



CLASS 12 · CBSE GEOGRAPHY (029)

Geography Solved Board Papers

Chapter-wise and year-wise CBSE board questions with complete answers

2019–2026

- ✓ Part A: every question sorted chapter-wise, grouped by marks, with full answers
- ✓ Part B: complete board papers, each followed by its answers
- ✓ Board weightage table and most-asked topics for every chapter
- ✓ Map, graph, table and passage questions answered with the map or figure shown
- ✓ Only the current syllabus: questions on deleted chapters are flagged

WHAT YOU GET

CBSE Geography papers 2019–2026. Every question answered. Sorted chapter-wise.

19

board papers

846

solved questions

6

years · 2019–26

17

chapters

257

map questions

X Questions scattered across years



✓ All in one place, chapter-wise

X Don't know what to study first



✓ Weightage + most-asked topics

X Map questions cost easy marks



✓ Every map item answered

X Old books carry deleted chapters



✓ Only the 2026-27 syllabus

PART A**Chapter-wise****A**

- ✓ Weightage table
- ✓ Most-asked topics
- ✓ Every question + solution

PART B**Full papers****B**

- ✓ Exactly as set by CBSE
- ✓ Solutions after each paper
- ✓ Timed 3-hour practice

2026 · 64/1/1**2025** · 64/4/1**2024** · 64/1/1**2023** · 64/1/1**2022** · 64/1/1 (Term 2)**2019** · 64/1/1

Complete Notes · Solved PYQs

CLASS 6–12 · ALL SUBJECTS

100%
QUESTIONS
SOLVED
Made for **board toppers**

How to use this book

Part A puts every board question of a chapter together, from 1-mark MCQs to 5-mark long answers and map items. Finish a chapter in your notes, then answer its Part A questions without looking at the answers. Check, mark the ones you got wrong, and repeat them a week later.

Each question shows where it was asked, for example **CBSE 2026 · 64/1/1 · Q24**. Use the weightage table and the most-asked topics chart at the start of each chapter to decide what to revise first.

Part B gives full papers. In the last month before the exam, sit with a clock and write one paper in 3 hours, then check it with the answers that follow the paper.

Answers are written the way the board awards marks: one point per mark, each point stated and then explained with a fact, figure or example. For map questions, practise on a blank outline map of India and the world until every item is quick.

Contents

Part A · Chapter-wise questions with solutions

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Human Geography: Nature and Scope 31 Qs | 10. Human Settlements 42 Qs |
| 2. The World Population: Distribution, Density and Growth 39 Qs | 11. Land Resources and Agriculture 54 Qs |
| 3. Human Development 47 Qs | 12. Water Resources 18 Qs |
| 4. Primary Activities 87 Qs | 13. Mineral and Energy Resources 85 Qs |
| 5. Secondary Activities 36 Qs | 14. Planning and Sustainable Development in Indian Context 25 Qs |
| 6. Tertiary and Quaternary Activities 35 Qs | 15. Transport and Communication (India) 69 Qs |
| 7. Transport and Communication (World) 84 Qs | 16. International Trade (India) 49 Qs |
| 8. International Trade (World) 59 Qs | 17. Geographical Perspective on Selected Issues and Problems 32 Qs |
| 9. Population: Distribution, Density, Growth and Composition 54 Qs | |

Part B · Full board papers, each followed by its solutions

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. CBSE 2026 · 64/1/1 solutions | 4. CBSE 2023 · 64/1/1 solutions |
| 2. CBSE 2025 · 64/4/1 solutions | 5. CBSE 2022 · 64/1/1 (Term 2) solutions |
| 3. CBSE 2024 · 64/1/1 solutions | 6. CBSE 2019 · 64/1/1 solutions |

846 questions in all. Questions are taken from the CBSE Class 12 Geography board papers and the answers are our own, checked against the official marking schemes wherever the board published one. Older papers carried chapters since removed from the syllabus (Migration, Human Settlements of the world, Manufacturing Industries of India and others). These questions are left out of Part A and marked in Part B, where they are still fully answered.

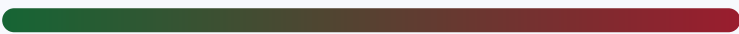
CHAPTER 1

Human Geography: Nature and Scope

Board weightage 2019–2026

Year	2019	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Questions	1	–	2	8	13	7
Marks	3	–	6	24	27	15

Most asked topics

Nature and scope of human geography  21

Approaches: determinism and possibilism  10

31 questions from 18 papers. Repeated questions are shown once with every year they were asked.

1 mark: MCQ and Assertion–Reason

CBSE 2026 · 64/2/1 · Q1

1 mark

Assertion (A): There is a strong dichotomy between physical elements and human beings. Reason (R): Nature and humans are intricately intertwined. (A) both true, R explains A (B) both true, R does not explain A (C) A incorrect, R correct (D) A correct, R incorrect

Solution

(C) There is no dichotomy: physical and human phenomena are described in metaphors using each other (the "eye" of a storm, the "face" of the earth); nature and humans are inseparable.

CBSE 2026 · 64/2/1 · Q2

1 mark

"Neither is there absolute necessity nor absolute freedom." This relates to: (A) determinism (B) neo-determinism (C) possibilism (D) individualism

Solution

(B) Neo-determinism ("stop and go determinism"), proposed by Griffith Taylor: a middle path between environmental determinism and possibilism; humans can conquer nature by obeying it.

CBSE 2026 · 64/2/1 · Q3

1 mark

Sub-fields of social geography: I. resource geography II. leisure geography III. gender geography IV. marketing geography. (A) I and III (B) I and IV (C) II and III (D) II and IV

Solution

(C) II and III. Social geography includes behavioural, geography of social well-being, geography of leisure, cultural, gender, historical and medical geography; resource geography and marketing geography are sub-fields of economic geography.

