

OUR ENVIRONMENT

- A. 1. Natural
2. atmosphere
3. rock materials; soil
4. Nitrogen
5. ecosystems
B. 1. c 2. e 3. d 4. b 5. a
C. 1. False 2. False 3. True 4. True 5. False

I. Answer the questions in brief:

1. What does the word 'environment' mean?

Ans:- The environment means everything, such as human beings, plants, animals, land, water and air.

2. What is natural environment?

Ans:- *Natural environment comprises physical and biological elements of the earth.

*Physical environment includes non-living or abiotic, components such as land, air and water.

*Biological environment includes living or biotic components such as humans, plants animals and microbial organisms.

3. What is Biosphere?

Ans:- The narrow zone of contact where the lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere meet and interact is called the Biosphere.

4. Why is the lithosphere important?

Ans:- The lithosphere is important to us because—

*It consists of rocks and minerals which are useful to us.

*It provides land for building houses, roads, factories and soil for agriculture.

5. What is the importance of the atmosphere?

Ans:- The atmosphere is important to us because—

*Nitrogen is essential to maintain the fertility of soil.

*Oxygen is necessary for the survival of human beings.

*Carbon dioxide is necessary for the survival of plants.

*Ozone protects us from the ultraviolet rays of the sun.

II. Answer the questions in detail:

1. Describe the domains of the earth in one or two sentences.

Ans:- *Lithosphere – The uppermost solid layer of the earth is called the lithosphere.

*Hydrosphere – Water on earth found in all the three forms solid (glaciers) liquid (water bodies and underground water) and gas (water vapour in the atmosphere). They all constitute hydrosphere.

*Atmosphere – The atmosphere is the mixture of gases surrounding the earth.

*Biosphere – The narrow zone where the lithosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere meet and interact is called the biosphere.

2. What do you understand by human environment?

Ans:- Human environment is formed by humans themselves. It includes their creations, activities and other social, economic and political conditions in which they live.

HOTS

3. How do plants and animals depend on each other?

Ans:- *All living beings, plants, animals and human beings are interdependent on each other.

*They also depend on their immediate surroundings.

*The size of an ecosystem varies greatly. It can be as small as a pond or as large as a forest. They contain thousands of interacting species.

Value Corner

4. Why is it important to protect the environment?

Ans:- Today the world is facing serious environmental problems

*Increase in human activities such as farming, grazing, mining and construction which have exploited nature and disturbed the natural balance of the environment

*Many species of animals and birds have become extinct due to deforestation and hunting

*Deforestation has increased the amount of carbon dioxide in the Atmosphere.

*Urbanisation, overpopulation and industrialization have caused environmental pollution.

As a responsible citizen, we must also protect the environment by reducing the activities that harm our environment.