প্রায়শই "আয়ুবোয়ান" শব্দটি শোনা যায়। এই শব্দের অর্থ হলো "আপনার দীর্ঘায়ু হোক"। এই ঐতিহ্যবাহী অভিবাদন দিয়েই শ্রীলঙ্কায় সবাইকে স্বাগত জানানো হয়। শ্রীলঙ্কা বিভিন্ন নামে পরিচিত, যেমন **সেরেনডিপ, সিলন, ভারতের অশ্রুবিন্দু, ভারত মহাসাগরের মুক্তো** ইত্যাদি। এই নামগুলো দ্বীপরাষ্ট্রটির সমৃদ্ধি ও সৌন্দর্যের প্রতিচ্ছবি বহন করে। প্রাচীন নাবিক ও বণিক থেকে শুরু করে আধুনিক পর্যটক পর্যন্ত অনেকেই এই দ্বীপের সৌন্দর্যে মুগ্ধ হয়েছেন।

শ্রীলঙ্কা ভারত মহাসাগরে অবস্থিত, যা ভারতের দক্ষিণ-পূর্ব উপকূলের ঠিক কাছেই অবস্থিত। দ্বীপটি অশ্রুবিন্দুর আকারে গঠিত এবং উত্তর থেকে দক্ষিণে প্রায় **৪১৫ কিলোমিটার** এবং পূর্ব থেকে পশ্চিমে প্রায় **২২০ কিলোমিটার** জায়গা জুড়ে বিস্তৃত। শ্রীলঙ্কার মোট ভূমির পরিমাণ **৬৫,৬০০ বর্গ কিলোমিটার** এবং এর **১৩৪০ কিলোমিটারেরও বেশি উপকূলরেখা** রয়েছে।

শ্রীলঙ্কার আয়তন তুলনামূলকভাবে ছোট হলেও এর জনসংখ্যা প্রায় **২০ মিলিয়ন (দুই কোটি)**। এটি একটি **বহু-ধর্মীয়, বহু-জাতিগত ও বহু-ভাষাভাষী দেশ**। এখানে প্রধান চারটি জাতিগোষ্ঠী রয়েছে— **সিংহলী, শ্রীলঙ্কান তামিল, ভারতীয় তামিল, এবং শ্রীলঙ্কান মুর (মুসলিম)**। এছাড়া **বেদা** নামে একটি ক্ষুদ্র জাতিগোষ্ঠী রয়েছে, যারা দ্বীপের আদিবাসী জনগোষ্ঠী হিসেবে পরিচিত। শ্রীলঙ্কার প্রাচীন ইতিহাস **হিন্দু মহাকাব্য রামায়ণ ও মহাবংস (The Great Chronicle)-এ** উল্লেখ করা হয়েছে।

শ্রীলঙ্কার অর্থনীতি ঐতিহ্যগতভাবে কৃষিভিত্তিক। এর প্রধান রপ্তানি পণ্য হলো **চা, রাবার এবং নারকেল**। প্রকৃতপক্ষে, **শ্রীলঙ্কা বিশ্বের সর্ববৃহৎ চা রপ্তানিকারক দেশ**। এছাড়া এটি বিভিন্ন মসলার অন্যতম প্রধান উৎপাদক ও সরবরাহকারী, যেমন **দারুচিনি, এলাচ, গোলমরিচ, লবঙ্গ এবং জয়ফল**। উল্লেখযোগ্যভাবে, **দারুচিনি প্রথম শ্রীলঙ্কায় উৎপন্ন হয়েছিল এবং পরবর্তীতে আরব বণিকদের মাধ্যমে বিশ্বে পরিচিত হয়**।

