

Class X - Social Science

Agriculture

CBSE NOTES

Agriculture - Mastery Worksheet

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Mastery Questions

1. Compare and contrast Primitive Subsistence Farming and Commercial Farming with examples.

Hint: Focus on the tools, scale, productivity, and examples for each type.

Solution: Primitive Subsistence Farming is characterized by the use of primitive tools, dependence on monsoon, and low productivity, practiced in small patches of land. Examples include 'Jhumming' in North-Eastern states. Commercial Farming, on the other hand, uses modern inputs like HYV seeds and chemical fertilizers for higher productivity, practiced on large scales. Examples include tea plantations in Assam and coffee plantations in Karnataka. A table can be drawn to compare these farming types based on tools used, scale of operation, productivity, and examples.

2. Explain the geographical conditions required for the cultivation of rice and wheat in India.

Hint: List the temperature, rainfall, and region requirements separately for each crop.

Solution: Rice requires high temperature (above 25°C), high humidity, and annual rainfall above 100 cm. It is grown in the plains of north and north-eastern India, coastal areas, and deltaic regions. Wheat requires a cool growing season, bright sunshine at ripening, and 50 to 75 cm of annual rainfall. It is mainly grown in the north and north-western parts of India. A diagram can illustrate the distribution areas of rice and wheat in India.

3. Discuss the impact of technological and institutional reforms on Indian agriculture.

Hint: Consider both positive impacts and challenges introduced by these reforms.

Solution: Technological reforms like the Green Revolution introduced HYV seeds and chemical fertilizers, increasing productivity. Institutional reforms like land reforms, collectivization, and the establishment of cooperative societies aimed at improving farmers' conditions. These reforms have led to increased production but also caused regional disparities and environmental concerns.

4. How do the cropping seasons (Rabi, Kharif, Zaid) in India differ? Provide examples of crops grown in each season.

Hint: Focus on the timing and examples for each season.

Solution: Rabi crops are sown in winter (October-December) and harvested in summer (April-June), e.g., wheat, barley. Kharif crops are grown with the onset of monsoon and harvested in September-October, e.g., paddy, maize. Zaid is a short season during summer months for crops like watermelon, cucumber. A table can compare these seasons based on sowing and harvesting periods, and examples of crops.

5. Analyze the role of agriculture in the Indian economy with reference to employment and GDP contribution.

Hint: Discuss employment, GDP contribution, and trends over time.

Solution: Agriculture employs about two-thirds of India's population and contributes significantly to the GDP. It provides raw materials for industries and products for export, like tea and coffee. However, its GDP share has been declining due to the growth of other sectors. A graph can show the trend in agriculture's contribution to GDP over the years.

6. What are the challenges faced by Indian agriculture today? Suggest measures to overcome them.

Hint: List challenges and pair each with a potential solution.

Solution: Challenges include dependence on monsoon, small land holdings, and lack of modern technology. Measures include irrigation development, land consolidation, and access to credit. Institutional support like crop insurance and minimum support prices can also help.

7. Describe the significance of plantation agriculture in India. Give examples of plantation crops and their growing regions.

Hint: Focus on export contribution and specific examples with regions.

Solution: Plantation agriculture is significant for its large-scale production and export potential. Examples include tea in Assam and North Bengal, coffee in Karnataka, and rubber in Kerala. These crops require specific climatic conditions and contribute to the economy through exports.

8. Explain how pulses contribute to soil fertility and food security in India.

Hint: Highlight nitrogen fixation and nutritional value.

Solution: Pulses are leguminous crops that fix atmospheric nitrogen, enhancing soil fertility. They are a major source of protein in vegetarian diets, contributing to food security. Examples include tur (arhar), urad, and moong, grown in states like Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

9. Compare the cultivation practices and geographical requirements of cotton and jute in India.

Hint: List requirements for each crop side by side.

Solution: Cotton requires high temperature, light rainfall, and 210 frost-free days, grown in black cotton soil of Deccan plateau. Jute requires well-drained fertile soils in flood plains and high temperature, grown in West Bengal and Bihar. A table can compare these based on soil, climate, and regions.

10. Discuss the importance of horticulture in India with examples of fruits and vegetables produced.

Hint: Focus on nutritional, economic, and export significance.

Solution: Horticulture is important for nutrition, employment, and exports. India produces tropical and temperate fruits like mangoes, bananas, and apples, and vegetables like peas, cauliflower, and tomatoes. Examples include mangoes of Maharashtra and bananas of Kerala.

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