

Answer Key to Exercise

- A. 1. tropical
2. summers
3. undergrowth
4. commercial
5. mangrove
- B . north India snow leopard
east India hispid hare
west India Asiatic lion
south India Nilgiri tahr
central India sloth bear
- C. 1. True 2. False 3. False 4. True 5. True
- D. 1. b 2. a 3. b 4. a 5. c
- E. 1. The Himalayas form a mighty barrier and do not allow cold polar winds from north Asia to enter India. Due to the presence of the Himalayas, India experiences milder winters than central Asia.
2. The pre-monsoon showers in Kerala are called blossom showers.
3. The two branches of south-western monsoon winds in India are the Arabian Sea branch and the Bay of Bengal branch.
4. The monsoon rains in India are important for the Indian economy as the production of foodgrains depend heavily on these rains. Good monsoon rain brings economic prosperity.
5. As of 2017, forests in India cover only 21.54 per cent of the total land area. The distribution of the forests in India is highly uneven.
- F. 1. In June, the interior parts of India experience very high temperatures. Thus, low pressure is created over the north-west part of the Indian subcontinent. However, the surrounding waterbodies remain relatively cooler which help to develop a high pressure over them. Therefore, the south-east trade winds start moving as south-west monsoon winds from the high pressure to the low pressure region. As these winds move from the sea to the land, they are moisture-laden. These winds cause heavy rainfall and thundering on the Indian subcontinent.
2. The western coastal plains, the Western Ghats, and the hills of Meghalaya are the regions of heavy rainfall in India. The middle Ganga basin, eastern Maharashtra, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, and north-east peninsula are the regions of moderate rainfall. The upper Ganga basin, eastern Rajasthan, plains of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Punjab are the regions of low rainfall. The regions of very low rainfall are western Rajasthan and northern parts of Jammu and Kashmir.

3.

Dry deciduous forests	Tropical deciduous forests
The dry deciduous forests are found throughout the northern part of India.	The tropical deciduous forests are found throughout India except in the western and north-western parts of India.
The average rainfall is 50 to 100 centimetres.	The average rainfall is between 100 to 200 centimetres.
Dominant tree species: teak and peepal	Dominant tree species: shisham and rosewood

4. The wildlife of north India has a spectacular variety of mammals, birds, and insects. The wildlife of east India is unique and diverse. Some of the endangered species of animals are found in this part of the country. The wildlife of west India has a remarkable variety of flora and fauna. The Eastern and Western Ghats are rich reserves of wildlife.
5. A wildlife sanctuary is a protected area which allows animals to live in their natural habitat. Some harmless human activities like grazing livestock are allowed. However, a national park is stricter than a wildlife sanctuary in its protection of wildlife. These do not allow grazing or removal of any wildlife. In addition, no human activities are permitted here. Biosphere reserves are established for scientific and educational purposes while conserving wildlife in situ.