

COMPETENCY-FOCUSED PRACTICE QUESTIONS

ICSE - CLASS X

GEOGRAPHY

PREFACE

With a growing emphasis on competency-based education globally, the educational landscape in India has also steered towards high-quality learning experiences that allow learners to incorporate critical thinking and problem-solving approaches. This approach goes beyond rote memorisation and focuses on developing the skills and knowledge that students need to apply in their real-world scenarios.

The Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE), as a national-level progressive examination board, has taken several steps to infuse competency-based education in CISCE schools through teacher capacity-building on item development for competency-based assessments and the incorporation of competency-focused questions at the ICSE and ISC levels from the examination year 2024.

To further facilitate the adoption of competency-based assessment practices in schools and to support teachers and students towards the preparation for attempting higher-order thinking questions in future board examinations, Item Banks of Competency-Focused Practice Questions for selected subjects at the ICSE and ISC levels have been developed. This Item Bank consists of a rich variety of questions, both objective and subjective in categories, aimed at enhancing the subject-specific critical and analytical thinking skills of the students.

In this Item Bank, each question is accompanied by the topic and cognitive learning domain/s that it intends to capture. The cognitive domains reflected in these questions include understanding, analysis, application, evaluation and creativity, along with some questions of the higher-order recall domain. The Answer Key at the end presents the possible answers to a given question, but it is neither limiting nor exhaustive.

These practice questions are also meant to serve as teacher resources for classroom assignments and as samplers to develop their own repository of competency-focused questions. Apart from offering a good practice of higher-order thinking skills, engaging with these questions would allow students to gauge their own subject competencies and use these *assessments for learning* to develop individual learning pathways.

During the development of this Item Bank, a large pool of questions was prepared by a team of experienced CISCE teachers. The questions that were finalised by the internal and external reviewers as being higher-order competency-focused questions have been collated in this item bank.

I acknowledge and appreciate all the ICSE and the ISC subject matter experts who have contributed to the development and review of these high-quality competency-focused questions for CISCE students.

We are hopeful that teachers and students will utilise these questions to support their teaching-learning processes.

October 2024

Dr. Joseph Emmanuel Chief Executive & Secretary CISCE

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COMPETENCY-FOCUSED PRACTICE QUESTIONS

ICSE - CLASS X

Geography

I: Mark or label on the Map (1 Mark)

S.No	Questions
1.	Mark and name a left-bank tributary of the Ganga River that is famous for floods.
2.	Mark and name the hill range located between the rivers Narmada and Tapi.
3.	Mark and name a river flowing through a rift valley
4.	Mark and name the city through which our standard meridian passes.
5.	Mark and name a hill called Blue Mountain.
6.	Mark and name a coast getting rain in retreating monsoon time.
7.	Mark and name the peak shared by Nepal and India.
8.	Mark and name a river called the Sorrow of Bengal.
9.	Mark and name the latitude marking the northern limit of the sun's apparent movement.
10.	Mark and name the commercial capital of India.
11.	Mark and name the Gulf between India and Sri Lanka.
12.	Mark and name the wind bringing rain in winter in northern India.
13.	Mark and name a river port.
14.	Mark and label an area with laterite soil.

15.	Mark and label the direction of S-W Monsoon wind.
16.	Mark and label an area with a dense population.

II: Multiple Choice Questions (1 Mark)

S.No	Questions
17.	[Water Resources]
	Namami Gange Yojna focuses on
	 (a) abatement of pollution in river Ganga (b) abatement of pollution in river Ganga and its conservation (c) abatement of pollution in river Ganga, its conservation and rejuvenation (d) afforestation and reafforestation, water conservation and soil conservation
	[Understanding]
18.	[Agriculture]
	Its fibre is 100% bio-degradable and environmentally friendly. It has low pesticide and fertiliser need. It is widely used in agricultural commodity bulk packaging. It is mostly cultivated in the delta region of West Bengal and Bangladesh.
	Identify the fibre.
	(a) jute
	(b) cotton (c) bamboo
	(d) coconut [Recall]
19.	[Manufacturing Industries]
	Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant [VISL] was started as the Mysore Iron Works on 18 January 1923 by Nalvadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar and his Diwan Sir M Visvesvaraya. It is now an integrated steel plant under the jurisdiction of the Steel Authority of India Limited.
	Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visvesvaraya_Iron_and_Steel_Plant
	With reference to the above explanation, under which category does VISL belong to?
	(a) Private Sector Industry
	(b) Public Sector Industry(c) Joint Sector Industry
	(d) Co-operative Sector Industry [Understanding & Application]