CBSE 2025 · 64/2/1 · Q1

1 mark

"Human geography is the synthetic study of the relationship between human societies and the earth's surface." This definition was given by: (A) Vidal de la Blache (B) Richard Hartshorne (C) Ritter (D) Ratzel

Solution

(D) Ratzel. (Ellen C. Semple: "the study of the changing relationship between the unresting man and the unstable earth"; Vidal de la Blache: "conception resulting from a more synthetic knowledge of the physical laws governing our earth and of the relations between the living beings which inhabit it".)

CBSE 2025 · 64/2/1 · Q2

1 mark

The core concern of geography as a discipline is: (A) population distribution (B) relationship between resource distribution and use (C) to understand the earth as the home of human beings and its sustainability (D) the earth as home of natural resources

Solution

(C) The core concern of geography is to understand the earth as the home of human beings.

CBSE 2025 · 64/2/1 · Q3

1 mark

The concept of neo-determinism was introduced by: (A) Ehrlich (B) C. Semple (C) Griffith Taylor (D) Humboldt

Solution

(C) Griffith Taylor.

CBSE 2025 · 64/6/1 · Q15

1 mark

Passage on the relation between humans and their physical environment (the core concern of geography; dualism; technology indicates cultural development; humans developed technology after understanding natural laws). Which pair is inseparable in understanding the earth's surface? (A) regional and systematic (B) nature and human (C) determinism and possibilism (D) possibilism and neo-determinism

Solution

(B) Nature and human.

CBSE 2025 · 64/6/1 · Q16

1 mark

Same passage: the core concern of geography is: (A) earth as home of human beings (B) home of plants (C) home of animals (D) home of landforms

Solution

(A) Earth as the home of human beings.

CBSE 2025 · 64/6/1 · Q17

1 mark

Same passage: which helped humans develop a higher order of technology? (A) invention of fire (B) invention of the wheel (C) better understanding of natural laws (D) better interaction with nature through technology

Solution

(C) Better understanding of natural laws (e.g. understanding of DNA and genetics enabled us to conquer many diseases; laws of aerodynamics enabled faster planes).

3 marks: short answer

CBSE 2026 · 64/1/1 · Q20

3 marks

Examine the relationships between the 'unresting man' and 'unstable earth'.

Solution

(i) The **earth is dynamic**: its physical environment keeps changing through natural processes. (ii) **Humans are also dynamic**: they keep changing their activities, technology and needs. (iii) So the relationship between them keeps changing: humans use the resources of the physical environment, cultivate land, build houses, roads and cities, and greatly modify nature; nature in turn influences human life (through climate, landforms, disasters). Human geography studies this changing, interactive relationship between "unresting man" and the "unstable earth".

CBSE 2026 · 64/3/1 · Q20

3 marks

Explain the concept of neo-determinism.

Solution

(i) Proposed by geographer **Griffith Taylor**, it reflects a middle path between environmental determinism and possibilism. (ii) It is also called "**stop and go determinism**": humans can conquer nature by obeying it; they have to respond to the red signals and can proceed in pursuit of development when nature permits (like traffic lights). (iii) It means that **neither is there absolute necessity** (determinism) **nor absolute freedom** (possibilism); development should be in harmony with nature, avoiding the over-exploitation that leads to problems like global warming, ozone depletion and land degradation.

CBSE 2026 · 64/4/1 · Q20

3 marks

"Human beings directly depend on nature for resources." Justify with an example.

Solution

(i) In early stages of their interaction, humans were greatly influenced by nature and **adapted to its dictates**; with low technology, they depended directly on nature for food, shelter, water and clothing. (ii) This is **environmental determinism**: the physical environment became "Mother Nature". (iii) **Example**: the **Benda** of the Abujh Maad area of central India: they practise shifting cultivation, collect food, medicinal herbs and forest produce; they depend on the forest for survival and worship nature; for them physical environment is "Mother Nature".

CBSE 2026 · 64/5/1 · Q20

3 marks

Explain the interrelationship between the physical and socio-cultural environment.

Solution

(i) The physical environment (land, water, climate, vegetation) provides the base on which humans create a **socio-cultural environment** using technology: houses, villages, cities, roads, railways, industries, farms, ports. (ii) Humans interact with nature through technology; the elements of the physical environment are in constant interaction with human elements; nature influences human activities (e.g. clothing, food, settlement depend on climate) and humans modify nature (e.g. irrigation, deforestation). (iii) The physical and human phenomena are intertwined and described in metaphors using each other (the "eye" of a storm, "mouth" of a river, "face" of the earth); human geography studies this interrelationship.

CBSE 2025 · 64/1/1 · Q20(a)

3 marks

"Nature and humans are intricately intertwined." Analyse.

Solution

(i) Nature and humans are inseparable elements and should be seen holistically. (ii) Both physical and human phenomena are described in **metaphors** using symbols from human anatomy: the "face" of the earth, "eye" of the storm, "mouth" of the river, "snout" of the glacier, "neck" of the isthmus and "profile" of the soil. (iii) Regions, villages and towns are described as "organisms"; networks of roads, railways and waterways are described as "arteries of circulation".

CBSE 2025 · 64/1/1 · Q20(b)

3 marks

"Human beings utilise the opportunities provided by nature." Analyse.

Solution

This is **possibilism**: (i) as people develop technology, they create **possibilities** with the resources obtained from the environment; (ii) they move from a state of necessity to a state of freedom; (iii) human activities create a **cultural landscape**: the imprints are everywhere: health resorts on highlands, huge urban sprawls, fields, orchards and pastures in plains and rolling hills, ports on coasts, oceanic routes, and satellites in space.

