

Chp 11 - Europe

Question Bank

1) Explain the location & boundary of Europe.

Ans) Europe lies entirely in the northern hemisphere. It lies between 35°N to 73°N latitudes and 25°W to 65°E longitudes. It is bordered by the Arctic Ocean on the north, the Atlantic ocean on the west and the Mediterranean sea on the south. On the east Ural Mountains, Ural river, Caspian Sea and the Black sea separate it from Asia.

2) Explain any five geographical importance of Europe.

Ans) i) Europe is the birth-place of western civilization.

ii) The industrial revolution in Europe which began in the 18th century led to the development of modern industry.

iii) The continent of Europe range in size with Russia, the largest ~~continent~~ country in the world, to Vatican City, the smallest country.

iv) In proportion to its area Europe has the longest coastline which is highly indented and has a large number of good natural harbours & ports.

v) Its central position in the land hemisphere has

encouraged its trade and the spread of its ideas & inventions quickly.

3) What is Eurasia?

Ans) Europe & Asia combine to form a continent known as Eurasia. This is because they are not separated by ocean or any water bodies. Actually Europe is a huge peninsula. It may be called the "Peninsula of Eurasia".

4) Name the physical divisions of Europe. Explain any one of them.

Ans) On the basis of relief, the continent may be divided into four major physical divisions:

- The north-western highlands
- The central uplands
- The great (north) European plains
- The alpine system.

▲ The North-western highlands ⇒ The north-western highlands cover an extensive area that extends from the mountains and plateaus of Norway and Sweden to the northern parts of Scotland, Wales, Ireland and Northern France.

- Characteristics = ? These highlands have mountains in their eastern parts which lie close to the ocean

They are made up of the ~~old~~ old, hard rocks. These mountains ranges penetrate deep into the sea. At certain places [Norway] long, narrow and deep arms of the sea, penetrate into the land between high cliffs. They are known as fiords. They make the coastline highly indented and rugged.

ii) Kiolen mountains stand on the border of Norway and Sweden. Gitterland & Galdhøpiggen are two highest peaks of this region. The Kiolen mountains are known as Scandinavian highlands. Norway, Sweden & Finland are together called Scandinavia.

iii) The highlands around the Baltic Sea are known as the Baltic Shield. Scandinavian highlands and Baltic Shield, are together called Fennoscandinavia highlands.

iv) Mountains of the western Scandinavia & Scotland and Greenland are called Caledonian mountains.

v) A large number of glacial lakes are scattered over this region.

vi) The highlands of northern United Kingdom are a part of the highlands of Norway & Sweden. The Grampian mountains, Scottish highlands & Pennine range are located in this region.

5) Name the three groups of rivers in Europe.
Give at least two examples from each group.

Ans) Three groups of rivers in Europe are:

- a) Rivers flowing Northwards \Rightarrow R. Vistula & R. Oder
- b) Rivers flowing westwards \Rightarrow R. Seine & R. Loire
- c) Rivers flowing southwards \Rightarrow R. Danube & R. Tagus

6) Explain the course of river Volga.

Ans) The Volga is the longest river of Europe. It rises from a small lake in the Valdai Hills and flows across Russia and before emptying into the Caspian Sea. Moscow is an important city located on it.

7) Explain the factors which affect the climate of Europe.

Ans) The following factors influence the climate of Europe:

a) Europe

a) Latitude \Rightarrow Europe lies in the cool temperature zone between latitudes 35°N & 73°N . It gives Europe a predominantly temperate climate.

b) Relief \Rightarrow Because of variety of relief features

Europe has almost all kinds of climates — mountain, continental, mediterranean types & cold climate.

- e) Proximity to the Sea \Rightarrow The seas & oceans keep the climate equable. At many places the seas & oceans have penetrated deep in the European land & thus have created a moderating influence on the climate of Europe.
- d) North Atlantic Drift \Rightarrow Its waters flow along the western Europe and keep the seas ice-free.
- e) The Westerlies \Rightarrow The warm westerly winds blow ~~the~~ into Europe making it warmer than it otherwise would have been. These winds give a fair amount of rainfall.

8) What do you know about the mediterranean climate?

Ans) This type of climate is found in the region bordering the mediterranean sea. It includes Southern Spain, Portugal, Southern France, Italy & Greece, Bosnia, Croatia, Herzegovina, Yugoslavia & Albania.

i) Here summers are long, hot & dry

ii) Winters are wet & mild.

iii) Westerlies bring rain in waley.

iv) During summer, this region comes under the influence of high pressure belt of horse latitudes. As a result, the winds are off-shore. Consequently, the region does not get rainfall in this session.

v) In winter ~~not~~ this high pressure belt shifts southward & the region comes under the influence of the westerlies which give enough amt. of rain.

9) Explain the Tundra Climate.

Ans) The extreme northern parts of Europe, particularly the northern parts of Scandinavia & the area around the white sea have tundra type of climate.

i) Winters are long & severely cold.

ii) For about 9 months the region is snow-bound.

iii) Rainfall is scanty, mostly in the form of snow.

iv) Days are very long & the Sun is visible at midnight also in the northern extreme parts of Scandinavian countries: This is called the Midnight Sun.

10) Name the vegetation regions of Europe. Explain the Tundra Vegetation.

Ans) Europe can be divided into the following vegetative regions:

- 1) The Tundra Vegetation
- 2) The taiga vegetation
- 3) The Mediterranean Vegetation
- 4) The mixed forest Belt
- 5) The West Europeans type forests

The extreme northern parts of Europe have Tundra Vegetation. The vegetation here remain frozen throughout the year. The natural vegetation of this region mainly consists of mosses, lichens & low trees of willow & birches. The winters are long & cold and summers are short & warm here. During short summers, the land is bright with flowers. In some places stunted shrubs are also found. The tundra is classified as a cold desert because of the scanty rainfall it receives & barren land.

Animals like reindeer, arctic fox, polar bear, musk ox are found here. Whales, seals, walrus & various types of fishes are also found here.

11) Write short notes on —

Ans) a) Laplands \Rightarrow Northern parts of Norway, Sweden & Finland are called Laplands.

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15) The Mediterranean Vegetation \Rightarrow Here tall trees are rare. Oak, Walnut, almond, fig as well as cedar, pines & firs are found here. Not much wild life is found here.