S.No	Questions	
20.	[Manufacturing Industries]	
	Read the two statements given below and select the correct option.	
	S1: The state of Maharashtra is emerging as the largest sugar-producing state in India	ı .
	S2: The black soil of Maharashtra is more fertile and well-drained.	
	 (a) S1 is true but S2 is false. (b) S2 is true but S1 is false. (c) S2 is a contributing factor to S1. 	
	(d) S1 and S2 are independent of each other. [Understandi	ng]
21.	[Soil Resources]	

Every year, the Ganges and the Brahmaputra bring millions of tons of silt into the plains of Bangladesh. They carve new courses every year. As a result, islands are created which last until they are washed away by fresh floods. These islands are locally known as chars.



Which of the following is the primary benefit provided by the chars for the local community?

- (a) rocky plains for smooth mobility.
- (b) fertile soil for subsistence farming.
- (c) the protection from man-eating tigers of nearby Sundarbans.
- (d) deposition of mineral resources from the Himalayas, such as precious stones.

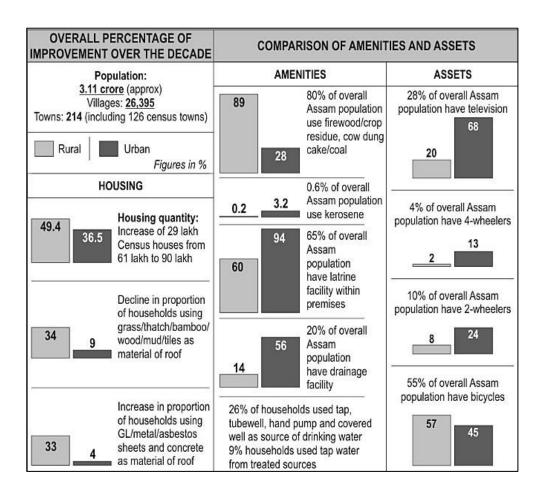
[Understanding]

S.No	Questions
22.	[Transport]
	River Rafting is journeying on a torrential river on an inflatable rubber boat. Rivers originating at high altitudes have torrential flow near their source.
	Which of the following places would be suitable for river rafting?
	 (a) Gomti in Lucknow (b) Hughli in Kolkata (c) Ganga in Rishikesh (d) Sabarmati in Ahmedabad [Analysis]
23.	[Water Resources]
	In certain parts of India, glaciers are the main source of water. The people in these areas use an innovative water harvesting technique by diverting glacier streams into small tanks. It is usually done in the evening when the glaciers are relatively melted.
	Which of these regions could be practising this?
	 (a) Khasi and Jantia hills (b) Ladakh region (c) Siwaliks hills (d) Tarai region [Analysis]
24.	[Soil Resources]
	See the picture alongside, which depicts an environmental disaster. Identify it.
	(Source: www.istockphoto.com)
	 (a) Soil erosion through landslides. (b) Soil erosion through an earthquake. (c) Soil erosion through perennial droughts. (d) Soil erosion through shifting cultivation. [Analysis]

S.No	Questions
25.	[Location, Extent and Physical Features] Which of the following figures is akin to the landform of the Deccan Plateau?
	(a) (b)
26	[Application]
26.	[Manufacturing Industries] The state of Arunachal Pradesh wants to encourage cottage industries in the state. Considering the natural resources and geographical factors of the region such as its high rainfall and temperate climate, which of these crafts is the best option to pursue?
	 (a) Ceramic pots and terracotta art (b) Decorative shell article (c) Bamboo and cane craft (d) Brass metal craft [Analysis]

S.No Questions

Shown below is the census report on improvement in the housing areas, household amenities and assets in Assam from 2001 to 2011. Based on the given data, answer Questions 27 and 28.



27. [Mineral & Energy Resources]

In 2011, the rural households in Assam mostly used one of the following sources of energy for cooking. Identify it.