শ্রীলঙ্কার প্রত্নতাত্ত্বিক ঐতিহ্য **গ্রীসের স্বর্ণযুগ, রোমান সাম্রাজ্য এবং মায়ান সভ্যতার** মতো অন্যান্য প্রাচীন সভ্যতার সঙ্গে তুলনীয়। দেশটির সংস্কৃতি **পশ্চিমা ঔপনিবেশিকদের ও পূর্বের ব্যবসায়ীদের দ্বারা প্রভাবিত হয়েছে**। ফলে শ্রীলঙ্কায় বিভিন্ন জাতি ও ধর্মের সংমিশ্রণে **এক অনন্য সংস্কৃতি** গড়ে উঠেছে, যা শিল্পকলা, উৎসব ও পোশাক-পরিচ্ছদে প্রতিফলিত হয়।

শ্রীলঙ্কার কেবল মানবসৃষ্ট ঐতিহ্যই নয়, প্রকৃতির আশীর্বাদও রয়েছে। দ্বীপটি **গাঢ় নীল সমুদ্র দ্বারা বেষ্টিত এবং সোনালি বালুকাবেলার সৌন্দর্যে পরিপূর্ণ**। এখানে **সবুজ পাহাড়, ঝর্ণা, বন্যপ্রাণী, ফুল ও নানা প্রজাতির ফল** রয়েছে। দেশটির **নারকেল বাগান, মসলার বাগান, চা-বাগান এবং অন্যান্য বনভূমি** প্রকৃতির এক অপূর্ব দান। বিশ্বজুড়ে ভ্রমণকারীরা শ্রীলঙ্কায় আসেন। ক্লান্ত পর্যটকেরা **খেজুর গাছের ছায়ায় বসে লেগুনের ধারে সমুদ্রের ঢেউ দেখতে দেখতে বিশ্রাম নিতে পারেন**। আর যারা অ্যাডভেঞ্চারপ্রেমী, তারা **সাঁতার, ডাইভিং, মাছ ধরা কিংবা পালতোলা নৌকা ভ্রমণে দিন কাটাতে পারেন**।

01. Choose the correct answer from the following alternatives.

(a) What cultural influences have contributed to the unique blend of races, religions, arts, and festivals in Sri Lanka, according to the text?

- (i) The colonial history of Sri Lanka (ii) The dominance of a single ethnic group
- (iii) The absence of external interactions (iv) The focus on isolationism

(b) In the context of Sri Lanka's history, what are the "Mahavamsa" and the "Ramayana"?

- (i) Famous beaches in Sri Lanka
- (ii) Traditional festivals in Sri Lanka
- (iii) Ancient texts that depict Sri Lanka's history and culture
- (iv) Important political treaties in Sri Lanka's history

(c) How has Sri Lanka's population diversity contributed to its cultural richness?

- (i) It has led to conflicts and tensions.
- (ii) It has resulted in a homogenous cultural identity.
- (iii) It has facilitated the exchange of traditions and languages.
- (iv) It has caused isolation and separation.

(d) What role did Arab merchants play in the introduction of cinnamon to the world?

- (i) They discovered cinnamon in Sri Lanka
- (ii) They first cultivated cinnamon in Sri Lanka
- (iii) They brought cinnamon from Africa to Sri Lanka
- (iv) They introduced cinnamon to the world from Sri Lanka

(e) What are some of the God-given blessings of nature that are mentioned in the text as being present in

Sri Lanka?

- (i) Extensive deserts and dunes (ii) Snow-capped Mountain ranges
- (iii) Sandy beaches, green hills, and waterfalls (iv) Vast plains and grasslands

(f) How does the text depict the historical significance of Sri Lanka's archaeological treasures?

- (i) They rival the achievements of the Egyptian pyramids.
- (ii) They hold a unique place similar to the Golden Age of Greece.

- (iii) They surpass the artistic achievements of the Mayan citadels.
- (iv) They are on par with the engineering marvels of the Roman Empire.
- (g) How has Sri Lanka's geographical shape influenced its various names?
 - (i) Its shape resembles a seagull, leading to the name "Seagull of the Indian Ocean."
 - (ii) Its shape resembles a teardrop, leading to the name "Teardrop of India."
 - (iii) Its shape is circular, leading to the name "Circle of Asia."
 - (iv) Its shape resembles a heart, leading to the name "Heart of the East."

