

Date
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Lesson-6

Natural Vegetation and wild life.

Notes:

Forests

Tropical evergreen forests:- These forests are also called tropical rainforests.

These thick forests occur in the regions near the equator and close to the tropics. These regions are hot and receive heavy rain all throughout the year. As there is no particular dry season, the trees do not shed their leaves altogether. This is the reason they are called evergreen. There are found hardwood trees like rose wood, ebony, mahogany are common here.

Tropical deciduous forests:- Tropical deciduous forest are the monsoon forests are found in the large part of India, Northern Australia and in central America. These regions experience seasonal changes. The hardwood trees found in these forests are sal, teak, neem and shisham. The hardwood trees are useful for making furniture, transport and constructional materials. Tigers, lions, elephants, langurs and monkeys are the common animals of these region.

Tropical evergreen forest - The tropical evergreen forest are located in the mid-tropical coastal regions. They are common along the eastern margin of the continents, e.g., the south east US, south China and in south east Africa. They comprise both broad and soft wood trees.

Sub-tropical vegetation - The west and north-west margins of the continents are different. They have sub-tropical vegetation. It is mostly found in the areas around the Mediterranean sea in Europe, Africa, etc. Some the same kind vegetation is also found within the actual Mediterranean region.

Coniferous forest - In the higher latitudes of northern hemisphere the evergreen coniferous forests are found. These are also called as taiga. These are the forests that are also found in higher altitudes and highlands in abundance. They are very useful for making pulp, which is used for making newspaper.

Grasslands - Grasslands are broadly different across in different regions.

Tropical grasslands - These occur on either side of the equator and extend till the tropics. The vegetation grows in the areas moderate to low amount of rainfall. The grasses are very tall, about 3 to 4

metres in height. Savannah grasslands of Africa are of this type. Elephants, zebras, giraffes, deer, leopards are common in tropical grasslands.

Temperate grasslands:- These are found in the mid-latitudinal zones and in the interior part of the continents. Wild buffaloes, bison, antelopes are common in the temperate region.

Thorny bushes:- These are found in the dry desert like regions. Tropical deserts are located on the western margins of the continents. The vegetation cover is scarce here because of scanty rain and scorching heat. Only mosses, lichens and very short summer. This is called Tundra type of vegetation. This vegetation is found in the polar areas of Europe, Asia and North America.

Tropical grasslands:-

- 1- East Africa - Savanna
- 2- Brazil - Campos
- 3- Venezuela - Llanos

Temperate grasslands:-

- 1- Argentina - Pampas
- 2- N. America - Prairie
- 3- S. America - Veld
- 4- C. - Asia - Steppe
- 5- Australia - Down

Answer the following questions:-

Q1/ Which are the two factors on which the growth of vegetation mostly depends?

Ans1/ The growth of vegetation depends on temperature and moisture. It also depends on factors like slope and thickness of soil.

Q2/ Which are the three broad categories of natural vegetation?

Ans2/ Natural vegetation is generally classified in to three broad categories as follows:-

(a) Forests:- Which grow where temperature and rainfall are plentiful to support a tree cover. Depending upon these factors, dense and open forests are grown.

(b) Grasslands:- Which grow in the region of moderate rain.

(c) Shrubs:- Thorny shrubs and scrubs grow in the dry region.

Q3/ Name the two hardwood trees commonly found in tropical evergreen forest.

Ans3/ The two hardwood trees commonly found in tropical evergreen forest are:-

1- Rosewood.

2nd Ebony.

Q6/ In which part of the world are tropical deciduous forest found?

Ans/ Tropical deciduous forest are found in the large part of India, northern Australia and in central America.

Q5/ In which climatic conditions are citrus fruits cultivated?

Ans/ Hot dry summers and mild rainy winter climatic conditions are citrus fruits cultivated.

Q6/ Mention the uses of coniferous forest.

Ans/ The woods of coniferous forest trees are very useful for making pulp, which is used for manufacturing paper and newsprint. Match boxes and packing boxes are also made from softwood. Fir, pine, cedar are the important variety of trees in these forests. Silver fox, mink, polar bear are the common animals found here.

Q7/ In which part of the world is seasonal grassland found?

Ans/ Seasonal grassland is found in the mid-temperate zone of the interior.