- (a) Biogas
- (b) Kerosene
- (c) Firewood
- (d) Electricity [Analysis]

28. [Transport]

Which of the following modes of transport dominated rural and urban Assam in 2011?

- (a) Cars
- (b) Bicycles
- (c) Motorcycles
- (d) Both cars and bicycles

[Analysis]

S.No	Questions
29.	[Manufacturing Industries]
	Assertion: The government of India is promoting and planning to set up more mini-steel plants in India. Reason: Mini-steel plants are dependent on electric power, so they do not cause pollution.
	Based on the given Assertion and Reasoning, select the correct option:
	(a) Both Assertion and Reason are true, but Reason is NOT the correct explanation of the Assertion.
	(b) Both Assertion and Reason are true, and Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
	(c) Assertion is true, but Reason is false.
	(d) Both Assertion and Reason are incorrect. [Analysis]
30.	[Transport]
	The Prime Minister of India inaugurated the newly constructed road between Bangalore and Mysore on March 12, 2023. It is 119km long, 10 lanes, elevated, access-controlled road. This road is meant to facilitate fast-moving traffic between Bangalore and Mysore.
	Under which of the following categories does this road belong?
	(a) State highway.
	(b) Expressway
	(c) District road(d) None of the above [Application]
	(d) None of the above
31.	[Transport]
	Assertion: Helicopters are extensively used for rescue operations during natural calamities.
	Reason : Helicopters can hover, land in tight spaces, and conduct vertical take-offs and landings.
	Based on the given Assertion and Reasoning, select the correct option:
	(a) Both Assertion and Reason are true, but Reason is NOT the correct explanation of the Assertion.
	(b) Both Assertion and Reason are true, and Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
	(c) Assertion is true, but Reason is false.
	(d) Both Assertion and Reason are incorrect. [Analysis]

III: Fill in the blank (1 Mark)

S.No	Questions
32.	[Manufacturing Industries]
	The leading producer of copper in India is [Recall]
33.	[Natural Vegetation]
	The temperate forest in the Nilgiri, Anaimalai and Palani hills are known as
	[Recall]
34.	[Natural Vegetation]
	A majority of Indian farmers are smallholders who cannot afford inputs like fertilisers and pesticides. They therefore practice farming. [Understanding]
35.	[Agriculture]
	are called dry crops as they survive in less water. [Understanding]
36.	[Natural Vegetation]
	vegetation belt consists of trees like <i>shisham</i> , sandalwood and teak.
	[Understanding & Recall]
37.	[Soil Resources]
	Shelter belts are created to protect soil against erosion. [Recall]

IV: Short Answer Questions (2 Marks)

S.No **Questions** 38. [Manufacturing Industries] Study the images given below and answer the questions that follow. (a) Which textile industry is associated with the given images? (b) Name the state where this industry is thriving. [Analysis] **39.** [Interpretation of Topographical Maps] Map sheet no. G43S7: Eastings 29 to 38 and Northings 85 to 94. Why are covered tanks found in many places of the map extract? Give two reasons. [Understanding] 40. [Interpretation of Topographical Maps] Map sheet no. G43S7: Eastings 29 to 38 and Northings 85 to 94. Why does most of the area have cart tracks? [Analysis] 41. [Interpretation of Topographical Maps] Map sheet no. G43S7: Eastings 29 to 38 and Northings 85 to 94. How much time shall be taken for a person if he is moving from Northings 85 to 94 in a straight line at a speed of 1 km per hour? [Application]

S.No	Questions
42.	[Interpretation of Topographical Maps]
	Map sheet no. G43S7: Eastings 29 to 38 and Northings 85 to 94.
	Name the most important occupation of the people living in this area, giving a reason for the same. [Understanding]
43.	[Water Resources]
	India has had a history of famines because of rainfed agriculture and rapid population growth. After the era of the Green Revolution that began in the 1960s, India never experienced a famine-like situation; it did, however, experience a drought of the century in 1987. Northern states (Punjab, Haryana and western UP) with a high level of irrigation are contributing almost all of wheat and two-thirds of rice to the central pool of India.
	Source: Hira, G.S., Water Management in Northern States and the Food Security of India, Journal of Crop Improvement.
	(a) Mention <i>any two</i> methods of irrigation commonly practised in the Northern Plains of India.
	(b) For each method mentioned, state why it is popular here. [Understanding]

44. [Water Resources]



- (a) Identify the method of irrigation depicted in the picture.
- (b) Why is it so named?

