

RBSE Class 12 Geography Question Paper 2026 with Solutions (Memory Based)

Time Allowed :3 Hour	Maximum Marks :70	Total Questions :10
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General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. Each activity has to be answered in full sentence/s. One word answers will not be given complete credit. Just the correct activity number written in case of options will not be given credit.
2. Web diagrams, flow charts, tables, etc. are to be presented exactly as they are with answers.
3. In point 2 above, just words without the presentation of the activity format, will not be given credit. Use of colour pencils/pens etc. is not allowed. (Only blue/black pens are allowed.)
4. Multiple answers to the same activity will be treated as wrong and will not be given any credit.
5. Maintain the sequence of the Sections/Question Nos./Activities throughout the activity sheet.

1. Define the term "Human Geography" according to Ratzel or Ellen C. Semple.

Correct Answer: According to Ratzel, Human Geography is the study of the relationship between man and his environment. According to Ellen C. Semple, Human Geography is the study of the changing relationship between the unstable earth and active man.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The question asks for the definition of "Human Geography" as provided by two prominent early geographers, Friedrich Ratzel and Ellen C. Semple. Both definitions are foundational to the discipline and reflect the perspective of environmental determinism.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Human Geography is a field that explores the relationship between human societies and their environments. The classical definitions provided by Ratzel and Semple emphasize the influence of the physical environment on human activities.

Definition by Friedrich Ratzel:

Ratzel, a German geographer, is often considered one of the founders of modern human geography. His definition focuses on the synthesis of human societies and their natural surroundings.

Human Geography is the synthetic study of relationships between human societies and earth's surface.

This highlights a direct cause-and-effect relationship, where the environment shapes human life and culture.

Definition by Ellen C. Semple:

Ellen C. Semple, an American geographer and a student of Ratzel, further developed this idea. Her definition emphasizes the dynamic nature of this interaction.

Human Geography is the study of the changing relationship between the unresting man and the unstable earth.

This definition suggests that both humans (unresting man) and the environment (unstable earth) are active and constantly influencing each other.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The definitions provided by Ratzel and Semple are cornerstones of early geographical thought. Ratzel defined it as the study of the relationship between man and his environment, while Semple described it as the study of the changing relationship between the active man and the unstable earth.

💡 Quick Tip

Ratzel: Man and environment relationship.

Semple: Changing relationship between earth and man.

Both are classic environmental determinism views.

2. What is the formula for calculating the density of population?

Correct Answer:

$$\text{Population Density} = \frac{\text{Total Population}}{\text{Total Area}}$$

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The question asks for the mathematical formula used to calculate population density. Population density is a key demographic indicator that measures the concentration of people in a specific geographic area.

Step 2: Key Formula or Approach:

The formula for calculating population density is a ratio of the total number of people to the

total land area they occupy.

$$\text{Population Density} = \frac{\text{Total Population}}{\text{Total Area}}$$

Step 3: Detailed Explanation:

To apply this formula, two pieces of data are required:

- **Total Population:** The total number of individuals residing in the defined region (e.g., a city, state, or country).
- **Total Area:** The total land area of that same region, typically measured in square kilometers (km^2) or square miles ($miles^2$).

By dividing the population by the area, we get the average number of people living per unit of area. A high value indicates a densely populated region, while a low value indicates a sparsely populated one.

Step 4: Final Answer:

The formula to calculate the density of population is the total population of a region divided by the total area of that region.

 Quick Tip

Population density tells how crowded a place is.
Just remember:

$$\text{People} \div \text{Area}$$

3. When was the Atomic Energy Commission established?

Correct Answer: 1948

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The question asks for the specific year in which the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) of India was established. This body is central to India's nuclear program.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Following India's independence in 1947, the national leadership recognized the potential of atomic energy for national development, scientific research, and energy security.

- **Establishment:** To spearhead these efforts, the Government of India established the Atomic Energy Commission.
- **Year:** The AEC was constituted on **August 10, 1948**.
- **Leadership:** Dr. Homi J. Bhabha, a visionary scientist, was appointed as its first chairman. He is widely regarded as the father of the Indian nuclear program.
- **Purpose:** The primary mandate of the AEC was to oversee the development of nuclear science and technology in India for peaceful purposes.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The Atomic Energy Commission of India was established in the year **1948**.

💡 Quick Tip

India's Atomic Energy Commission was established in **1948**, soon after independence, under the leadership of Homi J. Bhabha.

