



LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Give an account of the different layers of the atmosphere. [V. Imp.]

Answer: Our atmosphere has five different layers. They are:

1. Troposphere: This is the most important layer of the atmosphere with average height of 13 km from the earth. It is in this layer that we find the air that we breathe. Almost all the weather phenomena such as rainfall, fog and hailstorm occur here.
2. Stratosphere: This layer extends up to a height of 50 km. It presents the most ideal conditions for flying aeroplanes. It contains a layer of ozone gas which protects us from the harmful effect of the sunrays.
3. Mesosphere: This layer extends up to the height of 80 km. Meteorites burn up in this layer on entering from the space.
4. Thermosphere: In this layer temperature rises very rapidly with increasing height. Ionosphere is a part of this layer. It extends between 80—400 km. This layer helps in radio transmission. Radio waves transmitted from the earth are reflected back to the earth by this layer.
5. Exosphere: It is the uppermost layer where there is very thin air. Light gases such as helium and hydrogen float into the space from here.

2. What is wind? Mention its different types.

Answer: Wind is the movement of air from high pressure area to low pressure areas. It is divided into three types:

1. Permanent winds
2. Seasonal winds
3. Local winds

1. Permanent winds. The trade winds, westerlies and easterlies are the permanent winds. These blow constantly throughout the year in a particular direction.

2. Seasonal winds. These winds change their direction in different seasons. For example: monsoons in India.

3. Local winds. These winds blow only during a particular period of the day or year in a small area. For example: land and sea breeze. Loo is a local wind which is hot and dry and blows in the northern plains of India during summers.

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