02. Answer the following questions.

- (a) How does the traditional Sri Lankan greeting "Ayubowan" encapsulate the cultural values of the country? Explain its significance in the context of social interactions and hospitality.
- (b) Explain how Sri Lanka's coastal location has contributed to its appeal as a travel destination. Describe the natural attractions offered by its coastline and their impact on tourism.
- (c) Discuss the historical significance of spices like cinnamon in Sri Lanka's trade and cultural heritage. How have spices influenced the nation's relationship with other regions?
- (d) According to the text, why is Sri Lanka a multi-religious, multi-racial and multi-cultural country?
- (e) What resulted in developing a unique mix of races and religions, arts and crafts, festivals and costumes in this small country?

3. Fill in each gap with a suitable word based on the information of the text given above.

Sri Lanka is positioned in (a)_____ Indian Ocean, close to the southeastern (b) _____ of India. Resembling a teardrop in shape, the country stretches around 415 kilometers from its northern to southern tip and (c)_____ 220 kilometers from east to west. Its total land area (d)_____ roughly 65,600 square kilometers, and it boasts over 1340 kilometers of coastline (e)_____ the Indian Ocean.

Answers:

- 1.(a) (i) The colonial history of Sri Lanka (b) (iii) Ancient texts that depict Sri Lanka's history and culture (c) (iii) It has facilitated the exchange of traditions and languages. (d) (iv) They introduced cinnamon to the world from Sri Lanka (e) (iii) Sandy beaches, green hills, and waterfalls (f) (ii) They hold a unique place similar to the Golden Age of Greece (g) (ii) Its shape resembles a teardrop, leading to the name "Teardrop of India."

(a) “Ayubowan” serves as a warm traditional greeting in Sri Lanka, reflecting the cultural emphasis on well-wishing and longevity. This greeting signifies the importance of extending good wishes to one another, symbolizing respect and hospitality.

(b) Sri Lanka’s coastal location in the Indian Ocean makes it a magnet for tourists seeking natural beauty. The coastline offers a spectrum of attractions, from sandy beaches to rocky shores, marine life to lush vegetation. The azure seas attract beach lovers, while waterfalls, hills, and wildlife along the coast appeal to nature enthusiasts.

(c) Spices, particularly cinnamon, have historical significance in Sri Lanka. Cinnamon originated there and was introduced to the world by Arab merchants. Cinnamon, alongside other spices, has shaped Sri Lanka’s cultural and economic relationship with regions involved in historical spice trade.

(d) Sri Lanka’s multi-religious, multi-racial, and multi-cultural fabric emerges from its diverse ethnic groups, coexisting religions, and historical interactions. The convergence of various cultural influences, including those from eastern traders and western colonizers, has contributed to the nation’s rich and varied identity.

(e) The unique mix of races, religions, arts, crafts, festivals, and costumes in Sri Lanka is a result of historical interactions with eastern traders and western colonizers. These interactions brought a fusion of cultures, languages, and traditions, shaping the diverse and vibrant cultural landscape of the country.

3 (a) the (b) edge (c) approximately (d) covers (e) along

Practice:

01. What cultural influences have contributed to the unique blend of races, religions, arts, and festivals in Sri Lanka, according to the text?

- (i) The colonial history of Sri Lanka
- (ii) The dominance of a single ethnic group
- (iii) The absence of external interactions
- (iv) The focus on isolationism

02. What does the traditional Sri Lankan greeting "Ayubowan" mean?

- (i) May you have the gift of long life
- (ii) Have a good day
- (iii) Welcome to Sri Lanka
- (iv) Safe travels

03. Which of the following is NOT a historical or poetic name for Sri Lanka?

- (i) Serendip

- (ii) Teardrop of India
- (iii) Land of the Rising Sun
- (iv) Pearl of the Indian Ocean

04.Where is Sri Lanka located?

- (i) In the Atlantic Ocean
- (ii) In the Mediterranean Sea
- (iii) In the Indian Ocean
- (iv) In the Pacific Ocean

05What is the approximate length of Sri Lanka from north to south?

