

Class X - English

Coorg

CBSE NOTES

Coorg - Practice Worksheet

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Practice Questions

1. Describe the geographical location and natural beauty of Coorg.

Hint: Focus on the description provided in the first few paragraphs of the chapter.

Solution: Coorg, also known as Kodagu, is nestled midway between Mysore and the coastal town of Mangalore in Karnataka. It is renowned for its lush evergreen rainforests, spice plantations, and coffee estates that cover a significant portion of the district. The region experiences heavy monsoons, which contribute to its rich biodiversity and vibrant greenery. From September to March, the weather is perfect, making it an ideal time for visitors. The air is filled with the invigorating aroma of coffee, and the landscape is dotted with colonial bungalows tucked under tree canopies. The rolling hills and the presence of the river Kaveri add to the scenic beauty, making Coorg a piece of heaven on earth.

2. What are the theories regarding the descent of the Kodavu people?

Hint: Refer to the section discussing the origin and cultural practices of the Coorgis.

Solution: The Kodavu people, or Coorgis, are believed to have either Greek or Arabic descent. One theory suggests that a part of Alexander's army moved south along the coast and settled in Coorg when returning became impractical. These soldiers married among the locals, and their culture is reflected in the martial traditions, marriage, and religious rites of the Coorgis, which are distinct from the Hindu mainstream. Another theory points to their possible Arabic origin, supported by the traditional long, black coat with an embroidered waist-belt worn by the Kodavus, known as 'kuppia', which resembles the 'kuffia' worn by Arabs and Kurds.

3. How does the author describe the hospitality and bravery of the Coorgi people?

Hint: Look for details about the Coorg Regiment and the anecdotes shared by the author.

Solution: The Coorgi people are known for their tradition of hospitality and are always willing to recount tales of valor related to their ancestors. The Coorg Regiment is one of the most decorated in the Indian Army, and the first Chief of the Indian Army, General Cariappa, was a Coorgi. The Kodavus are the only people in India permitted to carry firearms without a license, a testament to

their martial heritage. Their homes are open to guests, and they take pride in sharing stories of their brave sons and fathers, reflecting their courageous and welcoming nature.

4. What wildlife can be found in Coorg, and how does it contribute to the region's charm?

Hint: Focus on the paragraph describing the river Kaveri and the surrounding wildlife.

Solution: Coorg is home to a diverse range of wildlife, including kingfishers, squirrels, langurs, and elephants. The river Kaveri, which originates from the hills and forests of Coorg, is abundant with Mahaseer, a large freshwater fish. The playful antics of squirrels and langurs, who drop partially eaten fruit into the water for fun, add to the region's lively atmosphere. Elephants enjoy being bathed and scrubbed in the river by their mahouts, showcasing the harmonious relationship between humans and animals. The presence of these creatures, along with macaques, Malabar squirrels, and slender loris, enhances the natural charm and appeal of Coorg.

5. What adventure sports are available in Coorg, and how do they attract tourists?

Hint: Refer to the section that mentions the transformation of visitors into adventure enthusiasts.

Solution: Coorg offers a variety of high-energy adventure sports that attract thrill-seekers from all over. These include river rafting, canoeing, rappelling, rock climbing, and mountain biking. The numerous walking trails are a favorite among trekkers, providing opportunities to explore the region's stunning landscapes. The most laidback individuals often find themselves drawn to these activities, which offer a unique way to experience Coorg's natural beauty. The combination of adrenaline-pumping sports and breathtaking scenery makes Coorg a popular destination for adventure tourism.

6. Describe the significance of the Brahmagiri hills and Nisargadhama island in Coorg.

Hint: Look for the paragraph that describes the climb to the Brahmagiri hills and the visit to Nisargadhama.

Solution: The climb to the Brahmagiri hills offers a panoramic view of the entire misty landscape of Coorg, providing a breathtaking perspective of the region's natural beauty. A walk across the rope bridge leads to the sixty-four-acre island of Nisargadhama, a serene and picturesque spot. These locations are significant not only for their scenic value but also for the unique experiences they offer. Visitors can encounter Buddhist monks from India's largest Tibetan settlement at nearby

Bylakuppe, adding a cultural dimension to the natural splendor. The Brahmagiri hills and Nisargadhama island are must-visit destinations for anyone seeking to discover the heart and soul of Coorg.

7. How does the author convey the cultural diversity of Coorg?

Hint: Focus on the sections discussing the Kodavu people's attire and the Tibetan monks.

Solution: The author highlights the cultural diversity of Coorg through its unique traditions, attire, and the presence of the Tibetan settlement at Bylakuppe. The Kodavus' distinct martial traditions, marriage, and religious rites set them apart from the Hindu mainstream. Their traditional dress, the 'kuppia', resembles the attire of Arabs and Kurds, indicating possible foreign influences. Additionally, the sight of Buddhist monks in red, ochre, and yellow robes adds to the cultural mosaic of Coorg. This blend of indigenous and external cultural elements makes Coorg a fascinating study in diversity.

8. What is the importance of coffee in Coorg's economy and culture?

Hint: Refer to the descriptions of coffee estates and their impact on the region.

Solution: Coffee is the main crop of Coorg and plays a vital role in its economy and culture. The region's coffee estates are a major source of livelihood for the locals and contribute significantly to India's coffee production. The invigorating aroma of coffee permeates the air, creating a distinctive atmosphere that defines Coorg. The coffee plantations, often interspersed with colonial bungalows, are a testament to the region's colonial past and its adaptation to modern agricultural practices. Coffee is not just an economic commodity in Coorg; it is a way of life that influences the daily routines and social interactions of its people.

9. How does the author describe the weather and its effect on tourism in Coorg?

Hint: Look for the paragraph that discusses the monsoon season and the ideal time to visit Coorg.

Solution: The author describes Coorg's weather as being heavily influenced by the monsoons, which pour enough to deter many visitors. However, the season of joy commences from September and continues till March, when the weather is perfect, with occasional showers adding to the charm. The pleasant climate during these months, combined with the region's natural beauty, makes it an ideal time for tourism. The author's portrayal of the weather underscores its dual role in both challenging and enhancing the tourist experience in Coorg.

10. What transportation options are available for reaching Coorg, and what can visitors expect upon arrival?

Hint: Refer to the 'FACT FILE' section at the end of the chapter for detailed information on transportation.

Solution: Coorg can be reached by air, rail, and road. The nearest airports are in Mangalore (135 km) and Bangalore (260 km), with flights connecting to major cities across India. The nearest railheads are at Mysore, Mangalore, and Hassan. By road, there are two main routes from Bangalore, both approximately 250-260 km, with the route via Mysore being the most frequented. Upon arrival, visitors are greeted by misty hills, lush forests, and coffee plantations that cast a spellbinding effect. The district headquarters, Madikeri, serves as the gateway to Coorg, offering a range of accommodations from resorts to homestays for an authentic Coorgi experience.

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