[Recall & Application]

S.No Questions

45.

[Agriculture]



- (a) Name the method by which the paddy is being sown in the picture above.
- (b) Give two reasons to explain why this method of rice cultivation is restricted only to the prosperous farmers of the country. [Understanding & Application]

46. [Agriculture]

The global food system is facing immense challenges in the 21st century with climate change, population growth and malnutrition. Recognising the potential of millets in addressing current global challenges, the United Nations General Assembly declared 2023 as the International Year of Millets. This global campaign is designed to raise awareness about the benefits of millet and encourage actions to increase their production, consumption, and utilisation.

Source: International Journal of Plant & Soil Science- Volume 35, Issue 18, Page 1860-1871, 2023.

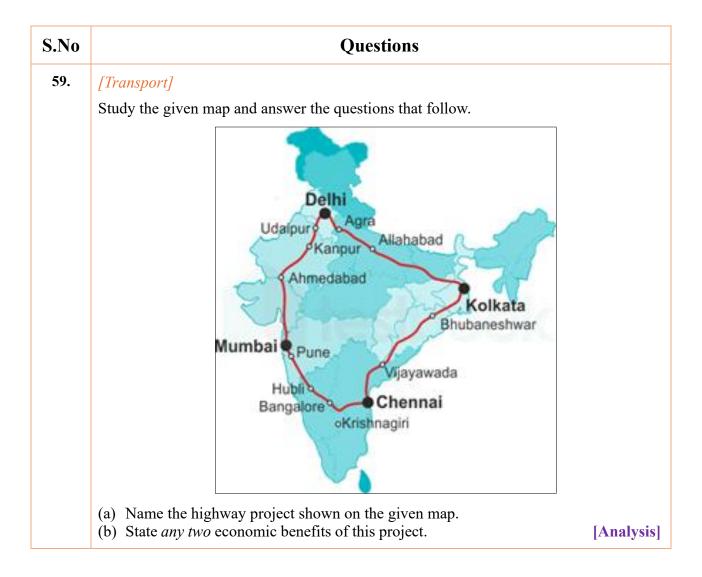
State two ways in which the cultivation of millets can help promote sustainable agriculture. [Understanding & Analysis]

S.No	Questions	
47.	[Agriculture]	
	"A small sugarcane farmer in western Uttar Pradesh, Shri Raghuvir Singh, is getting on with age and is thinking of selling his land and moving out of farming. He has two sons, both graduates and working in Gurgaon. He did not make his sons farmers because farming is hard work and is non-profitable. This is the story of most farmers in India. Wealth and security of the country comes from its land, and hence, what is needed is sustainable and high productivity agriculture."	
	Source: Chaudhuri, Sriroop, et al. "Land degradation—desertification in relation to farming practices in India: An overview of current practices and agro-policy perspectives." Sustainability 15.8 (2023)	
	(a) High productivity in agriculture will help boost our country's industrial sector. Explain.	
	(b) Enumerate <i>two</i> major problems encountered by a majority of India's farming community. [Understanding & Analysis]	
48.	[Transport]	
	"Road transport is the primary means of transport in India". Explain the statement by mentioning two suitable advantages of road transport. [Analysis]	
49.	[Mineral and Energy Resources]	
	How do manganese and copper differ in nature, even though both are metallic minerals?	
	[Understanding]	
50.	[Mineral and Energy Resources]	
	Manganese is roughly similar to iron's physical and chemical properties but is harder and more brittle.	
	Based on the properties of manganese mentioned in the above statement:	
	(a) In which industry is this mineral widely used?(b) What is its role in that industry? [Understanding]	