CBSE 2025 · 64/4/1 · Q20(a)

3 marks

"Human geography is a highly interdisciplinary subject." Analyse the statement.

Solution

(i) Human geography attempts to explain the relationship between all elements of human life and the space they occur over, so it is highly interdisciplinary. (ii) It develops close interface with sister disciplines in the social sciences to understand and explain human elements on the earth's surface. (iii) With the expansion of knowledge, new sub-fields emerge: e.g. **urban geography** links with urban studies and planning; **population geography** with demography; **economic geography** with economics; **political geography** with political science; **historical geography** with history; **medical geography** with epidemiology.

CBSE 2025 · 64/4/1 · Q20(b)

3 marks

"Human geography tries to explain the relationship of human beings with the physical environs of their occupance." Analyse the statement.

Solution

(i) Human geography studies the interrelationship between the **physical environment** and the **socio-cultural environment** created by humans through mutual interaction. (ii) The physical environment (landforms, soils, climate, water, flora and fauna) provides the stage for human activities. (iii) Humans, using the resources of nature, have created houses, villages, cities, roads, railways, ports, farms and other elements of material culture. (iv) Humans have greatly modified the physical environment, and in turn it has impacted human lives.

CBSE 2025 · 64/5/1 · Q20(a)

3 marks

Examine the concept of the naturalisation of humans.

Solution

(i) In early stages of their interaction with nature, humans were greatly influenced by it and **adapted to its dictates**, because technology was at a low level and social development was at a primitive stage. (ii) This interaction of primitive society with the strong forces of nature is termed **environmental determinism**: "naturalisation of humans". (iii) Humans listened to nature, were afraid of its fury and worshipped it; e.g. the **Benda** of the Abujh Maad area of central India depend on the forest: they practise shifting cultivation and collect food and medicinal herbs; for them the physical environment is "Mother Nature".

CBSE 2025 · 64/5/1 · Q20(b)

3 marks

Examine the humanistic approach of human geography.

Solution

(i) The humanistic approach (1970s) emphasised the central role of human **awareness and agency**: human consciousness and creativity. (ii) It is also called the **welfare school** of thought: it is concerned with the different aspects of social well-being of people, such as housing, health and education. (iii) It focused on the experience of people and how they perceive places; critics of the quantitative revolution's dehumanised approach led to this, along with radical and behavioural schools.

CBSE 2025 · 64/7/1 · Q21

3 marks

"Humans are directly dependent on natural resources to sustain them." Explain with examples.

Solution

(i) In the early stages of interaction, humans with low technology depended directly on nature for food, water, shelter and clothing; they adapted to its dictates (**environmental determinism**). (ii) They were afraid of nature's fury and worshipped it; the physical environment became "Mother Nature". (iii) E.g. the **Benda** of the Abujh Maad area (central India) live in the forest, practise

shifting cultivation and collect food, fuel and medicinal herbs; their life depends directly on the forest. Even today, primitive societies (gatherers, nomads) depend directly on nature.

CBSE 2024 · 64/1/1 · Q22(a)

3 marks

Explain with example the concept of environmental determinism.

Solution

(i) The interaction between primitive human society and the strong forces of nature is termed environmental determinism. (ii) At that stage of very low technological development, humans **listened to nature**, were afraid of its fury and **worshipped** it. (iii) There was **direct dependence** on nature for resources; nature became "Mother Nature". Example: a primitive household (e.g. the Benda of the Abujh Maad area) depends directly on the forest for food, water, medicine and shelter.

CBSE 2024 · 64/1/1 · Q22(b)

3 marks

"The dichotomy between physical and human is not a very valid one." Explain the statement with example.

Solution

(i) Nature and humans are **inseparable** elements and should be seen **holistically**. (ii) Both physical and human phenomena are described in **metaphors** using symbols from the human anatomy: the "face" of the earth, the "eye" of the storm, the "mouth" of the river, the "snout" of a glacier, the "neck" of an isthmus and the "profile" of the soil. (iii) Regions, villages and towns have been described as **"organisms"**; networks of roads, railways and waterways are described as **"arteries of circulation"**.

CBSE 2024 · 64/2/1 · Q20(a)

3 marks

How has the use of technology helped people to overcome nature's obstacles? Analyse.

Solution

(i) With time, people begin to understand their environment and the forces of nature. (ii) With social and cultural development, humans develop better and more efficient **technology**; they move from a **state of necessity to a state of freedom**. (iii) They create possibilities with resources obtained from the environment: the humanised nature bears the imprints of human activity, e.g. health resorts on the highlands, huge urban sprawls, fields, orchards and pastures in plains, ports on the coasts and satellites in space (**possibilism**). (iv) Technology allowed the people of Trondheim (Norway) to overcome harsh winters.

CBSE 2024 · 64/2/1 · Q20(b)

3 marks

How does neo-determinism try to achieve balance between the two concepts of the man–environment relationship? Analyse.

Solution

(i) Neo-determinism (stop-and-go determinism, Griffith Taylor) shows that there is neither a situation of **absolute necessity** (determinism) nor **absolute freedom** (possibilism). (ii) It means

human beings can **conquer nature by obeying it**. (iii) They have to respond to the **red signals** and can proceed with development when nature permits modification, like obeying traffic lights. (iv) Possibilities can be created within limits that do not damage the environment; there is no free run without accidents.

CBSE 2024 · 64/3/1 · Q20

3 marks

"Neo-determinism attempts to bring a balance between the two concepts of the human–environment relationship." Examine with examples.

Solution

(i) Neo-determinism (Griffith Taylor) shows that there is neither a situation of **absolute necessity** (environmental determinism) nor a condition of **absolute freedom** (possibilism). (ii) Human beings can **conquer nature by obeying it**. (iii) They must respond to the **red signals** and proceed with development when nature permits modification. (iv) Example: like **traffic lights** in a city — red means stop, amber gives a gap to get set, and green means go; possibilities can be created within limits that do not damage the environment (also called "stop and go determinism").