- (i) 220 km
- (ii) 415 km
- (iii) 1340 km
- (iv) 65,600 km

06. What is the approximate width of Sri Lanka from east to west?

- (i) 415 km
- (ii) 220 km
- (iii) 1340 km
- (iv) 65,600 km

7. How long is Sri Lanka's coastline?

- (i) 415 km
- (ii) 1340 km
- (iii) 220 km
- (iv) 65,600 km

8. What is the total land area of Sri Lanka?

- (i) 65,600 square kilometers
- (ii) 1340 square kilometers
- (iii) 415,000 square kilometers
- (iv) 220,000 square kilometers

9. What is the estimated population of Sri Lanka?

- (i) 10 million
- (ii) 15 million
- (iii) 20 million
- (iv) 50 million

10. Sri Lanka is a multi-religious, multi-racial, and multi-lingual country. Which of the following is NOT one of the four major ethnic groups in Sri Lanka?

- (i) Sinhalese
- (ii) Sri Lankan Tamils

- (iii) Indian Tamils
- (iv) Chinese

11. Which ethnic group is considered to be the original inhabitants of Sri Lanka?

- (i) Sinhalese
- (ii) Veddhas
- (iii) Sri Lankan Moors
- (iv) Indian Tamils

12. Which historical text provides an account of ancient Sri Lanka?

- (i) The Ramayana
- (ii) The Mahavamsa
- (iii) Both (i) and (ii)
- (iv) The Bhagavad Gita

13. What has traditionally been the main basis of Sri Lanka's economy?

- (i) Fishing
- (ii) Agriculture
- (iii) Tourism
- (iv) Manufacturing

14. Which agricultural products are major exports of Sri Lanka?

- (i) Tea, rubber, and coconuts
- (ii) Coffee, rice, and wheat
- (iii) Bananas, maize, and cotton
- (iv) Sugarcane, tobacco, and soybeans

15. Sri Lanka is the largest exporter of which product?

- (i) Rubber
- (ii) Coconut
- (iii) Tea
- (iv) Spices

16. According to the text, which spice originally came from Sri Lanka?

- (i) Pepper
- (ii) Nutmeg
- (iii) Cinnamon
- (iv) Cardamom

17. Who introduced cinnamon from Sri Lanka to the world?

- (i) The British
- (ii) The Portuguese
- (iii) The Arab merchants
- (iv) The Dutch

18. Which of the following is NOT an example of Sri Lanka's archaeological heritage?

- (i) The Golden Age of Greece
- (ii) The Roman Empire
- (iii) Mayan Citadels
- (iv) The Great Wall of China

19. Which of the following has influenced Sri Lankan culture?

- (i) Western colonizers
- (ii) Eastern traders
- (iii) Both (i) and (ii)
- (iv) Neither (i) nor (ii)

20. How has external influence shaped Sri Lanka's culture?

- (i) It resulted in a mix of races, religions, and traditions
- (ii) It made Sri Lanka isolated from the world
- (iii) It caused a decline in artistic heritage
- (iv) It led to a single dominant culture

21. What makes Sri Lanka's natural beauty stand out?

- (i) Green hills and cascading waterfalls
- (ii) Sandy beaches and azure seas
- (iii) Abundant wildlife and spice gardens
- (iv) All of the above

22. What are some of the activities available for adventure seekers in Sri Lanka?

- (i) Snorkeling and swimming
- (ii) Fishing and sailing
- (iii) Both (i) and (ii)
- (iv) None of the above

23. Where can a weary traveler relax in Sri Lanka?

- (i) A palm-shaded lagoon
- (ii) A busy marketplace
- (iii) A mountain summit
- (iv) A crowded train station

24. Which feature best describes Sri Lanka's coastline?

- (i) Deserted and dry
- (ii) Rugged and icy
- (iii) Rich in sandy beaches
- (iv) Lined with glaciers

