

AGRICULTURE

New Words:

- **Arable:** Land suitable for ploughing.
- **Diminutive:** Small.
- **Extensive farming:** Farming on large tracts of land using agricultural machines.
- **Fodder:** Dried food for cattle.
- **Intensive farming:** System of farming in which high inputs of labour and capital are made to obtain high yields per hectare of land.
- **Mixed farming:** Raising both crops and live stocks on farms.
- **Peasants farming:** System of farming in which the land is owned and managed by the cultivator.
- **Perspective:** View.
- **Poverty Line:** Person who are unable to afford meals worth 2400 calories per day in rural areas are supposed to be living below the poverty line.
- **Repercussion:** Indirect effects.

I. Multiple Choice/Very short Answer Questions:

1. Complete the following statements:

- (a) If inputs are inadequate, the yield per acre is _____ .
- (b) Pulse crops helps in restoring the _____ contents of the soil.
- (c) Principal oil seeds grown in India are _____ and _____ .
- (d) Agricultural machines cannot be used on _____ land holdings.

Ans: (a) Low.

(b) Nitrogen.

(c) Groundnut, Rapeseed.

(d) Small.

2. Mention two characteristics of intensive farming.

Ans: The two characteristics of intensive farming are :

- i. High inputs of labour and capital to obtain higher yields per acre of land.
- ii. High Yielding Varieties of seeds are used in combination with farm yards manure and chemical fertilizers.

3. We do not need summer houses for growing crops in India. Why ?

Ans: Indian climate is favorable for any types of crops which are cultivated in different seasons all over the country. Sufficient rainfall, fertility of the soil as well as temperature in all seasons remains fit for the growth of plants. That is why we do not need summer house for growing crops.

4. Strike out the states that do not have big fruits growing areas:

Rajasthan / Himachal Pradesh / Jammu and Kashmir / Uttar Pradesh.

Ans: Rajasthan.

5. Sort out the plantation crops from the list given below:

Maize / Rubber / Tea / spices / Rice / Sugarcane.

Ans: Rubber, Tea.

6. Which one country does not practice extensive farming on a large scale ?

Japan / Argentina / Australia / Canada.

Ans: Japan.

7. Which one of these is a directly obtained natural fiber ?

(a) Jute

(b) Silk

(c) Both

(d) None of the two

Ans: Jute.

II. Short/Long Answer Question:

1. Identify human actions that are leading to soil erosion, land slide and extinction of certain wildlife species.

Ans: Human actions that are responsible for leading soil erosion, land slide and extinction of certain wildlife species are as follows:

- i. Deforestation.
 - ii. Increase of pollution.
 - iii. Disposal of industrial wastes.
 - iv. Over irrigation.
 - v. Overuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticides.
2. How is aquatic life affected by indiscriminate disposal of industrial wastes.

Ans: Life of aquatic animal or organisms are affected much due to the increase of pollution in water. One of the major causes for increasing pollution in water is indiscriminate disposals of industrial wastes. A large number of aquatic life has disappeared or became extinct, many of them are in the list of endangered species. The industrial wastes contain many types of poisonous chemical causing aquatic life unfit in that water.

3. Regions of the worlds facing food shortages can help themselves by being vegetarians ? Do you agree ? Give reasons.

Ans: Being vegetarian is not the perfect solution of facing food shortage. Most of the Indians are vegetarians still India faces the problem of food shortage. Practically to overcome the problem of food shortage a nation must increase production in agriculture sector. Principal food grain productions must double on. So we can agree that the region of the world facing food shortage can help themselves by being vegetarian.

4. What factors come in the way of increasing yields per acre in developing countries ? Identify any three.

Ans: There are several factors that come in the way of agricultural yield per acre in the developing countries. The remarkable factors are as follows:

- i. Agriculture became a matter of sustain rather than a commercial. It made impossible to use modern machinery on such small holding of land.
 - ii. Average farmers were too poor to afford high cost of machines, fertilizers etc.
 - iii. Irrigation facilities are undependable and adequate inputs were absent in the land due to capability of investment.
5. Explain flood irrigation and Drip irrigation ? Which one is better and why ?

Ans: Traditional farmers often use old methods of irrigation. These old method of irrigation is regarded as Flood irrigation. Whereas Drip irrigation is a modern form of irrigation in which irrigation is done in sprinkle form.

In comparison to Flood irrigation Drip irrigation is much better and can lead to optimum use of water. Does the arable area remain the same, but more land can be irrigated with the same quantity of water.

6. List the cropping seasons in India. Mention two principal crops for each season

Ans: There are two main crop seasons in India:

- i. Rabi Season: Wheat, Gram, Mustard etc.
 - ii. Kharib Season: Rice, Cotton, Jute etc.
7. Why is extensive farming not popular in India ? Give three reasons.

Ans: Extensive farming to refer to large scale farming of large land holding using agricultural machines. It is not popular in India because:

- i. Extensive farming needs huge capital which is not possible for Indian farmers.
 - ii. These types of farming require large area which is not the possession of Indian farmers.
 - iii. High advanced agricultural machines were on unaffordable for the Indian farmers.
8. Give a brief accounts life on a wheat farm in USA.

Ans: The wheat farmers of USA own a large holding of land and machines. These allow a large area to be farmed. The farmers invest heavily in the labour saving machines such as tractors, plough, drills and combine harvest. The farmer used best variety of hybrid seeds yet the farmers have to face great hardship incase of lack of markets and crop failures.

9. Give a brief appraisal of green revolution.

Ans: The evolution in agriculture using High Yielding Varieties of seeds, increase use of fertilizers improved facilities of irrigation with better agricultural techniques is refer to as Green Revolution.

Green Revolution an appraisal:

- i. Green Revolution has been mostly restricted to wheat growing areas. The increase in rice production has not been very substantial.
- ii. The grains of Green revolution are unevenly spread over the different regions of country like Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka.
- iii. The large size and rich farm owners have been able to adopt new technology since it needs high capital inputs.

10. How does agriculture contribute to industry ? Explain with appropriate example.

Ans: Agriculture sector contributes about 35 percent of the national product. Agriculture provides food materials and also a number of raw materials to the industry. Textile, Sugar, Jute, Vanaspati, are example of industry that depends upon the agricultural products as their raw materials. Plantation based industry are like Tea, Coffee, Tobacco, and Rubber also depend upon agriculture.