CBSE 2024 · 64/4/1 · Q22

3 marks

Explain the concept of "humanisation of nature" with examples.

Solution

(i) With time, people begin to understand their environment and the forces of nature. (ii) With social and cultural development, humans develop better and more efficient **technology** and move from a state of **necessity to a state of freedom**. (iii) They create **possibilities** with resources obtained from the environment; human activities create a **cultural landscape**. (iv) The imprints of human activity are everywhere: **health resorts on highlands, huge urban sprawls, fields, orchards and pastures** in plains and rolling hills, **ports** on the coasts, **oceanic routes** and **satellites** in space (possibilism). E.g. Trondheim (Norway) overcame harsh winters through technology.

CBSE 2024 · 64/5/1 · Q20(a)

3 marks

"Nature and humans are inseparable elements in all geographical studies." Examine.

Solution

(i) All geographical studies emphasise both nature and human beings; they must be seen **holistically**. (ii) Both physical and human phenomena are described using symbols from **human anatomy**: the "face" of the earth, the "eye" of the storm, the "mouth" of a river, the "profile" of the soil. (iii) Regions, villages and towns are described as **organisms**; the state or country is called a living organism. (iv) Networks of roads, railways and waterways are described as "**arteries of circulation**".

CBSE 2024 · 64/5/1 · Q20(b)

3 marks

Examine the main aspects of environmental determinism.

Solution

(i) There is always interaction between humans and natural phenomena. (ii) **Primitive societies** with low technology were intimately dependent on nature for food and resources. (iii) We can imagine a "**naturalised human**" who listened to nature, was afraid of its fury and worshipped it. (iv) Strong forces of nature guided human activities; this relationship was termed **environmental determinism**.

CBSE 2023 · 64/1/1 · Q20(a)

3 marks

"Human beings were able to develop technology after they developed better understanding of natural laws." Evaluate the statement in the context of naturalization of humans.

Solution

(i) Technology shows the level of cultural development of a society, and humans could develop it only after they understood the laws of nature. (ii) For example, understanding friction and heat helped us discover fire; understanding DNA and genetics helps us conquer many diseases; the laws of aerodynamics let us build faster planes. (iii) In the early stages, when technology was primitive, humans were greatly influenced by nature and adapted to its dictates. They feared and worshipped nature; this is the **naturalisation of humans**, or environmental determinism. As knowledge of nature grew, technology loosened the shackles of the environment on human beings.

CBSE 2023 · 64/1/1 · Q20(b)

3 marks

"The imprints of human activities are created everywhere." Evaluate the statement in context of humanization of nature.

Solution

(i) With time people understand their environment and the forces of nature better, and with social and cultural development they build more efficient technology. (ii) They move from a state of necessity to a state of **freedom** and create possibilities with the resources the environment provides; this is **possibilism**. (iii) The imprints of human activity form a cultural landscape everywhere: health resorts on highlands, huge urban sprawls, fields, orchards and pastures in the plains and rolling hills, ports on the coasts, oceanic routes on the sea surface and satellites in space. Nature is thus humanised.

CBSE 2019 · 64/1/1 · Q8

3 marks

"Physical environment has been greatly modified by human beings, it has also, in turn impacted human lives." Explain the statement.

Solution

(i) Human geography studies the interrelationship between the physical environment and the socio-cultural environment that human beings create through mutual interaction. (ii) The physical environment sets the stage for human beings to act upon it. Using the resources nature provides, humans have built houses, roads, parks, industries, ports and cities, and so modified it greatly. (iii) The environment in turn impacts human lives. Climate, relief, soils and water decide where people live, what they grow and wear, and their occupations. Floods, droughts and pollution caused by misuse of nature affect health and livelihoods.

CBSE BOARD PAPER

2026 · Q.P. Code 64111

Time: 3 hours

Maximum marks: 70

Section A: Multiple choice questions (1 mark each)

1. Which of the following statements related to the concept of 'development' are correct? 1
Choose the appropriate option.
I. Development means positive change in life.
II. When positive growth is there, it is development.
III. When quantity is greater, it is development.
IV. Development is always relative to value.
(A) Only I, II and III are correct. (B) Only I, II and IV are correct.
(C) Only I, III and IV are correct. (D) Only II, III and IV are correct.

2. Match column-I with column-II correctly and choose the appropriate option: 1

Column-I (Approach)	Column-II (Characteristics)
a. Income Approach	i. Proposed by International Labour Organisation
b. Welfare Approach	ii. Health, education and access to resources – key factors
c. Basic Needs Approach	iii. It is one of the oldest approach
d. Capability Approach	iv. Human being – targeted beneficiaries

Options (a, b, c, d):
(A) ii, i, iv, iii (B) ii, i, iii, iv
(C) iii, iv, ii, i (D) iii, iv, i, ii

3. Which one of the following is the low latitudes zone of subsistence gathering practiced in the world? 1
(A) Northern Canada (B) Northern Eurasia
(C) Southeast Asia (D) Southeast Chile

4. Choose the correct option related to oil tanker ports of the world. 1
(A) Maracaibo, Tripoli, Singapore (B) Esskhira, Singapore, Manchester
(C) Maracaibo, Esskhira, Tripoli (D) Manchester, Esskhira, Marmagao

5. Two statements are given below. They are Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read both the statements carefully and choose the correct option: 1
Assertion (A): All the developed countries have opened their markets for products from developing countries.
Reason (R): World Trade Organisation deals with the global rules of trade between nations.
(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A). (B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
(C) (A) is true but (R) is false. (D) (A) is false but (R) is true.