25. What type of landscape is commonly found in Sri Lanka?

- (i) Vast deserts
- (ii) Green hills and forests

- (iii) Large mountain glaciers
- (iv) Endless grasslands

26. Which of the following natural elements is commonly found in Sri Lanka?

- (i) Coconut groves
- (ii) Spice gardens
- (iii) Tea estates
- (iv) All of the above

27. What attracts tourists to Sri Lanka?

- (i) Archaeological treasures
- (ii) Natural beauty
- (iii) Adventure activities
- (iv) All of the above

28. What makes Sri Lanka's history significant?

- (i) It is depicted in the Ramayana and Mahavamsa
- (ii) It is only recorded in oral stories
- (iii) It is largely unknown
- (iv) It is similar to modern history

29. How does the text describe Sri Lanka's location in relation to India?

- (i) Just off the south-eastern coast of India
- (ii) In the middle of the Atlantic Ocean
- (iii) North of China
- (iv) West of Africa

30. What is the shape of Sri Lanka?

- (i) Circular
- (ii) Square
- (iii) Teardrop
- (iv) Rectangular

31. Which geographical feature makes Sri Lanka resemble a teardrop?

- (i) Its rivers
- (ii) Its shape
- (iii) Its climate
- (iv) Its mountains

32. How has Sri Lanka's culture developed over time?

- (i) Through the influence of colonizers and traders
- (ii) By isolating itself from foreign influences
- (iii) By adopting only Western traditions
- (iv) By rejecting outside interactions

33. Which of the following is NOT a major spice produced in Sri Lanka?

- (i) Cloves
- (ii) Cardamom
- (iii) Vanilla
- (iv) Nutmeg

34. Which of the following factors has contributed to Sri Lanka's unique mix of cultures?

- (i) Interaction with both Eastern and Western civilizations
- (ii) Complete isolation from other cultures
- (iii) The dominance of a single ethnic group
- (iv) Lack of trade and migration

35. Which of the following statements about Sri Lanka is true?

- (i) It is a multi-religious and multi-ethnic country
- (ii) It has only one dominant ethnic group
- (iii) It is located in the Pacific Ocean
- (iv) It exports more coffee than tea

36. What type of climate is commonly found in Sri Lanka?

- (i) Desert
- (ii) Tropical
- (iii) Arctic
- (iv) Tundra

37. What major body of water surrounds Sri Lanka?

- (i) The Arabian Sea
- (ii) The Bay of Bengal
- (iii) The Indian Ocean
- (iv) The Pacific Ocean

38. What role did Arab merchants play in Sri Lanka's history?

- (i) They introduced Sri Lanka's tea to the world
- (ii) They introduced Sri Lankan cinnamon to the world
- (iii) They colonized Sri Lanka
- (iv) They built ancient temples

39. Which industry is NOT mentioned as an important part of Sri Lanka's economy?

- (i) Agriculture
- (ii) Tourism
- (iii) Manufacturing
- (iv) Space exploration

40. Why do tourists visit Sri Lanka?

- (i) To experience its historical and natural beauty

- (ii) To escape cold weather
- (iii) To explore its modern skyscrapers
- (iv) To study its deserts

41. Which of the following best describes Sri Lanka's biodiversity?

- (i) It has a wide variety of flowers, fruits, and wildlife
- (ii) It has only a few species of animals and plants
- (iii) It is mostly covered in ice and snow
- (iv) It has no unique plant species

42. What do weary travelers enjoy in Sri Lanka?

- (i) Palm-shaded lagoons and ocean views
- (ii) Desert landscapes
- (iii) Snowy mountain peaks
- (iv) Industrial zones

43. Which of the following has NOT contributed to Sri Lanka's cultural diversity?

- (i) The influence of traders
- (ii) The influence of colonizers
- (iii) Complete cultural isolation
- (iv) The mixing of different ethnic groups

44. What makes Sri Lanka's archaeological treasures significant?

- (i) They are compared to civilizations like Greece and Rome
- (ii) They are mostly modern structures
- (iii) They were built by one ethnic group alone
- (iv) They were never influenced by external civilizations

