

Unit 5 - Hazards

Class: VIII

Subject: Social Science (Geography)

I. Choose the correct answer

- _____ percentage of nitrogen is present in the air.
a) **78.09%** b) 74.08% c) 80.07% d) 76.63%
- Tsunami in Indian Ocean took place in the year _____.
a) 1990 b) **2004** c) 2005 d) 2008
- The word Tsunami is derived from _____ language.
a) Hindi b) French c) **Japanese** d) German
- The example of surface water is
a) Artesian well b) Groundwater
c) Subsurface water d) **Lake**
- Event that occurs due to the failure of monsoons.
a) Condensation b) **Drought** c) Evaporation d) Precipitation

II. Fill in the blanks

- Hazards may lead to disaster.
- Landslide is an example of geologic hazard.
- On the basis of origin, hazard can be grouped into 8 (or) eight categories.
- Terrorism is an example of human induced hazard.
- Oxides of Nitrogen are primary pollutants which affects the human beings.
- Chernobyl nuclear accident took place in 26th April, 1986 year.

III. Match the following

- | | | | |
|----------------------|---|------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Primary pollutant | - | Terrorism | 5 |
| 2. Hazardous waste | - | Tsunami | 3 |
| 3. Earthquake | - | Outdated drugs | 2 |
| 4. Meteorological | - | Oxides of drought Sulphur | 1 |
| 5. Human induced | - | Reduction in hazard rainfall | 4 |

IV. Answer briefly

1. Define 'hazard'.

Hazards are defined as a thing, person, event or factor that poses a threat to people, structures or economic assets and which may cause a disaster.

2. What are the major types of hazards?

- Natural hazards
- Human-made hazards
- Socio-natural hazards

3. Write a brief note on hazardous wastes.

The wastes that may or tend to cause adverse health effects on the ecosystem and human beings are called hazardous wastes.

4. List out the major flood prone areas of our country.

- Punjab,
- West Bengal,
- Odisha are the region which are also prone to flood often.

5. Mention the types of drought.

The drought are classified in three major types

- Meteorological drought
- Hydrological drought
- Agricultural drought

6. Why should not we construct houses at foothill areas?

Because of the presence of steep slope and heavy rainfall we should not construct houses at the foothills areas.

V. Distinguish between

1. Hazards and disasters.

Hazards	Disasters
Hazards occur frequently and threaten the people.	It is a hazardous event that occurs over a limited time span.
Ex: Natural hazards, Earthquake.	Ex: Flood

2. Natural hazard and human-made hazard.

Natural hazard	Human-made hazard
Man has no role to play in such hazards.	These are caused by undesirable activities of human.
Ex: Flood, drought etc.	Ex: Pollution of air and water

3. Flood and drought.

Flood	Drought
It occurs through heavy rainfall.	It occurs through no rainfall.
It is often held in the coastal Andhra Pradesh & Odisha.	The dry region seen in leeward side of Western Ghats.

4. Earthquake and Tsunami.

Earthquake	Tsunami
The violent tremour of the earth crust is called as Earthquake.	Tsunami refers to huge ocean waves caused by landslide.
Study of earthquake is called Seismograph.	Study of Tsunami is called Oceanograph.

VI. Answer in a paragraph

1. Write an essay on air pollution.

- Air is a mixture of several gases.
- The main gases are Nitrogen (78.09%) for forming products such as, fertilisers for plants and for making the air inert, Oxygen (20.95%) for breathing and Carbon dioxide (0.03%) for Photosynthesis.
- Air pollution is the contamination of the indoor or outdoor air by a range of gases and solids that modify its natural characteristics and percentage.

It categorised into

- Primary pollutants
- Secondary pollutant.

Primary Pollutants:

- Oxides of Sulphur
- Oxides of Nitrogen
- Oxides of Carbon
- Particulate Matter
- Other Primary Pollutants

Secondary Pollutants:

- i) Ground Level Ozone
- ii) Smog

2. Define earthquake and list out its effects.

- Earthquake is a violent tremor in the earth's crust, sending out a series of shock waves in all directions from its place of origin.
- Earthquake prone regions of the country have been identified on the basis of scientific inputs relating to seismicity, earthquakes occurred in the past and tectonic setup of the region.
- Based on these inputs, Bureau of Indian Standards has grouped the country into four seismic zones: Zone II, Zone III, Zone IV and Zone V (No area of India is classified as Zone I)

Seismic Zones	Level of Risk
Zone V	Very High
Zone IV	High
Zone III	Moderate
Zone II	Low

3. Give a detailed explanation on the causes of landslides.

- Landslide is a rapid downward movement of rock, soil and vegetation down the slope under the influence of gravity. Landslides are generally sudden and infrequent.
- Presence of steep slope and heavy rainfall are the major causes of landslides.
- Weak ground structure, deforestation, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, mining, construction of roads and railways over the mountains are the other causes of landslides.
- In Tamil Nadu, Kodaikanal and Ooty are frequently affected by landslides.

4. Elaborately discuss the effects of water pollution.

- It may cause harmful effect on any living thing that drinks or uses or lives in it.

- It may be defined as alternation in the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of water, which may cause harmful effects in human and aquatic life.

The major causes of water pollution in India are:

- Urbanisation
- Industrial effluents
- Sewages etc.
- Agricultural runoff and improper agricultural practices
- Seawater intrusion
- Solid wastes.