6. Read the following statements carefully regarding 'tertiary activities' and choose the correct option: 1
- I. Tertiary activities include both production and exchange of services.
 II. Tertiary activities involve the commercial output of services.
 III. Tertiary activities are directly involved in the processing of raw material.
 IV. The examples of tertiary activities are – plumber, doctor, publisher.
- (A) Only I, II and III are correct. (B) Only I, II and IV are correct.
 (C) Only I, III and IV are correct. (D) Only II, III and IV are correct.
7. Choose the correctly matched pair from the following. 1
- (A) Red collar worker – Practicing lawyers (B) Gold collar worker – Senior business executive
 (C) Pink collar worker – Environmental scientist (D) White collar worker – Mining worker
8. Which one of the following statements is true regarding 'medical tourism' in India? 1
- (A) Tourists travel specially for availing cheap medical facilities. (B) Doctors travel to developed country to do surgical operation.
 (C) Doctors travel to treat the patients. (D) Tourists on trip get treated, if they fall ill.
9. Choose the right group of states where Dravidian language is spoken majorly. 1
- (A) Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Maharashtra (B) Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh
 (C) Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka (D) Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Madhya Pradesh
10. During which one of the following phase of population growth in India, negative growth was recorded in a decade? 1
- (A) Phase I (B) Phase II
 (C) Phase III (D) Phase IV
11. Which one of the following set of cities falling on the 'Golden Quadrilateral' are arranged in a clock-wise direction from Delhi? 1
- (A) Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai (B) Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai
 (C) Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai and Kolkata (D) Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and Mumbai
12. Which one of the following cities serve as headquarter of two railway zones? 1
- (A) Kolkata (B) Chennai
 (C) Jaipur (D) Bilaspur
13. Which one of the following is a natural process of land degradation? 1
- (A) Mining activities (B) Gully erosion
 (C) Industrial waste (D) Shifting cultivation

14. The loudness of the sound is measured in the unit known as:

(A) Millimeter (B) Centimeter
(C) Decimal (D) Decibel

1

15. Study the following table carefully and answer Question Nos. 15 to 17.

1

Most populous countries

Sr. No.	Country	Population	% of world
1	India	1,425,775,850	17.4
2	China	1,409,670,000	17.2
3	United States of America	337,975,234	4.13
4	Indonesia	278,696,200	3.41
5	Pakistan	229,488,994	2.80
6	Nigeria	216,746,934	2.65
7	Brazil	219,277,799	2.68
8	Bangladesh	168,220,000	2.06
9	Mexico	128,271,248	1.57

How many of the listed countries fall under Asian continent?

(A) 3 (B) 4
(C) 5 (D) 6

16. (Based on the table in Q15) Which of the following set of continents is not represented in the table? Choose the most appropriate option.

1

(A) Australia and Africa (B) Africa and South America
(C) Europe and South America (D) Australia and Europe

17. (Based on the table in Q15) China and Brazil together account for what percentage of the world population?

1

(A) 17.88 (B) 17.58
(C) 19.88 (D) 19.58

Section B: Source and graph based (3 marks each)

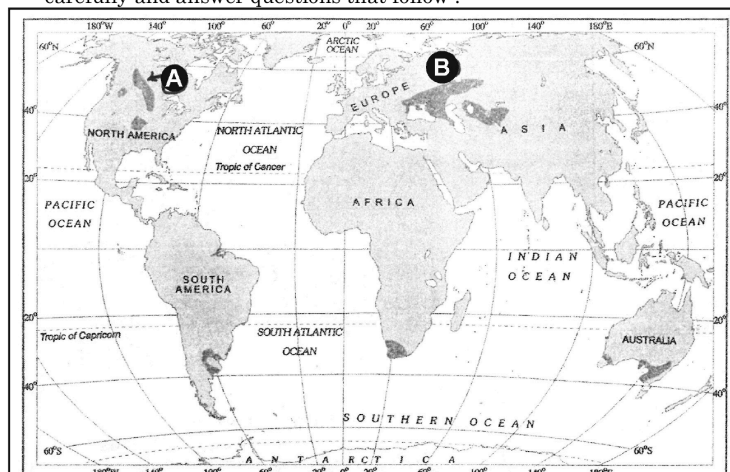
18. Study the map showing areas of 'extensive commercial grains farming' carefully and answer questions that follow:

- (A) Australia and Africa (B) Africa and South America
(C) Europe and South America (D) Australia and Europe
17. China and Brazil together account for what percentage of the world population ? 1
(A) 17.88 (B) 17.58
(C) 19.88 (D) 19.58

SECTION – B

Question Nos. 18 and 19 are Source based questions : (2 × 3 = 6)

18. Study the map showing areas of 'extensive commercial grains farming' carefully and answer questions that follow :



- (18.1) Write the geographical name of the area marked as A. (1)
(18.2) Name any two major crops grown in the region A. ($\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$)
(18.3) Explain the agricultural importance of the area marked as B. (1)
(For Visually Impaired Candidates, in lieu of Q18: Explain the main characteristics of 'extensive commercial grain farming' in the world.)

19. Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Water Pollution

Industries produce several undesirable products including industrial wastes, polluted waste water, poisonous gases, chemical residuals, numerous heavy metals, dust, smoke, etc. Most of the industrial wastes are disposed off in running water or lakes. Consequently, poisonous elements reach the reservoirs, rivers and other water bodies, which destroy the bio-system of these waters. Major water polluting industries are leather, pulp and paper, textiles and chemicals.

