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Geography Chapter 6 Major Landforms of the Earth (Based on NCERT)

1. Answer the following questions briefly.

- (a) What are the major landforms?
- (b) What is the difference between a mountain and a plateau?
- (c) What are the different types of mountains?
- (d) How are mountains useful to man?
- (e) How are plains formed?
- (f) Why are the river plains thickly populated?
- (g) Why are mountains thinly populated?

Answer: (a) The major landforms are—mountains, plateaus and plains.

(b) A mountain may have a small summit and a broad base. But a plateau is flat-topped table standing above the surrounding area.

Example of mountain—The Himalayan mountains.

Example of plateau—The Deccan plateau.

(c) Mountains are of three types—

- (i) Fold mountains
- (ii) Block mountains
- (iii) Volcanic mountains

(d) Mountains are useful to man in a variety of ways:

(i) Mountains are storehouse of water which is the basic need of the human beings. Reservoirs are made and the water is harnessed for the use of people. Water is used for irrigation and generation of hydroelectricity.

(ii) Mountains have a rich variety of flora and fauna.

(iii) Mountains provide an idyllic site for tourists. They visit the mountains for their scenic beauty.

(e) Plains are generally formed by rivers and their tributaries. The rivers flow down the slopes of mountains and erode them. They carry forward the eroded material. Then they deposit their load consisting of stones, sand and silt along their courses and in their valleys. It is from these deposits that plains are formed.

(f) The river plains are very suitable for human habitation. People get flat land for building houses and for cultivation. The soil of river plains is very fertile. Hence people live here and cultivate land for their living.

(g) Life is very difficult in mountain areas because of harsh climate. It is quite difficult to grow crops, build houses or roads in a mountain. Hence, people do not prefer to live here.

2. Tick the correct answer.

(a) The mountains differ from the hills in terms of

(i) elevation (ii) slope (iii) aspect.

(b) Glaciers are found in

(i) the mountains (ii) the plains (iii) the plateaus.

(c) The Deccan plateau is located in

(i) Kenya (ii) Australia (iii) India.

(d) The river Yangtze flows in

(i) South America (ii) Australia (iii) China.

(e) An important mountain range of Europe is ‘

(i) the Andes (ii) the Alps (iii) the Rockies.

Answer: (a)-(i), (b)-(i), (c)-(iii), (d)-(iii), (e)-(ii).

3. Fill in the blanks.

(a) A..... is an unbroken flat or a low-level land.

(b) The Himalayas and the Alps are examples of..... types of mountains.

(c) areas are rich in mineral deposits.

(d) The..... is a line of mountains.

(e) The areas are most producing for farming.

Answer: (a) plain, (b) young fold, (c) Plateau, (d) range, (e) plain.