

22.6.2020

Chapter-5

Date _____
Page _____

(A) Answer the following questions:

1. Name the areas where the Equatorial Rainforests are found.

Ans:- • South America:- The Amazon Lowlands in Brazil where they are known as the Selvas, coast of French Guiana, Columbia and parts of Ecuador.

• Africa: The entire Congo Basin (Zaire Basin) and the Guinea Coast in West Africa

• South-East Asia: Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesian parts of Philippines, Papua New Guinea, peninsular Thailand and parts of Sri Lanka.

2. State two characteristics of the Equatorial climate.

Ans:- Two characteristics of the Equatorial climate are:

i) The duration of Sunshine is 12 hours daily and the average temperature ranges around 25°C :-

ii) Humidity is usually very high in this region as it receives a high amount of rainfall annually, about 150 cm to 350 cm, which is distributed throughout the year.

3. Why do the forests in the Equatorial Rainforest look evergreen?

Ans:- The Equatorial Rainforest look evergreen because the several kinds of trees shed their leaves, flower and bear fruit at different times of the year.

4. Name the three layers of trees found in these forests. Write one characteristic feature for each.

Ans:- The three layers of trees found in these forests are —

a) The Canopy - This is the topmost layer, where the branches of the tall trees merge with each other forming an umbrella or canopy, blocking the sunlight.

b) The middle layer - It consists of small trees, shrubs and plants which do not have broad trunks.

c) The lowermost layer - It consists of grasses, ferns, creepers, lianas and colourful orchids.

5. Name three important trees found in these forests and state a use for each.

Ans:- Three important trees found in these forests are -

- i) Mahogany - It is used for making furniture.
- ii) Rubber - It is used for making tyres.
- iii) Palm - It is used for extracting palm oil.

6. Write about the three steps followed in shifting agriculture.

Ans:- The three steps followed in shifting agriculture are -

- i) A part of the forest is cleared and the trees are burnt down.
- ii) Crops are grown for two or three years.
- iii) When the fertility of the soil decreases, the tribals move to a new area and carry out the same process.

7. Define plantation agriculture. Who introduced this system into these forest regions? Name four crops grown under the system.

Ans:- Plantation agriculture is a method where a single cash crop is grown on a large scale for the purpose of sale.

The European introduced this system into these forest region.

Four crops grown under this system are tea, rubber, cocoa and coffee.

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