- (19.1) Explain how industries are the major contributor of water pollution in India. (1)
(19.2) Suggest the way for minimising water pollution. (1)
(19.3) Mention two rivers of India which are highly polluted. ($\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$)

Section C: Short answer (3 marks each)

20. Examine the relationships between the 'unresting man' and 'unstable earth'. 3
21. Examine the importance of 'sustainability' as a pillar of 'human development'. 3
22. (a) Explain the main characteristics of urban settlements in India. 3

OR

- (b) Explain the evolution of towns in India. 3

23. Study the following table carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Sectoral composition of workforce in India, 2011

Categories	Persons	% to total workers	Male	Female
Primary	26,30,22,473	54.6	16,54,47,075	9,75,75,398
Secondary	1,83,36,307	3.8	97,75,635	85,60,672
Tertiary	20,03,84,531	41.6	15,66,43,220	4,37,41,311

(23.1) Why is the large difference between primary and tertiary categories of female workers? (1)

(23.2) Explain the reason of low variation between male workers of 'primary' and 'tertiary' sectors. (1)

(23.3) Why 'secondary sector' has low contribution in India's workforce? (1)

Section D: Long answer (5 marks each)

24. "Industries should be located at points where the production costs are minimum." Examine the statement with suitable arguments. 5

25. (a) "Railway is the mode of land transport for bulky goods and passengers over long distances." In the context of this statement, explain the significance of railways in the world. 5

OR

(b) "Road transport is the most economical for short distances compared to railway." In the context of this statement, explain the significance of road transport in the world. 5

26. (a) "Generally land-use in a region is influenced by the nature of economic activities." Support the statement with suitable examples. 5

OR

(b) "The Indian agricultural problems have physical constraints and institutional hindrances." Support the statement with suitable examples. 5

27. (a) Explain the significance of petroleum as major source of energy and describe its distribution in India. (3 + 2 = 5) 5

OR

(b) Explain the significance of iron-ore as industrial raw material and describe its distribution in India. (3 + 2 = 5) 5

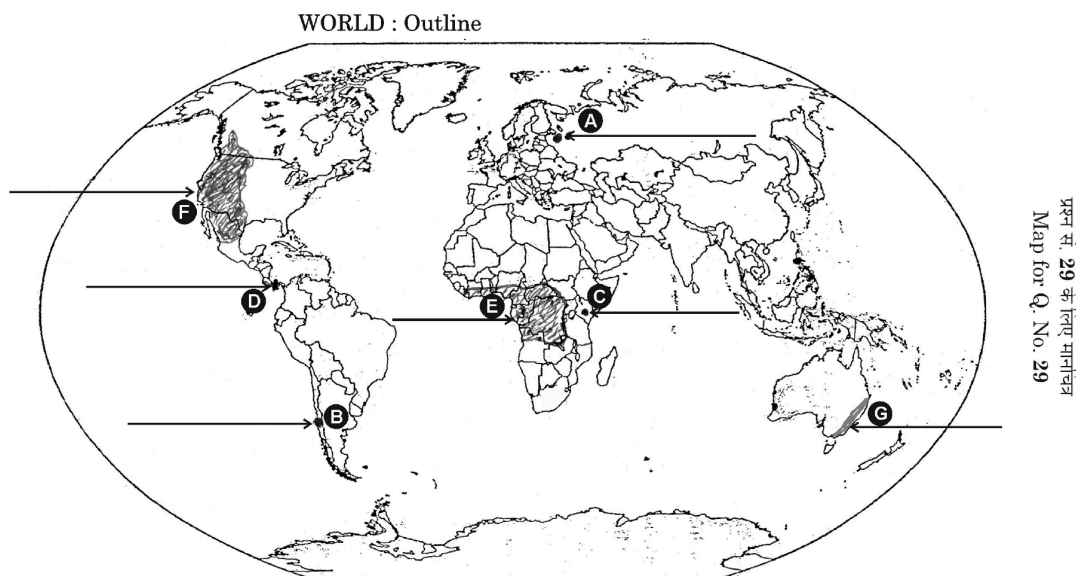
28. (a) Analyse the importance of Indian seaports in the development of international trade. 5

OR

(b) Analyse the changing pattern of India's international trade. 5

Section E: Map-based questions (5 marks each)

29. (A) In the given political outline map of the world, seven geographical features have been marked as A, B, C, D, E, F and G. Identify any five of them with the help of following information and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them:



A. A terminal station of Trans-Siberian Railway

(B) A major sea port

(C) A major air port

(D) An international shipping canal

(E) An area of 'subsistence gathering'

(F) An area of 'commercial livestock rearing'

(G) An area of 'dairy farming'

(For Visually Impaired Candidates, in lieu of Q29, attempt any five: 29.1 Name the westernmost terminal station of Trans-Siberian Railway. 29.2 Mention a major sea port on the western coast of South America. 29.3 Mention an international airport of Kenya. 29.4 Name the shipping canal joining Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. 29.5 Mention one major region of 'subsistence gathering' in Africa. 29.6 Name a major area of 'commercial livestock rearing' in United States of America. 29.7 Name the major area of 'dairy farming' in North America.)

30. (1) On the given political outline map of India, locate and label any five of the following seven geographical features with appropriate symbols:
- 30.1 A state with the highest density of population (2011).
- (2) 30.2 A state leading in the production of tea.
- (3) 30.3 An iron-ore mining area in southern Chhattisgarh.
- (4) 30.4 A major area of bauxite mining in Odisha.
- (5) 30.5 An oil refinery in Uttar Pradesh.

(6) 30.6 A major seaport located at the head of Gulf of Kuchchh.

1

(7) 30.7 An international airport in Punjab.