45. How does Sri Lanka's landscape support agriculture?

- (i) It has fertile land suitable for growing tea, spices, and coconuts
- (ii) It has vast deserts that support farming
- (iii) It has an extremely cold climate perfect for agriculture
- (iv) It does not support agriculture

46. Which of the following ethnic groups in Sri Lanka is considered indigenous?

- (i) Sinhalese
- (ii) Indian Tamils
- (iii) Veddhas
- (iv) Sri Lankan Moors

47. What does the text suggest about Sri Lanka's historical interactions with other civilizations?

- (i) Sri Lanka has been influenced by both Eastern and Western civilizations
- (ii) Sri Lanka has never had contact with other civilizations

- (iii) Sri Lanka has only been influenced by the West
- (iv) Sri Lanka's culture has remained unchanged for centuries

48. Which of the following is an example of Sri Lanka's man-made riches?

- (i) Tea plantations
- (ii) Ancient ruins
- (iii) Spice gardens
- (iv) Waterfalls

49. What makes Sri Lanka's beaches attractive to visitors?

- (i) Their golden sands and palm trees
- (ii) Their cold climate
- (iii) Their rocky and dangerous nature
- (iv) Their complete isolation from tourism

50. How has Sri Lanka contributed to the world's spice trade?

- (i) By being a major producer and supplier of cinnamon, cardamom, and pepper
- (ii) By importing all spices from other countries
- (iii) By relying only on domestic spice consumption
- (iv) By stopping spice production in recent years

51. How is Sri Lanka's economy linked to global markets?

- (i) Through the export of tea, rubber, and spices
- (ii) By isolating itself from trade
- (iii) By producing mostly for local consumption
- (iv) By relying solely on fishing

52. What activity is NOT mentioned as an option for adventure seekers in Sri Lanka?

- (i) Snorkeling
- (ii) Fishing
- (iii) Skiing
- (iv) Sailing

53. What type of traveler is Sri Lanka suitable for?

- (i) Nature lovers
- (ii) Adventure seekers
- (iii) History enthusiasts
- (iv) All of the above

54. What is the significance of Sri Lanka's location in the Indian Ocean?

- (i) It has made the island an important center for trade and travel
- (ii) It has kept the country isolated
- (iii) It has no impact on Sri Lanka's economy
- (iv) It prevents foreign influence

55. How does Sri Lanka's natural beauty compare to its historical treasures?

- (i) Both are equally important attractions for visitors
- (ii) Only the natural beauty is significant
- (iii) Only the historical treasures attract visitors
- (iv) Neither is important for tourism

56. What makes Sri Lanka's landscape ideal for tea cultivation?

- (i) Its tropical climate and green hills
- (ii) Its dry and sandy terrain
- (iii) Its lack of mountains and hills
- (iv) Its extremely cold temperatures

57. Why is Sri Lanka often called the “Pearl of the Indian Ocean”?

- (i) Because of its natural beauty and strategic location
- (ii) Because it is shaped like a pearl
- (iii) Because it is the largest island in the world
- (iv) Because it is the only country in the Indian Ocean

58. Which group influenced Sri Lanka’s artistic and cultural development?

- (i) Eastern traders
- (ii) Western colonizers
- (iii) Both (i) and (ii)
- (iv) Neither (i) nor (ii)

59. How do the diverse ethnic groups in Sri Lanka contribute to its culture?

- (i) By bringing different traditions, festivals, and crafts
- (ii) By maintaining a single, uniform tradition
- (iii) By avoiding interactions with each other
- (iv) By limiting artistic and cultural expression

60. Why is Sri Lanka's tea industry globally significant?

- (i) It is the largest exporter of tea in the world
- (ii) It produces the rarest spices
- (iii) It is the only country that grows tea
- (iv) It no longer exports tea

2. answer the following question

(a) What does the word "Ayubowan" mean, and why is it significant in Sri Lanka?