S.No	Questions
51.	[Mineral and Energy Resources]
	THE HODE In the control of the cont
	(a) What does "CNG" seen in the above picture mean?(b) Give a reason why "CNG" is being used in auto rickshaws these days.
	[Understanding & Analysis]
52.	[Interpretation of Topographical Maps]
	Map sheet no. G43S7: Eastings 29 to 38 and Northings 85 to 94. What does "dep" signify in grid square 3390? Name the agent responsible for it.
	[Recall & Understanding]
53.	[Interpretation of Topographical Maps]
	Map sheet no. G43S7: Eastings 29 to 38 and Northings 85 to 94.
	Mention <i>two</i> reasons that have led to the development of Dantiwada as the largest settlement in the given map. [Understanding & Analysis]
54.	[Climate]
	"Heatwave days highest in April in 15 years in Gangetic West Bengal."
	Source: IMD
	Mention <i>two</i> probable reasons for the above statement. [Analysis]
55.	[Climate]
	Give reasons:
	 (a) Rituja frequently travels between Bengaluru and Chennai and notices that the number of wet days is higher in Chennai than in Bengaluru. (b) The number of tropical cyclones experienced in the Bay of Bengal is more than in the Arabian Sea. [Analysis & Application]

V: Long Answer Questions (3 Marks)

S.No	Questions
56.	[Manufacturing Industries]
	Give a reason for each of the following.
	(a) Electronic industries are crucial for India's economic development. (b) Mini-steel plants do not have location preferences. (c) Pangalum has many IT industries. [Understanding & Analysis]
	(c) Bengaluru has many IT industries. [Understanding & Analysis]
57.	[Manufacturing Industries]
	Rajesh is a class X student, working on a project for school. He has a section on byproducts and includes a write-up on shoe polish.
	(a) Which industry is he writing about?(b) Name <i>any two</i> by-products of the industry that he is writing about.
	[Recall & Application]
58.	[Transport]
	India has a long coastline of 5,560 kms., having access to the sea on three sides with 11 major and 168 minor/intermediate ports. India lies in geographical proximity to important shipping routes, which gives a natural advantage to the country's shipping.
	Source- Directorate General of Shipping, Government of India.
	(a) Name the means of transport developed due to the above-mentioned geographical feature of India.
	(b) State <i>any two</i> advantages of the means of transport you mentioned.
	[Understanding & Application]



S.No Questions 60. [Climate] Study the picture given below and answer the following questions: 30 600 200 100 (a) State whether the above station experiences a maritime or a continental climate. Give a reason for your answer. (b) Name the winds which bring rainfall to the station. (c) Name a probable station experiencing such climatic conditions. [Understanding & Analysis] 61. [Waste Management] Although landfills are the cheapest waste management strategy, they are often touted as harmful to the environment. Name any three ways by which landfills cause harm to our environment. [Analysis]

S.No

Questions

62.

[Waste Management]





Above are the two pictures of an efficient waste reduction and waste management system.

- (a) Note the pictures carefully to mention the difference between the two.
- (b) What additional advantages does the waste management seen in the picture on the left have over the waste management seen in the picture to the right? [Analysis]

63. [Natural Vegetation]

In many parts of the world, man has disturbed the ecological balance. The factors responsible are deprivation of natural habitat and discriminate killing and hunting of animals. Many birds and animals face the danger of extinction today. Many programs like social forestry and *Van Mahotasava* should be popularised at regional and community levels. This will increase awareness.

- (a) State the human activities responsible for the loss of forest.
- (b) How do *Van Mahotsava* and social forestry help restore ecological balance?

[Understanding & Analysis]

S.No Questions

64. [Soil Resources]



- (a) Name the agent responsible for the erosion seen in the picture.
- (b) What may be done to restore the soil in such areas?

[Understanding]

65. [Water Resources]

Answer the following:

- (a) Name two major eutrophication-causing nutrients.
- (b) Based on your answer, how do these nutrients cause eutrophication in water bodies? [Understanding & Analysis]

66. [Water Resources]

When mixed in water, DDT accumulates in the cells of various aquatic organisms. Small fish consume zooplanktons that have DDT in them. Larger fish that consume small fish also consume DDT, and its concentration moves up the food chain.

- (a) Based on the example given above, identify and name the process.
- (b) How do they adversely affect human health?