1

Solutions · CBSE 2026 · 64/11

- Q1** (B) **I, II and IV.** Development means a **qualitative** change which is always value-positive; growth is quantitative and value-neutral (it may be positive or negative). A bigger quantity alone is growth, not development.
-
- Q2** (D) **a-iii, b-iv, c-i, d-ii.** Income approach is one of the oldest; welfare approach treats people as beneficiaries; basic needs approach was proposed by the ILO; the capability approach (Amartya Sen) stresses building human capabilities in health, education and access to resources.
-
- Q3** (C) **South-east Asia.** Gathering is practised in high latitudes (northern Canada, northern Eurasia, southern Chile) and in low latitudes: the Amazon basin, tropical Africa, northern fringe of Australia and the interior parts of South-east Asia.
-
- Q4** (C) **Maracaibo (Venezuela), Esskhira (Tunisia) and Tripoli (Lebanon)** are oil ports. Singapore is an entrepot port; Manchester and Marmagao are other types.
-
- Q5** (D) A is false: developed countries have not fully opened their markets to developing countries' products (one criticism of the WTO); R is true.
-
- Q6** (B) **I, II and IV.** Tertiary activities provide services; they do not process raw materials (that is secondary activity).
-
- Q7** (B) Gold collar workers are the highly paid top executives and decision-makers (quinary activities). Red collar refers to primary workers (farmers), white collar to office workers, pink collar to jobs traditionally held by women.
-
- Q8** (A) Medical tourism: patients from abroad come to India specifically for treatment, which is cheaper than in developed countries.
-
- Q9** (C) **Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka** (Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada; also Telugu in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana). Marathi is Indo-Aryan.
-
- Q10** (A) **Phase I (1901–1921)**, the period of stagnant growth; 1911–21 recorded a negative growth rate due to high death rates (epidemics, famines).
-
- Q11** (D) **Delhi – Kolkata – Chennai – Mumbai** (and back to Delhi).
-
- Q12** (A) **Kolkata:** headquarters of the Eastern Railway and the South Eastern Railway (and Metro Railway).
-
- Q13** (B) **Gully erosion;** mining, industrial waste and shifting cultivation are human-made causes.
-

- Q14 (D) Decibel (dB).**
-
- Q15 (C) 5:** India, China, Indonesia, Pakistan and Bangladesh.
-
- Q16 (D) Australia and Europe.** Africa (Nigeria), South America (Brazil) and North America (USA, Mexico) are represented.
-
- Q17 (C) 19.88** ($17.2 + 2.68$).
-
- Q18** (18.1) **The Canadian and American Prairies** (North America). (18.2) **Wheat** and **corn** (also barley, oats, rye). (18.3) Area B (e.g. the Pampas / Velds / Downs) practises **extensive commercial grain farming** on very large, fully mechanised farms; yield per acre is low but yield per person is high, producing surplus grain for export. **VI:** (i) practised in the interior semi-arid lands of the mid-latitudes; (ii) very large farms (hundreds of hectares); (iii) all operations from ploughing to harvesting are mechanised; (iv) low yield per acre but high yield per person; (v) crops: wheat, corn, barley, oats, rye; regions: Canadian and American Prairies, Pampas of Argentina, Velds of South Africa, Australian Downs, Canterbury Plains of New Zealand.
-
- Q19** (19.1) Industries dispose of **industrial waste, polluted waste water, poisonous gases, chemical residues, heavy metals, dust and smoke** into running water or lakes; these poisonous elements reach reservoirs and rivers and destroy the bio-system of the water. (19.2) Prevent untreated industrial waste from being discharged into rivers by **treating effluents** before disposal and reusing treated water (also controlling fertiliser and pesticide run-off, and public awareness). (19.3) Any two: the **Ganga** and the **Yamuna** (also Sabarmati, Gomti, Kali, Adyar, Cooum, Vaigai, Musi).
-
- Q20** (i) The **earth is dynamic**: its physical environment keeps changing through natural processes. (ii) **Humans are also dynamic**: they keep changing their activities, technology and needs. (iii) So the relationship between them keeps changing: humans use the resources of the physical environment, cultivate land, build houses, roads and cities, and greatly modify nature; nature in turn influences human life (through climate, landforms, disasters). Human geography studies this changing, interactive relationship between "unresting man" and the "unstable earth".
-
- Q21** Sustainability means **continuity in the availability of opportunities**. (i) Each generation must have the same opportunities as the previous one. (ii) All environmental, financial and human resources must be used keeping the future in mind. (iii) Misuse of any of these resources will lead to fewer opportunities for future generations: e.g. if a community does not send girls to school, many opportunities are lost to these young women when they grow up. So sustainable human development ensures that choices and opportunities remain available to future generations.
-
- Q22(a)** (i) Urban settlements are generally **compact and larger** in size. (ii) They are engaged in **non-agricultural, economic and administrative functions** (secondary and tertiary activities). (iii) They act as **nodes of economic growth**, providing goods and services to city dwellers and to the surrounding rural areas; they are connected functionally with villages and other towns

through transport and communication; life is complex and fast, and social relations are formal.

Q22(b) Towns flourished in India since prehistoric times (Harappa, Mohenjodaro). On the basis of evolution: (i) **Ancient towns**, with over 2000 years of history, mostly religious and cultural centres: Varanasi, Prayagraj, Pataliputra (Patna), Madurai. (ii) **Medieval towns**, about 100 of them, mostly headquarters of principalities and kingdoms, often fort towns built on the ruins of ancient towns: Delhi, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Agra, Nagpur. (iii) **Modern towns** developed by the British and other Europeans: coastal trading ports (Surat, Daman, Goa, Puducherry), then the three nodes Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata built in British style, and hill towns, cantonments, administrative and industrial towns; after independence, administrative towns (Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar, Gandhinagar, Dispur), industrial towns (Durgapur, Bhilai, Sindri, Barauni) and satellite towns (Ghaziabad, Rohtak, Gurugram around Delhi).