"Ayubowan" means "May you have the gift of long life." It is a traditional greeting used in Sri Lanka to welcome visitors warmly. This reflects the country's hospitality and the deep-rooted cultural values of respect and well-being.

(b) What are some of the names Sri Lanka is known by?

Sri Lanka is known by several names, including Serendip, Ceylon, Teardrop of India, and Pearl of the Indian Ocean. These names highlight the beauty, uniqueness, and historical significance of the island. They also reflect the admiration that travelers and explorers have had for Sri Lanka over the centuries.

(c) Where is Sri Lanka located, and what is its shape?

Sri Lanka is an island nation located in the Indian Ocean, just off the southeastern coast of India. It is shaped like a teardrop, giving it the nickname "Teardrop of India." The island extends approximately 415 kilometers from north to south and 220 kilometers from east to west, with a total coastline of more than 1340 kilometers.

(d) What makes Sri Lanka a multi-ethnic and multi-religious country?

Sri Lanka is home to a diverse population of about 20 million people and includes several ethnic groups. The four major groups are the Sinhalese, Sri Lankan Tamils, Indian Tamils, and Sri Lankan Moors or Muslims, along with the indigenous Veddhas. This diversity has led to a rich blend of languages, religions, and cultural traditions across the country.

(e) How is Sri Lanka's history reflected in literature?

Sri Lanka's ancient history is documented in two major literary works: the Hindu epic the Ramayana and the Mahavamsa (The Great Chronicle). These texts narrate the island's past, including myths, legends, and historical events. They provide insights into Sri Lanka's cultural and religious heritage, linking it to both Indian and Buddhist traditions.

(f) What are the main agricultural exports of Sri Lanka?

Sri Lanka's economy has traditionally been based on agriculture, with a focus on exporting tea, rubber, and coconuts. The country is the largest tea exporter in the world, and its tea industry is renowned globally. Additionally, Sri Lanka is a major producer of spices, including cinnamon, cardamom, pepper, cloves, and nutmeg.

(g) What is the historical significance of cinnamon in Sri Lanka?

Cinnamon first originated in Sri Lanka, making it one of the island's most famous exports. It was later introduced to the world by Arab merchants, who played a key role in Sri Lanka's trade history. Today, Sri Lanka remains one of the top producers and suppliers of cinnamon globally.

(h) How do Sri Lanka's archaeological treasures compare to other ancient civilizations?

Sri Lanka's archaeological sites and historical monuments are often compared to great civilizations like Greece, Rome, and the Mayan Empire. The country has ancient ruins, Buddhist stupas, and magnificent rock fortresses that showcase its rich heritage. These sites reflect the architectural, cultural, and artistic achievements of ancient Sri Lankan civilizations.

(i) How has Sri Lanka's culture been shaped by external influences?

Sri Lanka's culture has been shaped by both Western colonizers and Eastern traders. Colonizers such as the Portuguese, Dutch, and British introduced new languages, architecture, and customs. Meanwhile, traders from India, China, and the Middle East contributed to Sri Lanka's diverse arts, crafts, and religious practices, creating a unique cultural identity.

(j) What are some natural features that make Sri Lanka beautiful?

Sri Lanka is blessed with a variety of natural landscapes, including sandy beaches, green hills, cascading waterfalls, and rich wildlife. The island is surrounded by azure seas and is home to coconut groves, spice gardens, and tea estates. These natural wonders make Sri Lanka a breathtaking destination for tourists.

(k) Why is Sri Lanka called the "Pearl of the Indian Ocean"?

Sri Lanka is often referred to as the "Pearl of the Indian Ocean" due to its strategic location, natural beauty, and rich resources. The island has been an important center for trade and cultural exchange for centuries. Additionally, its lush greenery, scenic landscapes, and biodiversity make it one of the most picturesque countries in the world.

(l) How does Sri Lanka attract tourists?

Sri Lanka attracts tourists with its historical sites, cultural diversity, and natural beauty. Visitors can explore ancient ruins, tea plantations, wildlife sanctuaries, and pristine beaches. Adventure seekers can also enjoy snorkeling, swimming, fishing, and sailing, making it a perfect destination for different types of travelers.

