

NCERT Solutions for Class 7 Social Studies (Geography)

Chapter 9- Life in the Deserts

1. Answer the following questions.

(a) What are the two types of deserts found in the world?

Answer: There are two types of deserts in the world:

1. Hot Desert
2. Cold Desert

(b) In which continent is the Sahara desert located?

Answer: The Sahara Desert is located in the continent of Africa. It covers a large part of North Africa.

(c) What are the climatic conditions of the Ladakh desert?

Answer: Ladakh is a cold desert that lies in the Great Himalayas. The altitude of Ladakh varies from 3000m to 8000m, because of which the climate is very cold and dry. The air at this altitude is very thin and it intensifies the heat from the sun. The temperature in winters is less than -40°C and the day temperature in summers is just above zero degrees.

(d) What mainly attracts tourists to Ladakh?

Answer: Tourism is a major activity, as plenty of tourists from India and abroad visit Ladakh every year. One of the main attractions are the Buddhist monasteries and gompas. Tourists also enjoy trekking to see the meadows and glaciers and witnessing the important ceremonies and festivities of Ladakh.

(e) What type of clothes the people of the Sahara desert wear?

Answer: The people of Sahara Desert wear heavy robes as protection against dust storms and wind.

(f) Name the trees that grow in Ladakh.

Answer: Trees like apple, apricot and walnut grow during the summer season in Ladakh. Other than that, there are scanty patches of shrubs and grass for animals to graze. Because of the cold climate, there is not much fauna in this region.

2. Tick the correct answer.

(i) Sahara is located in which part of Africa

- (a) eastern
- (b) northern
- (c) western

Answer: b

(ii) Sahara is what type of desert

- (a) cold
- (b) hot
- (c) mild

Answer: b

(iii) The Ladakh desert is mainly inhabited by

- (a) Christians and Muslims
- (b) Buddhists and Muslims
- (c) Christians and Buddhists

Answer: b

(iv) Deserts are characterised by

- (a) scanty vegetation
- (b) heavy precipitation
- (c) low evaporation

Answer: a

(v) Hemis in the Ladakh is a famous

- (a) temple
- (b) church
- (c) monastery

Answer: c

(vi) Egypt is famous for growing

- (a) wheat
- (b) maize
- (c) cotton

Answer: c

3. Match the following.

(i) Oasis	(a) Libya
(ii) Bedouins	(b) monastery

(iii) Oil	(c) glacier
(iv) Gangri	(d) depressions with water
(v) Lamayuru	(e) cold desert
	(f) Sahara

Answer:

(i) Oasis	(d) depressions with water
(ii) Bedouins	(f) Sahara
(iii) Oil	(a) Libya
(iv) Gangri	(c) glacier
(v) Lamayuru	(b) monastery

4. Give reasons.

(i) There is scanty vegetation in the deserts.

Answer: A desert is an area characterised by low rainfall, scanty vegetation and extreme temperature. These climatic conditions are not suitable for the growth of plants. This is why there is scanty vegetation in the deserts.

(ii) People of the Sahara desert wear heavy robes.

Answer: The climate in the Sahara Desert is scorching hot and the wind is dry. This is why the people of the Sahara Desert wear heavy robes to protect themselves from the dust storms and dry wind.