[Understanding & Analysis]

Answer Key

S.No	Answers		
	Mapwork for Questions 1-15 is provided at the end of the Answer Key		
1.	Kosi		
2.	Satpura		
3.	Narmada		
4.	Prayagraj		
5.	Nilgiri		
6.	Coromandel		
7.	Kanchenjunga		
8.	Damodar		
9.	Tropic of Cancer		
10.	Mumbai		
11.	Gulf of Mannar		
12.	Western disturbance		
13.	Kolkata		
14.	Summit of eastern ghats/western ghats		
15.	S W Monsoon		
16.	(South) Kerala; (North)Uttar Pradesh		
17.	(c) abatement of pollution in river Ganga, its conservation and rejuvenation		
18.	(a) jute		
19.	(b) Public Sector Industry		
20.	(c) 2 is a contributing factor to S1.		
21.	(b) fertile soil for subsistence farming.		
22.	(c) Ganga in Rishikesh		

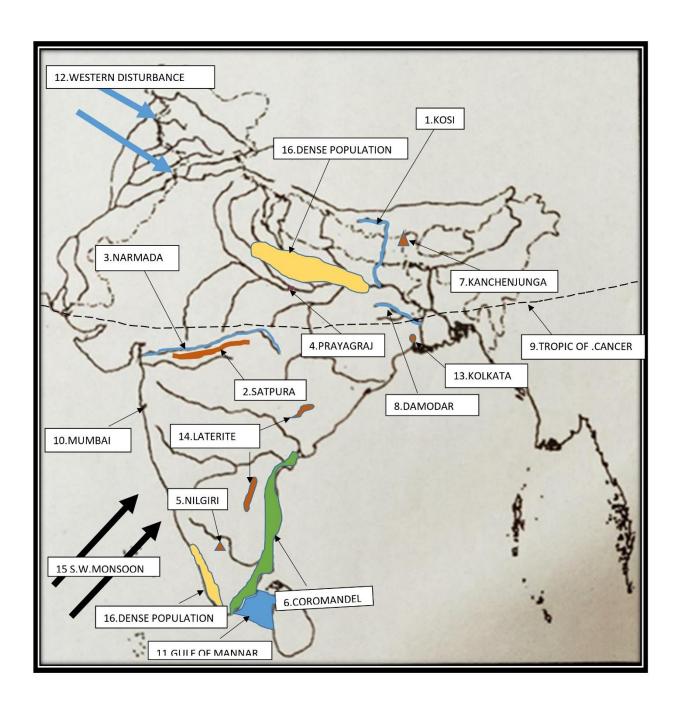
S.No	Answers
23.	(b) Ladakh region
24.	(a) Soil erosion through landslides.
25.	
26.	(c) bamboo and cane craft
27.	(c) Firewood
28.	(b) Bicycles
29.	(b) Both Assertion and Reason are true, and Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
30.	(a) Expressway
31.	(b) Both Assertion and Reason are true, and Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
32.	Madhya Pradesh
33.	Sholas
34.	subsistence
35.	Millets
36.	Tropical monsoon
37.	wind
38.	(a) Silk Industries (b) Karnataka
39.	To preserve water from evaporation and contamination.
40.	It is an undeveloped village area with agriculture as the main occupation. There is no developed industry. Lack of infrastructure development.

S.No	Answers
41.	10 hours
42.	Agriculture. Most of the area is yellow, and yellow shows the cultivated area.
43.	 Canals: Presence of perennial rivers Well: Presence of underground water in plenty
44.	Drip irrigation Water reaches the roots drop by drop, and so it is called drip irrigation
45.	Transplantation This method requires the application of fertilisers and irrigation facilities, thus making it expensive.
46.	 Income to farmers Export earner Adds to national income (Elaborate in a line on any two)
47.	(a) The agriculture sector provides raw materials to agro-based industries.(b) Soil erosion, irrigation facility is not sufficient, poor-quality seeds, small land holdings.
48.	 Roads link every nook and corner of the country. The cost of road construction is lower than that of railways. Roads can be constructed in difficult terrain, too. Roads offer door-to-door service. Transport of goods is safer by road transport as pilferage is minimised. Road transport supplements other forms of transport
49.	Manganese is a ferrous mineral and is heavy and bulky, whereas copper is a non-ferrous mineral and is lighter than manganese.
50.	(a) Iron and Steel industry.(b) Manganese is a ferroalloy used to manufacture steel that is rust-proof, stronger and more durable.
51.	(a) "CNG" is/ means compressed natural gas.(b) CNG is a clean fuel/ is eco-friendly, and is cheaper than petrol.
52.	The depression created by wind erosion
53.	Presence of water, cultivable land, transport facility and security.