(m) What are some of Sri Lanka's man-made and natural riches?

Sri Lanka is home to both man-made and natural riches. Man-made treasures include ancient cities, Buddhist temples, and tea plantations, while natural attractions include golden beaches, tropical forests, waterfalls, and exotic wildlife. This combination makes Sri Lanka a unique and diverse travel destination.

(n) How does Sri Lanka's tea industry impact its economy?

Sri Lanka's tea industry plays a crucial role in the country's economy by generating significant revenue through exports. The country is the largest exporter of Ceylon tea, which is famous worldwide for its quality and flavor. The tea plantations also provide employment opportunities to thousands of workers.

(o) How does Sri Lanka's location benefit its trade?

Sri Lanka is located at a strategic point in the Indian Ocean, making it an important hub for international trade and maritime routes. For centuries, merchants from Arabia, India, China, and Europe have used Sri Lanka as a center for trade. This has helped the country develop a strong economic and cultural network with other regions.

(p) What makes Sri Lanka's beaches special?

Sri Lanka's beaches are known for their golden sands, clear blue waters, and palm trees. Many beaches offer opportunities for relaxation, surfing, snorkeling, and deep-sea fishing. These scenic coastlines attract tourists from around the world who want to enjoy the natural beauty of the island.

(q) How do Sri Lanka's festivals reflect its cultural diversity?

Sri Lanka celebrates a variety of festivals, reflecting its multi-ethnic and multi-religious society. Major celebrations include Vesak (Buddhist festival), Diwali (Hindu festival), Eid (Muslim festival), and Christmas (Christian festival). These festivals showcase the country's rich traditions, colorful processions, and deep spiritual beliefs.

(r) How does Sri Lanka support adventure tourism?

Sri Lanka offers a wide range of adventure activities, making it an ideal destination for thrill-seekers. Visitors can enjoy snorkeling, swimming, fishing, hiking, and sailing in different parts of the island. The country's diverse landscapes, from mountains to coastlines, provide perfect conditions for outdoor exploration.

(s) Why do weary travelers find Sri Lanka relaxing?

Weary travelers find peace and relaxation in Sri Lanka's calm lagoons, serene beaches, and lush greenery. Many visitors enjoy sitting by palm-shaded shores, watching the endless ocean and soaking in the natural beauty. The country also offers luxury resorts and Ayurvedic wellness treatments, making it a perfect retreat for relaxation.

(t) Why is Sri Lanka important in the global spice trade?

Sri Lanka is a major producer and supplier of spices like cinnamon, cardamom, pepper, cloves, and nutmeg. Its spices have been highly valued since ancient times and were traded by Arab, European, and Asian merchants. The country remains a key player in the global spice industry, known for its high-quality products.

For practice:

3 Set 1

.Sri Lanka is home to a diverse population of about (a) ____ million people, consisting of multiple (b) ____ groups. The four major ethnic communities are the Sinhalese, Sri Lankan Tamils, Indian Tamils, and Sri Lankan Moors or (c) _____. Additionally, a smaller indigenous group, the (d) _____, are considered the original inhabitants of the island. This diversity has led to a rich blend of (e) _____ languages, religions, and traditions.

Set 2:

Sri Lanka's economy primarily depends on (a) _____ activities, with major exports including tea, (b) _____, and coconuts. The country is recognized as the world's largest (c) _____ exporter. It is also well known for its production of spices such as cinnamon, (d) _____, pepper, and nutmeg. Among these, (e) _____ originated in Sri Lanka and was later introduced to the world by Arab merchants.

Set 3:

The natural beauty of Sri Lanka is enhanced by its (a) _____ beaches, green hills, and cascading (b) _____. The country has an abundance of wildlife, including (c) _____ groves, spice gardens, and tea estates. Tourists from around the world visit Sri Lanka to relax by palm-shaded (d) _____ and explore the vast (e) _____ of the ocean through activities like snorkeling and sailing.