4. State two main objectives of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

Correct Answer: 1. To provide affordable housing for all, especially economically weaker sections and low-income groups. 2. To promote construction of pucca houses with basic amenities for the urban and rural poor.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The question asks to identify and state two primary goals of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), a major housing scheme initiated by the Government of India.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) was launched with the overarching goal of "Housing for All." Its objectives are designed to address the housing shortage among the urban and rural poor. The two main objectives are:

Objective 1: To Provide Affordable Housing for All

- The scheme aims to make housing affordable for the economically weaker sections (EWS), low-income groups (LIG), and middle-income groups (MIG).

- It seeks to achieve this through financial assistance, such as credit-linked subsidies on home loans, to enable eligible families to own a house.

Objective 2: To Ensure Quality Housing with Basic Amenities

- The scheme focuses on the construction of "pucca" (durable and permanent) houses to replace temporary or dilapidated structures (kutchha houses).
- A key goal is to ensure that these houses are equipped with essential amenities like a toilet, water supply, electricity, and a clean cooking kitchen, thereby improving the quality of life for the beneficiaries.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The two main objectives of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana are:

1. To provide affordable housing to all eligible citizens, particularly those from low and middle-income backgrounds.
2. To facilitate the construction of pucca houses complete with basic amenities for the urban and rural poor.

💡 Quick Tip

PMAY = **Housing for All.**

Focus areas:

Affordable homes + Basic amenities for poor families.

5. Differentiate between Primary and Secondary activities with examples.

Correct Answer: Primary activities involve extraction of natural resources, while secondary activities involve processing raw materials into finished goods.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The question asks for a clear distinction between primary and secondary economic activities, supported by relevant examples. These are the first two major sectors in the classification of economic activities.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Economic activities are categorized based on their relationship with the natural environment and the stage of production.

Primary Activities:

- **Definition:** These activities are directly dependent on the environment as they involve the extraction and harvesting of natural resources from the earth.
- **Nature of Work:** They form the base of the economy by providing raw materials for other sectors.
- **Examples:** Agriculture (growing crops), mining (extracting minerals), fishing, forestry (cutting timber), and animal husbandry.

Secondary Activities:

- **Definition:** These activities add value to natural resources by transforming raw materials into finished or more valuable products through manufacturing and processing.
- **Nature of Work:** This sector is dominated by industries and construction.
- **Examples:** Manufacturing steel from iron ore, making furniture from wood, processing wheat into flour, and constructing buildings.

Comparison Table:

Basis of Difference	Primary Activities	Secondary Activities
Core Function	Extraction of raw materials	Processing of raw materials
Dependence	Directly on nature	On primary sector for materials
End Product	Unprocessed natural resources	Manufactured/finished goods
Example	Farming, Fishing, Mining	Textile mills, Car manufacturing

Step 3: Final Answer:

The key difference is that primary activities involve the direct extraction of natural resources (e.g., farming), while secondary activities involve the processing of these resources into finished goods (e.g., manufacturing).

💡 Quick Tip

Primary = Extraction from nature
Secondary = Manufacturing goods
Think: Farm → Factory

6. Explain the major economic activities of the Bushman tribe.

Correct Answer: The major economic activities of the Bushman tribe include hunting, gathering of wild plants, fishing, and limited trade.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The question asks for an explanation of the main economic activities of the Bushman (also known as the San people). These are indigenous hunter-gatherer groups living primarily in the Kalahari Desert of Southern Africa. Their economy is a subsistence economy, closely tied to their natural environment.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The economic life of the Bushman tribe is traditionally based on survival skills adapted to their arid surroundings. Their major activities are:

1. Hunting:

- This is a crucial activity, traditionally carried out by men.
- They hunt a variety of game, including antelopes, wildebeest, and smaller animals.
- They are skilled trackers and use traditional tools like bows and arrows, often tipped with poison derived from beetle larvae or plants, to hunt effectively.

2. Gathering:

- This is the most reliable source of food and is primarily done by women.
- They gather a wide range of edible plants, including roots, berries, nuts, and melons from the desert.
- Their extensive knowledge of the local flora is vital for survival, especially during dry seasons. Gathering provides the majority of their daily nutrition.

3. Use of Natural Resources:

- Beyond food, they utilize all available resources. Animal skins are used for clothing, bones for tools and ornaments, and ostrich eggs for storing water.

- They build temporary shelters from branches and grass.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The major economic activities of the Bushman tribe are hunting and gathering. Hunting provides protein, while gathering wild plants forms the stable food supply, reflecting a classic hunter-gatherer subsistence economy perfectly adapted to the harsh Kalahari environment.

💡 Quick Tip

Bushman economy = **Hunting + Gathering**.

They are classic examples of a **food-gathering tribe** adapted to desert life.

