

Indian Geography

Topic

VEGETATION

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Indian Geography

TOPIC : VEGETATION

Natural Vegetation of India

The plant community left undisturbed over a long time to adjust themselves to climate and soil conditions – natural vegetation.

- **Types of forest:**

- Tropical evergreen and semi-evergreen
- Tropical deciduous forests
- Tropical thorn Forest
- Montane Forest
- Littoral and Swamp Forest

- **Tropical Evergreen Forest:**

- They are found in warm and humid areas, annual rainfall over 200 cm, mean temperature is 22 degrees Celsius. Western slope of western Ghats, hills of north east, Andaman & Nicobar islands

- **Tropical Deciduous Forest**

- It is most widespread called Monsoon forest. It occurs in rainfall of 70-200 cm. They shed leaves in dry season. Teak, Sal, Shisham, Hurra, Mahua, Amla, Semul, Kussum and Sandalwood, etc.

- **Tropical Thorn Forest/Natural Vegetation:**

It has rainfall less than 50 cm, semi-arid areas. Plants remain leafless, shrub vegetation. The trees of babool, ber, wild date palm, khair, neem, khejri, Palas, etc.

- **Montane Forest:**

- Ranges from tropical to tundra with altitude.
- At the foothills, it is deciduous and wet temperate type of forest at 1000-2000m. Oak and Chestnut in West Bengal, Uttaranchal hills. At 1500-1750 m, there are pine forest, Chir pine commercial tree, deodar endemic specie on western Himalayas used in construction. Chinar and walnut in Kashmir.
- At 2225-3048 m, Blue pine, spruce, temperate grasslands. At higher altitude there is alpine forest and pastures.
- At 3000-4000 m, Silver firs, Juniper, pines, birch, Rhododendron. At higher reaches, mosses and lichens like tundra are found. Pastures are used for transhumance by Gujjars, Bakarwals, Bhotiys, Gaddis.

- **Littoral and Swamp Forest:**

The natural vegetation of littoral and swamp type is 70% wetland under paddy.

- **Mangroves:**

They grow in salt marshes, tidal creeks, mud flats and estuaries. There are salt tolerant plant species. Andaman & Nicobar islands, Sunderbans of West Bengal are highly developed. They are also found in Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna deltas.

Practice Set

1. Forest Cover in which State(s) have shown an increase in the last two years, according to Forest Survey of India ?
(a) Tamil Nadu (b) West Bengal (c) Kerala (d) Both(a) and (c)
2. A person overlying India saw the natural vegetation below in the sequential order of tropical evergreen forest, savanna, dry deciduous and deciduous. His flight was from
(a) Kolkata to Delhi (b) Mumbai to Bhubaneswar
(c) Trivandrum to Delhi (d) Delhi to Madurai
3. Which one of the following mountains has two dissimilar types of vegetation on its two slopes ?
(a) Aravallis (b) Vindhyas (c) Eastern Ghats (d) Western Ghats
4. Xerophytic vegetation is a characteristic feature of :
(a) Chhotanagpur plateau (b) Khasi hills
(c) Eastern ghats (d) Kuch
5. Sal is a type of
(a) Coniferous tree (b) Deciduous tree
(c) Evergreen tree (d) Xerophytic tree
6. Forest Protection Committees consist of
(a) Forest Guards
(b) Panchayat Members
(c) Forest Villages, Forest Department and Panchayat
(d) Forest Department officials
7. In India variety of corals are found around
(a) Lakshadweep (b) Daman & Diu (c) Sundarbans (d) Narmada estuary
8. The typical area of 'Sal forests in the Indian Peninsula occurs.
(a) On the Western Ghats (b) Between the Tapti and the Narmada
(c) To the North-East of Godavari (d) On the Malwa Plateau
9. Among the following States, which one has the largest forest area ?
(a) Gujarat (b) Karnataka (c) Odisha (d) Tamil Nadu
10. Which one of the following does not belong to biosphere reserves set-up so far ?
(a) Great Nicobar (b) Sunderbans (c) Nanda Devi (d) Gulf of Kachch

Answers

Indian Geo-[ROCKS - Practice Set-]

1. (d) 2. (c) 3. (d) 4. (d) 5. (b) 6. (c) 7. (a) 8. (c) 9. (b) 10. (d)



