

Class X - Social Science

Agriculture

CBSE NOTES

Agriculture - Challenge Worksheet

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Challenge Questions

1. Evaluate the implications of shifting cultivation on soil fertility and environmental sustainability in India.

Hint: Consider the balance between traditional practices and environmental conservation.

Solution: Shifting cultivation, while allowing soil fertility to naturally replenish, leads to deforestation and loss of biodiversity. However, it supports the livelihoods of tribal communities. Contrast this with modern agricultural practices that increase productivity but may degrade soil health over time.

2. Analyze the role of the Green Revolution in transforming Indian agriculture, highlighting its benefits and drawbacks.

Hint: Think about regional variations in adoption and consequences.

Solution: The Green Revolution significantly increased food grain production through HYV seeds and chemical inputs, making India self-sufficient. However, it led to disparities in development, overuse of water resources, and environmental degradation. Discuss regional impacts and long-term sustainability.

3. Compare and contrast the geographical conditions required for the cultivation of rice and wheat in India.

Hint: Focus on climatic and soil requirements, and human interventions.

Solution: Rice requires high temperature, humidity, and rainfall, thriving in deltaic regions. Wheat needs cooler temperatures and moderate rainfall, suitable for the northern plains. Highlight how irrigation and technological interventions have expanded their cultivation areas.

4. Discuss the significance of plantation agriculture in India, with examples of crops and their economic importance.

Hint: Consider the interface between agriculture and industry.

Solution: Plantation agriculture like tea, coffee, and rubber is capital-intensive and export-oriented, contributing significantly to the economy. It employs labor but faces challenges like price fluctuations and climate change impacts.

5. Examine the impact of technological and institutional reforms on Indian agriculture post-Independence.

Hint: Balance between technological advancement and equitable development.

Solution: Reforms like land consolidation, Green Revolution, and credit facilities improved productivity but also led to inequalities and environmental issues. Discuss the need for sustainable practices and inclusive growth.

6. Critically assess the Bhoodan-Gramdan movement's effectiveness in addressing landlessness in India.

Hint: Consider the voluntary nature versus compulsory measures.

Solution: The movement aimed at voluntary land redistribution but had limited success due to lack of legal enforcement and landowners' reluctance. Contrast with government-led land reforms and their outcomes.

7. Explore the challenges faced by Indian farmers in the cultivation of cotton and suggest measures to overcome them.

Hint: Think about technological and policy interventions.

Solution: Cotton farmers face issues like pest attacks, water scarcity, and price volatility. Solutions include adopting Bt cotton, drip irrigation, and better market access. Discuss the role of government policies.

8. Evaluate the potential of horticulture in enhancing India's agricultural exports and farmers' income.

Hint: Focus on value addition and supply chain management.

Solution: Horticulture offers high-value crops like fruits and vegetables, suitable for small landholdings. Challenges include post-harvest losses and export barriers. Discuss success stories and areas needing improvement.

9. Analyze the effects of climate change on India's cropping patterns, with reference to major crops.

Hint: Consider resilience of traditional versus modern crops.

Solution: Climate change alters rainfall patterns and temperatures, affecting crop yields. Rice and wheat may face reduced productivity, while millets could gain importance. Discuss adaptation strategies like crop diversification.

10. Discuss the importance of pulses in Indian agriculture, highlighting the challenges in their production and ways to enhance yield.

Hint: Think about nutritional security and sustainable practices.

Solution: Pulses are crucial for protein supply and soil health but suffer from low productivity due to rain-fed cultivation and minimal use of inputs. Solutions include improved varieties, irrigation, and MSP support.

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