

Class- 7

Sub- Geography

Ch- Life in Deserts

1. Assertion (A): The Sahara desert has extreme variation between day and night temperatures.
Reason (R): Moisture evaporates faster than it accumulates due to cloudless skies.
2. Assertion (A): Ladakh experiences very little rainfall throughout the year.
Reason (R): Ladakh lies in the rain shadow area of the Himalayas.
3. Statement I: Oasis regions are fertile and support settled population.
Statement II: Oasis are formed only due to heavy rainfall in deserts.
4. Statement I: Nomadic tribes of the Sahara depend on livestock for livelihood.
Statement II: Nomadic tribes practise intensive crop farming throughout the Sahara.
5. A traveller in the Sahara wears loose, heavy robes mainly to
 - (a) display cultural identity
 - (b) protect from dust storms and hot winds
 - (c) keep the body warm during nights only
 - (d) reduce water intake
6. The practice of cultivating barley and vegetables only in summer in Ladakh reflects
 - (a) poor soil quality
 - (b) dependence on tourism
 - (c) climatic adaptation by people
 - (d) lack of irrigation facilities
7. Which one of the following is **not** the correct reason for scanty vegetation in deserts?
 - (a) Low rainfall
 - (b) Extreme temperatures
 - (c) Fertile alluvial soil
 - (d) High rate of evaporation

8. A group of people decides to settle near a water source in the Sahara and shift from nomadic life to farming. Examine the factors that would support this change.

Ans- The factors are-

- (i) The presence of an oasis provides a regular and reliable source of water, which makes permanent settlement possible in the Sahara.
- (ii) Fertile land around the oasis supports cultivation of date palms and other crops, reducing dependence on nomadic activities.
- (iii) Availability of water encourages construction of houses and development of villages around the oasis.
- (iv) Farming ensures food security and stable livelihood compared to livestock rearing alone.
- (v) Trade and social life gradually develop due to settled population and agricultural surplus.

9. A student visiting Ladakh in winter observes that daily activities slow down and community gatherings increase. Analyse the reason behind this lifestyle pattern.

Ans- The reasons are-

- (i) Extremely low winter temperatures make outdoor activities and cultivation nearly impossible in Ladakh.

- (ii) Snowfall blocks transport routes, limiting movement and access to markets.
- (iii) Short daylight hours and freezing winds reduce working time during winters.
- (iv) People shift their focus to religious ceremonies and social gatherings during this period.
- (v) Community bonding strengthens as people depend on cooperation to survive harsh conditions.

10. A trader replaces camels with trucks for transporting goods across the Sahara. Assess the impact of this change on traditional life.

Ans- The impacts are-

- (i) Use of trucks increases the speed and volume of trade across the desert region.
- (ii) Traditional camel-based transport becomes less important due to modern technology.
- (iii) Nomadic traders face loss of livelihood as mechanised transport replaces animals.
- (iv) Cultural practices linked to camel caravans slowly decline over time.
- (v) Economic modernisation leads to social and lifestyle changes among desert communities.