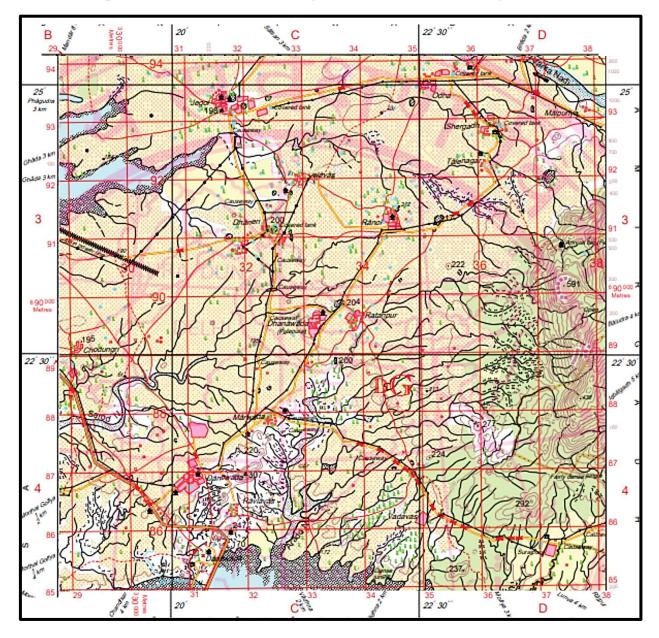
S.No	Answers
54.	(a) This is due to the El Nino effect leading to an earlier onset of summer compared to previous years.
	(b) Global warming leads to higher average temperatures, which in turn increases the likelihood and severity of heat waves.
55.	(a) Chennai is near the sea, and Bengaluru is in the interior
	(b) The Bay of Bengal is surrounded by land, so heat remains in the area for a longer time, creating cyclonic conditions.
56.	(a) Electronic industries help in the development of education, communication, transport, defence, etc.
	(b) Mini-steel plants use scrap iron and electric furnaces.
	(c) Bengaluru has pleasant and comfortable climatic conditions; readily available infrastructure; availability of skilled workers. (any one)
57.	Sugar industries
	Molasses, bagasse, and press mud.
58.	(a) Water/oceanic transport
	(b) Cheapest mode of transport; ideal for bulky and heavy material; fuel efficient and eco-friendly mode. (any two)
59.	(a) Golden Quadrilateral
	(b) Connects major cities and ports; provides an impetus to truck transport; enables the industrial development of the cities and villages enroute; helps in easy movement of traffic. (any two)
60.	(a) Maritime as temperature variation is not much
	(b) S W Monsoon
	(c) Kochi
61.	 Landfill gases such as methane are a major contributor to global warming. Most of the waste ending at a landfill site contains toxins. These toxins over a while seep into the ground and contaminate groundwater in the form of leachate and contaminate soil. Landfill sites produce bad odour. They are potential breeding grounds for bacteria, mosquitoes, rats and other scavengers spreading diseases. (Any three)

S.No	Answers
62.	(a) The picture on the left shows traditional composting, and the Picture on the right shows vermicomposting.
	(b) Traditional composting uses agricultural, garden, and kitchen wastes as well as dung for animals. Vermicomposting makes use of earthworms/worms in the compost.
63.	(a) Deforestation
	(b) Growing trees by celebrating Van Mahotsav yearly has increased green cover over time. Social forestry has reduced man's dependence on natural forests thus preserving the same.
64.	(a) Agent is running water.
	(b) Plugging of gullies or growing of trees may be done.
65.	(a) Nitrogen and Phosphorous.
	(b) Eutrophication occurs when too many nutrients, mainly nitrogen and phosphorous, are introduced into water bodies. These nutrients cause excessive algae growth. This can lead to low oxygen levels in the water and block sunlight needed for plants to grow. When plants and algae die, they decay, thus causing water pollution. Hence, the entire aquatic ecosystem gets adversely affected.
66.	(a) Biomagnification.
	(b) Biomagnification makes humans more prone to cancer, liver failure, respiratory disorders, heart diseases, and birth defects.

Map answers for Questions 1-15



Map sheet no. G43S7: Eastings 29 to 38 and Northings 85 to 94.



(Source: https://surveyofindia.gov.in/files/45d7education%20map.pdf)



Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations 47-48, 3rd Floor, Pragati House, Nehru Place, New Delhi – 110019