7. Distinguish between Renewable and Non-renewable resources, providing two examples for each.

Correct Answer: Renewable resources are those that can be replenished naturally in a short period of time, while non-renewable resources are limited and take millions of years to form.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The question requires a differentiation between renewable and non-renewable resources. This distinction is based on their availability, rate of replenishment, and sustainability. The answer must also include two examples for each category.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Natural resources are classified based on their ability to regenerate over time.

Renewable Resources:

- **Definition:** These resources can be replenished or regenerated naturally over a relatively short period (within a human lifespan). They are considered inexhaustible if managed properly.
- **Characteristics:** They are generally more environmentally friendly and sustainable. Their availability is continuous or cyclical.
- **Examples:**
 1. **Solar Energy:** Energy derived from the sun's radiation, which is practically infinite.

2. **Wind Energy:** Energy derived from the movement of air, which is generated by the sun's uneven heating of the Earth.

Non-renewable Resources:

- **Definition:** These resources are available in finite quantities and are formed over millions of years through geological processes. Once consumed, they cannot be replaced within a human lifespan.
- **Characteristics:** They are exhaustible. Their extraction and use often lead to environmental pollution.
- **Examples:**
 1. **Coal:** A fossil fuel formed from ancient plant matter over millions of years.
 2. **Petroleum (Crude Oil):** A fossil fuel formed from the remains of ancient marine microorganisms.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The fundamental difference lies in their replenishment rate. Renewable resources like solar and wind energy regenerate quickly, making them sustainable. Non-renewable resources like coal and petroleum are finite and take millions of years to form, making them exhaustible.

💡 Quick Tip
Renewable = Refillable (Sun, Wind) Non-renewable = Exhaustible (Coal, Oil)

8. Discuss the characteristics and critical challenges of Shifting Cultivation (Jhumming).

Correct Answer: Shifting cultivation (Jhumming) is a traditional farming method involving clearing forest land, cultivating it for a few years, and then shifting to a new area. It is characterized by subsistence farming and simple tools but faces challenges like deforestation, soil degradation, and low productivity.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The question asks for a discussion on two aspects of Shifting Cultivation (also known as Jhumming in Northeast India): its main characteristics and the major challenges associated with

this agricultural practice.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Shifting cultivation is a primitive form of subsistence agriculture typically practiced by tribal communities in tropical forest regions.

Part A: Characteristics of Shifting Cultivation

- **Slash-and-Burn Technique:** Farmers clear a patch of forest land by cutting down trees and vegetation, which are then burned. The resulting ash provides nutrients to the soil.
- **Subsistence Farming:** Crops are grown primarily for the consumption of the farmer's family, not for commercial sale.
- **Use of Simple Tools:** The cultivation involves basic, non-mechanized tools like hoes, digging sticks, and machetes.
- **Land Rotation:** After 2-3 years of cultivation, the soil fertility declines, and the plot is abandoned. The farmers then move to a new patch of forest to repeat the process. The abandoned land is left fallow to regenerate naturally.

Part B: Critical Challenges of Shifting Cultivation

- **Deforestation and Loss of Biodiversity:** The clearing of forests leads to the destruction of natural habitats and a significant loss of flora and fauna.
- **Soil Erosion and Degradation:** Once the forest cover is removed, the soil is exposed to wind and rain, leading to severe soil erosion and loss of fertility over time.
- **Environmental Pollution:** The burning of forests releases large amounts of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, contributing to air pollution and climate change.
- **Unsustainability with Population Growth:** The method was sustainable when population densities were low and fallow periods were long (15-20 years). With increasing population, the fallow cycle has shortened, preventing the land from fully recovering, leading to a decline in productivity.

Step 3: Final Answer:

Shifting cultivation is characterized by its slash-and-burn method, subsistence nature, and rotation of fields. However, it faces critical modern challenges, including widespread deforestation,

severe soil degradation, environmental pollution, and low agricultural productivity, making it an unsustainable practice in the long run.

💡 Quick Tip

Jhumming = Slash + Burn + Shift farming.
Traditional but environmentally unsustainable if fallow periods shorten.

9. What do you understand by Regional Planning? Explain the causes of regional imbalance in India.

Correct Answer: Regional planning refers to planned development of different regions to reduce disparities and ensure balanced growth. Regional imbalance in India is caused by uneven resource distribution, historical neglect, infrastructural gaps, and socio-economic inequalities.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

This question has two parts. The first part asks for the definition and concept of "Regional Planning." The second part requires an explanation of the primary causes behind the existence of regional imbalances in a country like India.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Part A: Understanding Regional Planning

Regional planning is a conscious and systematic effort by the government to achieve balanced economic and social development across all regions of a country. Its main goal is to reduce the disparities between developed and underdeveloped areas. Key aspects include:

- **Formulating policies** and programs for the development of specific regions.
- **Optimal utilization of resources** available within a region.
- **Developing infrastructure** like transport, communication, and energy to promote economic growth.
- **Ensuring social equity** by providing essential services like education and healthcare to all regions.