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1. 'Natural Vegetation' refers to:
 - (a) a plant community that has been left undisturbed over a long time
 - (b) plant species which live and grow together
 - (c) a protected area created by using contour bunding
 - (d) all of the above
2. What do you mean by 'reserved forest' ?
 - (a) Reserved for local use
 - (b) Reserved for commercial exploitation
 - (c) Reserved for hunting
 - (d) Reserved for growing medicinal herbs
3. Moist tropical evergreen forests are found in:
 - (a) the Shillong plateau
 - (b) the Siwaliks
 - (c) the Deccan plateau
 - (d) southern India
4. Which of the following is not a species of tropical moist deciduous forests?
 - (a) Mahogany
 - (b) Sal
 - (c) Shisham
 - (d) Teak
5. Select the correct sequence in the decreasing order of contribution to the forest cover on India
 - (a) Dense forest - Open forest - Mangrove forest
 - (b) Open forest - Dense forest - Mangrove forest
 - (c) Dense forest - Mangrove forest - Open forest
 - (d) Open forest - Mangrove forest - Dense forest
6. Which one of the following is the characteristic vegetation of regions between the snow line and about 3000 meters above mean sea level of the Himalayan region?
 - (a) Thick forests of birch, fir, spruce and other trees
 - (b) Forests of oak, deodar, chestnut and maple trees
 - (c) A few dwarf shrubs
 - (d) Forests of khair, sandalwood, palas and other trees
7. Xerophytic vegetation is characteristic feature of:
 - (a) Chhotanagpur plateau
 - (b) Khasi hills
 - (c) Eastern Ghats
 - (d) Kuchchh
8. Which one of the following is not essentially a species of the Himalaya vegetation?
 - (a) Juniper
 - (b) Mahogany
 - (c) Silver fir
 - (d) Spruce
9. Which one of the following pairs of cities have the largest annual average rain difference as compared to the other three pairs?
 - (a) Jabalpur and Nagpur
 - (b) Mumbai and Pune
 - (c) Kolkata and Bhubaneshwar
 - (d) Guwahati and Shillong
10. With reference to Indian forests, consider the following pairs:
 1. Tropical Moist Deciduous Forests
Sandalwood (*Santalum album*)
 2. Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests: (*Shorea robusta*)
 3. Tropical Thorn Forests: Shisham (*Dalbergia sissoo*)
 Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?
 - (a) 1 only
 - (b) 1 and 2 only
 - (c) 2 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3
11. Which one of the following statements is not correct?
 - (a) India is the highest oil-seeds and vegetable oil producing country in the world
 - (b) India is the second largest exporter of jute goods in the world
 - (c) India is the largest producer of silk in world
 - (d) India is the second largest producer of three-wheeler motor vehicles in the world
12. Consider the following statements:
 1. India is the original home of the cotton plant.
 2. India is the first country in the world to develop hybrid cotton variety leading to increased production.
 Which of these statements is/are correct ?
 - (a) Only 1
 - (b) Only 2
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
13. Consider the following statements:
 1. India ranks first in the world in fruit production.
 2. India ranks second in the world in the export of tobacco.

- Which of these statements is/are correct?
 (a) Only 1 (b) Only 2
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
14. Murrah is a breed of:
 (a) pig (b) buffalo
 (c) sheep (d) goat
15. Reserved Forest is a forest -
 (a) Totally under Government control
 (b) Meant mainly for tribal people
 (c) Earmarked for commercial exploitation with restricted grazing
 (d) With wild life protection
16. Ecosystem has two components :
 (a) Plants and animals
 (b) Weeds and trees
 (c) Biotic and abiotic
 (d) Frogs and man Mains 2015
17. Which one of the following regions of the World is called the bread basket of the World ?
 (a) Temperate Grass land
 (b) Tropical monsoonal region
 (c) Savana Grass land
 (d) Mediterranean region
18. 'Silent Valley' is located in
 (a) Karnataka (b) Kerala
 (c) Himachal Pradesh (d) Uttarakhand -
19. Kudremukh National park is located in
 (a) Kerala (b) Tamil Nadu
 (c) Karnataka (d) Andhra Pradesh
20. Which one is not a component/part of Social Forestry ?
 (a) Urban forestry
 (b) Agro forestry
 (c) Commercial farm forestry
 (d) None of the above Mains 2014
21. Which one is not an objective of the social forestry ?
 (a) Securing revenue
 (b) Improving aesthetic values
 (c) Reduction of environmental pollution
 (d) To reduce pressure on the traditional forest areas
22. In which year the first Forest Policy of independent India was declared ?
 (a) 1950 (b) 1951 (c) 1952 (d) 1956
23. In India, which type of forest among the following occupies the largest area ?
 (a) Tropical Moist Deciduous
 (b) Montane Wet Temperate
 (c) Tropical Dry Deciduous
 (d) Tropical Wet Evergreen
24. The Little Rann of Kutch is the only home of the
 (a) Great Indian Bustard (b) Blackbuck
 (c) Flamingo (d) Indian Wild Ass
25. The shola grasslands are found in
 (a) The Himalaya
 (b) The Vindhyan
 (c) The Western Ghats
 (d) The Eastern Ghats
26. Wildlife Protection Act was passed in
 (a) 1970 (b) 1972 (c) 1980 (d) 1986
27. Sustainable development was first clearly defined by the
 (a) Bruntland Commission
 (b) Rio Conference
 (c) United Nations
 (d) World Bank

Answers

Indian Geo-[VEGETATION - Practice Set-Solution]

1. (a) 2. (b) 3. (a) 4. (a) 5. (b) 6. (b) 7. (d) 8. (b) 9. (b) 10. (b)
 11. (c) 12. (c) 13. (c) 14. (b) 15. (d) 16. (c) 17. (a) 18. (b) 19. (c) 20. (c)
 21. (d) 22. (c) 23. (a) 24. (d) 25. (c) 26. (b) 27. (a)