

2. Geographical Features and Pre Historic India

Exercises

1 A. Question

Complete the following sentences.

Geographically, India is a _____.

Answer

peninsula.

Peninsula is a piece of land surrounded by water on the majority of its border while being connected to a mainland from which it extends. Example of peninsula is India.

1 B. Question

Complete the following sentences.

Signs of ashes have been found in the caves of _____.

Answer

Kurnool

Kurnool is a district in state of Andhra Pradesh. The city is often referred as gateway of Rayalaseema. Many ancient historical caves are there ex- Belum cave.

1 C. Question

Complete the following sentences.

The tools of the Middle Stone Age are called _____.

Answer

chipped stone tools

In the beginning of Middle Stone Age hand axes and other tools were made from stone. Stone tools were chipped and made from cryptocrystalline material.

2 A. Question

Describe the geographical features of India briefly.

Answer

Geographically, India is divided into 4 divisions:

(a) The Great Mountains of Himalayas- The mighty Himalayas, with its lofty mountain ranges and peaks is situated in the north. It stretches from east to west and protects India from foreign attacks and invasion. Mount Everest is the highest peak in the world and has a height of 29,142 feet.

(b) Northern Plains or Indo-Gangetic Plain- It consists of the valleys of the Indus river and its tributaries, the sandy deserts of Sind and Rajputana and the fertile regions near Ganges, Jamuna, and the Brahmaputra. The rivers of Indus and its tributaries (Sutlej, Ravi, Beas, Chenab, and Jhelum) Ganges, Jamuna, Chambal, Gomti, Ghagra, Sone and Brahmaputra and its tributaries keep this region fertile and is densely populated.

(c) The Deccan Plateau- The Deccan Plateau is located in the south of Indo-Gangetic Plain. The Vindhya and Satpura mountain ranges separate it from the plains in the north. It starts from the Bay of Bengal in the east and spreads to the Arabian Sea in the west. Rivers like the Godavari, Krishna, and Tungabhadra flow across it and made it fertile. It is also full of hills and mountains and dense forests.

(d) Coastal Ghats- The Coastal Ghats is situated on the coasts of East and West to the Deccan Plateau. The hill range running from north to south on the east is known as the Eastern Ghats and those on the west is known as the Western Ghats. The length is 1120km and 3000 to 8000 feet above sea level. It has rich soil and has an abundance of rice plants and coconut trees.

2 B. Question

What are the valleys through which the attacks on India have taken place?

Answer

India was repeatedly invaded and looted through Khyber and Bolan pass. Kashmir valley and the passes of Khyber and Bolan through which the attacks on India have taken place. Khyber Pass is a mountain pass located in northwestern Pakistan. Bolan pass is located in Balochistan in western Pakistan.

2 C. Question

What is meant by 'Prehistoric Age'?

Answer

The prehistoric period is an age in our ancient past which doesn't have any written records. Our knowledge based on this period is based on materials found in archaeological excavations. In India prehistoric period is divided into Paleolithic (Old Stone Age), Mesolithic (Middle Stone Age), Neolithic (New Stone Age) and the Metal Age.

2 D. Question

How did animal husbandry and dairying start?

Answer

Animal husbandry and dairying are believed to have begun with the Neolithic revolution when animals were first domesticated from around 13,000 BC onwards. The domestication of animals was driven by the need for food when hunting was not possible.

2 E. Question

The different periods of prehistory have been given various names by archaeologists. What are they?

Answer

The different periods of prehistory, as named by archaeologists are:

- (i) Palaeolithic or Old Stone Age
- (ii) Mesolithic or Middle Stone Age
- (iii) Neolithic or New Stone Age

3. Question

Visit a cave and learn more about it from your teacher.

Answer

Ellora caves located in Aurangabad district of Maharashtra. These are one of the largest rock cut temple caves in the world. Ellora is also UNESCO world heritage site featuring all the three religions Buddhist, Hindu and Jain.

The largest monolithic rock cut temple world Kailashnath temple located in Ellora. It is a Shiva temple.

There are over 100 caves on this site, built by cutting Charananandri hills. In present 34 caves are open to the public, attracts a lot of tourists every year. It is one of the most famous tourist spots of Maharashtra.