

New terms:

- **Chlorophyll:** The green colouring substance in leaves.
- **Fauna:** Wild life.
- **Flora:** The vegetation found in a region.

Multiple Choice / Very Short Answer Questions:

1. Complete the following statements:
 - (a) Zebra and giraffe are found in _____ Grasslands.
 - (b) _____ is a bird that has lost the art of flying.
 - (c) Sandalwood grows in the _____ States of India.
 - (d) Mulberry thrives best in _____ Regions.

Ans: (a) Tropical
(b) Ostrich
(c) Karnataka
(d) Warm Temperate
2. Plants need to be protected and conserved because:
 - (a) They are the basic producers.
 - (b) They beautify our homes.
 - (c) They provide roadside shelter.
 - (d) None of the above.

Ans: Option (a)
3. Natural vegetation is effected by:
 - (a) Climate
 - (b) Nature of landform.
 - (c) Soil
 - (d) All the above.

Ans: Option (d)
4. In equatorial regions, the vegetation is:
 - (a) Thorny
 - (b) Short and stunted.
 - (c) Lush and green.
 - (d) One of the above.

Ans: Option (c)
5. Alligators and hippopotamuses are peculiar wildlife associated with:
 - (a) Tropical grasslands.
 - (b) Mediterranean regions.
 - (c) Temperate grasslands.
 - (d) Equatorial regions.

Ans: Option (d)

Short / long Answer Questions:

1. Why are plants termed as basic producers ?

Ans: Plants have a unique capacity of producing their food with the help of solar energy and chlorophyll. Animals are the consumer of food and dependent directly or indirectly on the plants for food. For that reason plants are said to be the basic source of food and considered as the basic producers.
2. Why do some trees shed leaves during winter season ?

Ans: Some trees in the tropical grassland region shed their leaves during winters in order to avoid evaporation, as the regions get constantly high temperature during the year and the rainfall is seasonal. Most of it received during summer winter remains dry.
3. Why are trees in the equatorial regions very tall ?

Ans: The equatorial regions have bright sunshine, high temperature, high humidity and high rainfall. This feature makes the vegetation lush, green and thick. The trees are very tall as they have to compete among themselves to reach out the sunlight.

4. Which were the first ever living organisms on earth ?

Ans: Plants were the first living organism on earth.

5. What purpose is served by thorns on plants growing in hot desert ?

Ans: Thorns growing on the branches of plants served to prevent the maximum loss of water from the plants that grow in hot desert areas.

6. Briefly describe the vegetation found in the cold regions of the world.

Ans: Vegetation in the cold region is limited to lichens, mosses, dwarf shrubs and stunted birch trees. The bushes rise to only a few decimeter above the ground. The vegetations occur only during summer.

7. Mention the various names with which grasslands in the northern hemisphere are known ?

Ans: The grassland in the northern hemisphere is known as: Steppes in Eurasia, Prairies in North America, Pampas in South America, Veldts in Africa, and Downs in Australia.

