

ICSE Board
Class VIII Geography
Sample Paper – 1 Solution

SECTION A

ANSWER 1

- i) Alpha Centauri
- ii) Feathered
- iii) Westerlies
- iv) Saturated
- v) Europe
- vi) Softwood
- vii) Mt. Everest, Dead Sea
- viii) Pole star
- ix) 51
- x) Poles, Equator

ANSWER 2

- i) b - (The Sun is the biggest star in our Universe.)
- ii) a - (Latitude)
- iii) b - (Isobars)
- iv) b - (Water is present in its gaseous state as rainfall.)
- v) b - (Vatican City)

ANSWER 3

- i) False (The Scandinavian countries have a low population density.)
- ii) True
- iii) False (Majority of the work in intensive subsistence agriculture is done manually.)
- iv) False (The Purvanchal Range comprises of the Patkai Hills, Naga Hills, Mizo Hills and Manipur Hills.)
- v) False (In India, wheat is grown as a rabi crop.)

SECTION B**ANSWER 4**

- i)** The Sun is a star which is a ball of hot gases. Compared to the other stars of the Solar System, the Sun can be considered as an 'average star' in terms of size.
- ii)** More than 70% of the Earth's surface is covered with water. Hence it appears blue in colour and is known as the blue planet.
- iii)** Clouds are masses of small water droplets or small crystals of ice which float in the atmosphere, away from the surface of the Earth.
- iv)** While Fortin's barometer uses mercury to determine the air pressure, the Aneroid barometer does not use any liquid while measuring air pressure.
- v)** Latent heat is the hidden heat which changes solids into liquids or water vapour and liquids into vapour, without a change in the temperature.
- vi)** Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg are collectively called lowland countries because these countries are made up of geographical lowlands. A part of Netherlands even lies below the sea level.
- vii)** The Dogger Bank (situated in the North Sea) and the Great Fisher Bank have abundant fish due to their shallow continental shelf compared to the open oceans. Also these regions have large numbers of planktons (small micro organisms) on which the fish feed.
- viii)** The Asian continent extends between the latitudes 10°S to 80°N and lies mostly in the Northern Hemisphere. Asia lies almost in the Eastern Hemisphere between the longitudes 25°E and 170°W.
- ix)** Plantation agriculture is a form of agriculture in which a single crop is grown on a large farm using skilled manual labour and modern, scientific methods of farming.
- x)** Temperature tends to decrease with an increase in altitude. Darjeeling is located at a higher altitude as compared to Kolkata. Therefore, Darjeeling is cooler than Kolkata during the summers.

ANSWER 5

(i) Punjab is considered to be ideal for the cultivation of wheat for the following reasons:

- During winters, the temperature of the region remains between 10°C to 25°C. Punjab also receives light showers during the winter months from the western disturbances. Such a climate is suited for wheat cultivation.
- Punjab is drained by the River Indus and its tributaries—Jhelum, Sutlej, Ravi, Beas and Chenab. These rivers have deposited alluvial soil on the plains of Punjab, which is ideal for wheat cultivation.
- Punjab has good irrigation facilities. It has wells, tube wells, and canals etc. which are used for irrigation of crops.

(ii)



(iii)

- a) A plateau which is enclosed or surrounded by mountain ranges is known as an 'intermontane plateau'.
- b) The Plateau of Tibet and the Plateau of Mongolia are the two important examples of intermontane plateaus in Asia.
- c) The Plateau of Tibet in the People's Republic of China (PRC) is surrounded by the Kunlun Mountains in the North and the Himalaya mountain range in the South. The Plateau of Mongolia is ensconced between a number of mountains like the Sayan Mountains, Hentiyn Mountains and the Nan mountains.

(iv) Following points throw light on the phenomenon of the Great River Valleys in Asia:

- a) The Great River Valleys are known as the 'cradle of civilisation' as many civilisations have developed in these valleys. This region has many famous rivers which have their origins in the snow capped mountains.
- b) Important valleys in the region are the Tigris Euphrates Valley in Iraq which is also known as the 'Mesopotamian Lowlands'. The Indus Valley is formed by River Indus and its five tributaries—Ravi, Beas, Sutlej, Chenab and Jhelum.
- c) The Ganga Brahmaputra Valley has been formed by the Rivers Ganga and Brahmaputra and other tributaries. The Great Plains of China is formed by three large rivers, namely Hwang-Ho, Yangtze and Si Kiang.
- d) Some other valleys in the region are the Mekong Valley in Indo China, Amur Valley, etc.

(v) The cool and moist climate of North-Western Europe is ideal for the rearing of dairy cattle. The cattle are fed on the high nutritional grass to ensure a high yield of milk. Netherlands, Denmark and Belgium are known for dairy farming. While Denmark is the leading dairy farming country in Europe, Netherlands is famous for its cheese. Butter, cheese, and condensed milk are exported to the other countries. This industry supports many people in the region and brings substantial revenues to the states.

(vi) Following facts throw light on the phenomenon of the Central Plains or the Great European Plains:

- a) These plains lie to the South of the North Western Highlands. It extends from the Atlantic Coast in the West to the Ural Mountains in the East.
- b) This region is very fertile as it is formed as a result of deposition of silt brought down by large rivers like the Rhine, Danube, and Volga flowing in this region. The region has many inland waterways.
- c) The Central Plains consist of many plains such as the London Basin, Wallachian Plains, Hungarian Plains etc.
- d) The Central Plains are not completely flat. They have some scattered hills too.

(vii) The phenomenon of orographic rainfall is also known as relief rainfall. When moisture bearing winds strike a mountain range, they are forced to ascend or go up. As these winds rise up the mountains, they cool down to their saturation point, bringing rainfall on the windward side of the mountains. These winds on reaching the leeward side of the mountains are devoid of moisture and hence places located on the leeward side of the mountains get scanty rainfall.

(viii)

