



Question-1

What are Tectonic Plates?

Solution:

The crust (upper part) of the earth has been formed out of seven major and some minor plates. These are called tectonic plates. A Tectonic plate (also called lithospheric plate) is a massive, irregularly shaped slab of solid rock, generally composed of both continental and oceanic lithosphere. Plate size can vary greatly, from a few hundred to thousands of kilometers across; the Pacific and Antarctic Plates are among the largest. Plate thickness also varies greatly, ranging from less than 15 km for young oceanic lithosphere to about 200 km or more for ancient continental lithosphere.

Question-2

Which continents of today were part of the Gondwana land?

Solution:

The oldest landmass, (the Peninsula part), was a part of the Gondwana land. The Gondwana land included India, Australia, South Africa and South America as one single land mass.

Question-3

What is the bhabar?

Solution:

The rivers, after descending from the mountains deposit pebbles in a narrow belt of about 8 to 16 km in width lying parallel to the slopes of the Shiwaliks. It is known as bhabar.

Question-4

Distinguish Between Converging and Diverging Tectonic Plates

Solution:

Converging Tectonic Plates

Some plates come towards each other and form convergent boundary.

Diverging Tectonic Plates

Some plates move away from each other and form divergent boundary.

Question-5

Distinguish Between Bhangar and Khadar

Solution:

Bhangar:

The largest part of the northern plain is formed of older alluvium. They lie above the flood plains of the rivers and present a terrace like feature. This part is known as bhangar.

Khadar:

The soil in this region contains calcareous deposits locally known as kankar. The newer, younger deposits of the flood plains are called khadar. They are renewed almost every year and so are fertile, thus, ideal for intensive agriculture.

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