



LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Question 1. Mention various types of rocks IV. Imp.]

Answer: Rocks are of the three types:

1. Igneous rocks
 - Sedimentary rocks
 - Metamorphic rocks
 - Igneous rocks. When the molten magma cools, it becomes solid. Rocks formed in this way are called igneous rocks. They are also called primary rocks. They are of two types—intrusive rocks and extrusive rocks.
2. Extrusive rocks. When molten lava comes on the earth's surface, it rapidly cools down and becomes solid. Rocks formed in this way on the crust are called extrusive igneous rocks. For example, basalt.
3. Intrusive rocks. Sometimes the molten magma cools down deep inside the earth's crust. Solid rocks so formed are called intrusive igneous rocks. Since they cool down slowly they form large grains. For example, granite.
4. Sedimentary rocks. Small fragments of rocks are called sediments. These sediments are transported and deposited by wind, water, etc. These loose sediments are compressed and hardened to form sedimentary rocks. For example, sandstone is made from grains of sand.
5. Metamorphic rocks. When igneous and sedimentary rocks are subjected to great heat and pressure they change into metamorphic rocks. For example, clay changes into slate and limestone into marble.

Question 2. What do you know about the interior of the earth? [V. Imp.]

Answer: Our earth is made up of several concentric layers with one inside another. These layers are three in number—crust, mantle and core.

Crust. It is the uppermost layer over the earth's surface. It is the thinnest of all the layers. It is about 35 km on the continental masses and only 5 km on the ocean floors. The continental masses are made up of silica and alumina. It is thus called sial (si-silica and al-alumina). The oceanic crust mainly consists of silica and magnesium. It is thus called sima (si-silica and ma-magnesium).
Mantle: It is just beneath the crust. It extends up to a depth of 2900 km below the crust.

Core: It is the innermost layer. Its radius is about 3500 km. It is mainly made up of nickel and iron and is known as nife (ni-nickel and fe-ferrous, i.e., iron). The central core has very high temperature and pressure.

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