

READ THE FOLLOWING LONG TYPES QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS THOROUGHLY AND TRY TO UNDERSTAND AND WRITE IN YOUR H.W.COPY.

What do you mean by Human Geography ? Describe the different definitions given by different Geographers.

Answer:

Man-An active agent. Man is a geographical agent on this earth. Man is an active part of environment. Man utilises the natural resources to meet his basic needs of food, shelter and clothing. Man is not a slave of nature, but modifies it to meet its survival. Sometimes man adjusts himself according to the natural environment.

Due to variation in environment, variations are found in life style of people in different regions. Food, clothing, shelter, customs, traditions, socio-economic conditions, religion, faith, skill, efficiency directly or indirectly influence environment.

Definition of Human Geography : Many cultural features result due to inter-relationship between man and nature. These include settlements, towns, roads, industries, buildings etc. Thus Human Geography deals with the areal differentiation and organisation of human activities within physical environment.

Human Geography thus studies, on regional basis, the different human groups and their influences along with functional relations. The definition of human geography has changed with times. None of the definitions of human geography is universally accepted.

1. The German Geographer, Fredric Ratzal is called the father of modern Human Geography According to Ratzal, ' Human Geography is related to Environment which is the sum total of physical conditions. '

2. According to E.C. Semple, "Human Geography is a study of the changing relationship between the unresting man and the unstable earth. "

3. According to Vidal de La Blache, "Human Geography is a study of inter-relationship of Earth and man. "

4. According to Brunches, "Human Geography is the study of all those facts in which human activity plays a part."

5. According to Ellsworth Huntington, "Human Geography may be defined as the study of natural distribution of relationships between geographical environment and human activities."

6. According to D. H. Davis, "Human Geography is a study of the relationship between natural environment and human activities. ''

7. According to White and Renner, "Human Geography is primarily human ecology and the study of human society in relation to the earth background."

8. According to Dickens and Pits, "Human Geography is looked upon the study of man and his works."

Question 2.

Describe the nature and scope of Human Geography.

Answer:

Nature of Human Geography. Human Geography aims to study the regional variations of human life on the earth. Great variations are found in colour, efficiency, livelihood, customs, religions, socio-economic conditions of different human groups living in different regions.

These are directly or indirectly influenced by physical environment. The interactive relationship between man and environment results in a cultural landscape. According to Finch and Trewortha, man and his cultural activities are the subject matter of Human Geography. In this, Human Geography studies the functional relationship between population, natural resources and cultural landscape.

In this context, Vidal de la Blache states, "Human Geography is the study of human influence on his occupation. It analyses the process of Environmental Adjustment, regional adaptation and spatial organisation. Man is an active agent, but it is not a part of environment.

Man creates a cultural landscape by modifying the environment. In this way, human geography studies the forces of physical environment like solar energy, gravity and other processes. Similarly human geography studies the forces of cultural activities. So study of Human Geography is essential for the study of Economic, Demographic and Historical Sciences.

Scope of Human Geography :

Human Geography has a wide scope. But there is a lot of difference in views of different scholars. Human Geography is a regional study of variation in mode of life of different human groups. The subject matter of human geography is nature and distribution of interrelationship between man and geographical environment.

Scope of Human Geography :

- The population and the capacity of a region.
- Natural resources of the region.

- Cultural patterns of the region.
- Man-Environment Adjustment in a region.
- Temporal Development.

Question 3.

Describe the main branches of Human Geography.

Answer:

Human Geography. Human Geography studies the influence of environment on human life. Man tries to modify his environment and creates man-made or cultural features. These features include agriculture, towns, settlements, means of transportation etc.

The study of these man-made features is called Human Geography. Human Geography is inter-disciplinary in nature. It develops close interface with other sister disciplines in social sciences. Human Geography may be divided into following main branches :

1. Cultural Geography. (Social Geography) :

This branch deals with the cultural aspects of different human groups. The cultural aspects include the following aspects :

- Shelter
- Food
- Clothing
- Skills
- Tools
- Language
- Religion
- Social organisation.

Some Geographers prefer to call it Social Geography. It includes many sub branches as :

- Behavioural Geography
- Geography of social well being
- Geography of leisure
- Gender Geography
- Medical Geography.

2. Economic Geography. Economic Geography studies the economic activities of man. It studies the distribution and utilisation of resources of the earth. It is a study of products in the form of their production, consumption and exchange. Its sub-branches are :

- Geography of Resources
- Geography of Agriculture
- Geography of Industries
- Geography of Marketing

- Geography of Tourism ‘
- Geography of International trade.

3. Population Geography. Population Geography deals with the study of biological and cultural characteristics of human groups. It studies the distribution of population, death rate, birth rate, age, sex composition, literacy, rural and urban settlements. It is called demography also.

4. Historical Geography. Historical Geography studies the geographical development of an area from time to time in the past. It helps us in understanding the region as it is at present.

5. Political Geography. It analyses the political and administrative decisions in different political units. It is concerned with boundaries, capitals, local government, international politics and regional planning. It has sub-branches of Electoral Geography and Military Geography.

6. Urban Geography. It deals with urban studies and planning.

7. Settlement Geography. It studies urban and rural settlement.

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