Part B: Causes of Regional Imbalance in India

Regional imbalance refers to the wide gap in terms of economic development, income, and

quality of life between different regions. In India, this is caused by a combination of factors:

- **Historical Factors:** The British colonial policies favored the development of port cities (like Mumbai, Kolkata) and administrative centers, while neglecting the hinterlands. This created a legacy of uneven development.
- **Geographical Factors:** The distribution of natural resources is uneven. Some regions are rich in minerals and have fertile land and rivers, while others are mountainous, arid, or flood-prone, which hinders development.
- **Infrastructural Disparities:** There is a significant difference in the availability of crucial infrastructure like roads, electricity, industries, and educational institutions between developed states (e.g., Maharashtra, Gujarat) and less-developed states (e.g., Bihar, parts of Northeast).
- **Location and Accessibility:** Regions that are remote or have difficult terrain often remain isolated and economically backward.
- **Political and Administrative Factors:** Political instability, lack of administrative efficiency, and failure to effectively implement development plans in certain states have also contributed to the imbalance.

Step 3: Final Answer:

Regional planning is the strategic development of regions to achieve balanced national growth. In India, regional imbalances are caused by a mix of historical neglect, geographical disadvantages, unequal distribution of infrastructure, and varying levels of political and administrative effectiveness.

💡 Quick Tip

Regional Planning = Balanced regional development.
Regional imbalance arises due to unequal resources, infrastructure, and historical development patterns.

10. Discuss the importance of the National Water Policy and suggest measures for water conservation.

Correct Answer: The National Water Policy provides guidelines for sustainable and equitable water management in India. It emphasizes conservation, efficient use, and integrated water resource management. Water conservation measures include rainwater harvesting, efficient irrigation, recycling, watershed management, and public awareness.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The question asks for two things: first, to explain the significance or importance of India's National Water Policy, and second, to suggest practical measures for water conservation.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Part A: Importance of the National Water Policy

The National Water Policy provides a comprehensive framework and guiding principles for the planning, development, and management of water resources in India. Its importance lies in:

- **Providing a Unified Framework:** It establishes a common set of principles for all states to follow, promoting integrated and coordinated water management across the country.
- **Prioritization of Water Use:** The policy prioritizes water allocation, with drinking water given the highest priority, followed by irrigation, hydropower, and industrial needs. This ensures that basic human needs are met first.
- **Promoting Sustainable Development:** It emphasizes that water is a precious and finite resource that must be used sustainably to meet the needs of present and future generations.
- **Focus on Conservation and Efficiency:** It encourages the efficient use of water in all sectors and promotes conservation technologies and practices to prevent wastage.
- **Guiding Water Governance:** It provides guidelines for water pricing, institutional arrangements, and legal frameworks to ensure equitable and efficient management of water resources.

Part B: Suggested Measures for Water Conservation

Effective water conservation requires a multi-pronged approach involving both individuals and the government. Key measures include:

- **Rainwater Harvesting:** Mandating the installation of rooftop rainwater harvesting systems in urban areas and constructing check dams and percolation tanks in rural areas to capture and store rainwater. This helps recharge groundwater.
- **Efficient Irrigation Techniques:** Promoting the use of micro-irrigation methods like drip and sprinkler systems in agriculture, which can reduce water consumption by up to 70% compared to traditional flood irrigation.

- **Watershed Management:** Implementing watershed development programs that involve afforestation, contour bunding, and soil conservation measures to increase water retention in the soil and prevent runoff.
- **Recycling and Reuse of Water:** Treating and recycling wastewater from industries and municipalities for non-potable uses like irrigation, gardening, and industrial cooling.
- **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Educating the public about the importance of water conservation and encouraging simple water-saving habits at home, such as fixing leaks and using water-efficient appliances.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The National Water Policy is crucial as it provides a unified framework for the sustainable and equitable management of India's water resources. Key conservation measures include rainwater harvesting, adopting efficient irrigation methods, recycling wastewater, and promoting public awareness to ensure water security for the future.

Quick Tip

National Water Policy = Sustainable and equitable water use.

Key conservation tools: Rainwater harvesting, efficient irrigation, reuse, and public awareness.