Q23 (23.1) Most female workers are in **rural areas**, engaged in agriculture and allied activities; many men migrate to towns, leaving women to work in the fields; women's participation in tertiary services is still low (lower education and mobility) and is a recent phenomenon. (23.2) Male workers are still engaged in large numbers in agriculture, but many are **shifting to the tertiary sector** as service jobs grow; so both sectors have large numbers of male workers. (23.3) Because of **slow industrial growth** and limited manufacturing employment, skill gaps, and a shift of the economy towards services.

Q24 Industries maximise profits by reducing costs, so they locate where the following factors are favourable: (i) **Access to market**: the existence of a large market with purchasing power (e.g. developed regions). (ii) **Access to raw material**: industries using heavy, cheap or perishable, weight-losing materials (steel, sugar) locate close to raw material. (iii) **Access to labour supply**: a cheap, skilled labour force. (iv) **Access to sources of energy**: industries using much power (aluminium) locate near energy sources. (v) **Access to transport and communication**: speedy, efficient transport reduces costs (e.g. Western Europe, eastern USA). (vi) **Government policy**: incentives for balanced regional development. (vii) **Agglomeration economies**: benefits from nearness to other industries and services. Thus industries locate where the total of these costs is lowest.

Q25(a) (i) Railways are the most significant surface mode for long distances: about 13 lakh km open for traffic. (ii) **Commuter trains** are popular in the UK, USA, Japan and India for daily travel. (iii) **Europe** has the densest rail network (about 4,40,000 km), with double or multiple tracks. (iv) **North America** has one of the most extensive networks, mainly carrying bulky goods (ores, grains, timber); in **Russia** railways account for about 90% of total transport. (v) **Transcontinental railways** (Trans-Siberian, Trans-Canadian, Union and Pacific, Australian, Orient Express, Trans-Andean) link the two ends of continents; in Asia the network is densest in Japan, China and India; Africa has about 40,000 km, half in South Africa.

Q25(b) (i) Roads are most economical for **short distances** and provide **door-to-door service**. (ii) They act as **feeders** to railways, ports and airports. (iii) They are vital for a nation's trade, commerce and tourism; quality of roads varies greatly between developed and developing countries. (iv) **North America** has the highest road density (about 33% of the world's motorable roads); Europe has a dense highway network; in Russia a dense network lies west of the Urals; China's highways connect all major cities; India has highways linking major cities. (v) **Highways** (e.g.

Trans-Canadian, Alaskan, Pan-American, Trans-continental Stuart highway) connect distant places.

Q26(a) (i) Land is a fixed resource, but economic activities change over time, so land use changes. (ii) As an economy grows, the share of **agriculture** falls and that of **secondary and tertiary** activities rises: land under non-agricultural uses (houses, roads, industry, services) increases, especially around cities. (iii) The contribution of agriculture to the economy declines, but pressure on agricultural land does not decline, because in developing countries a large share of population depends on agriculture. (iv) Increase in **area under forests** due to policy, and changes in fallow and barren land. (v) E.g. in India between 1950–51 and recent years, area under non-agricultural uses, forests and current fallows increased, while barren and wasteland, culturable waste and permanent pastures declined.

Q26(b) Physical constraints: (i) **dependence on erratic monsoon:** only about a third of cropped area is irrigated; droughts and floods are frequent; (ii) **low productivity** compared to world levels; (iii) **land degradation:** salinity, alkalinity and waterlogging in irrigated areas, soil erosion. **Institutional hindrances:** (iv) **small and fragmented landholdings**, mostly below one hectare; (v) **constraints of financial resources and indebtedness:** farmers depend on loans; (vi) **lack of land reforms** and unequal land distribution; (vii) **under-employment** in agriculture and poor marketing and storage facilities.

Q27(a) Significance: (i) Crude petroleum (hydrocarbons) is an essential source of energy for machines, transport (vehicles, railways, aircraft) and generation of power. (ii) It is a raw material for many industries: **petrochemicals**, fertilisers, synthetic textiles, plastics and medicines. (iii) It is called "**liquid gold**" because of its scarcity and diverse uses. **Distribution:** (i) **Assam:** Digboi, Naharkatiya and Moran, the oldest oil-producing state. (ii) **Gujarat:** Ankleshwar, Kalol, Mehsana, Nawagam, Kosamba, Lunej. (iii) **Mumbai High**, about 160 km off Mumbai, discovered in 1973, production began in 1976; also oil and gas in the Krishna-Godavari and Kaveri basins on the east coast. Refineries are field-based (Digboi) or market-based (Barauni).

Q27(b) Significance: (i) Iron ore is the **basic raw material for the iron and steel industry**, the backbone of industrialisation; (ii) India has one of the largest reserves of iron ore in Asia (haematite and magnetite of high quality); it is in great demand abroad, and India exports it. **Distribution:** about 95% of reserves are in **Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Goa, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu**. (i) **Odisha:** Sundergarh, Mayurbhanj and Jhar (Gurumahisani, Sulaipet, Badampahar, Kiruburu, Bonai). (ii) **Jharkhand:** Noamundi and Gua in Poorbi and Pashchimi Singhbhum. (iii) **Chhattisgarh:** Dalli and Rajhara in Durg; **Bailadila** in Dantewara. (iv) **Karnataka:** Sandur-Hospet (Ballari), Baba Budan hills and Kudremukh (Chikkamagaluru), Shivamogga; (v) **Goa**, and Maharashtra (Chandrapur, Bhandara, Ratnagiri).

Q28(a) (i) About **95% of India's foreign trade** by volume (68% by value) moves through ports; India has 12 major and about 200 minor ports along its 7,500 km coastline. (ii) Ports act as **gateways of international trade**, handling imports (crude oil, machinery) and exports (ores, manufactured goods). (iii) They connect the **hinterland** with world markets through road and rail links, promoting industries in port areas. (iv) Specialised ports: oil ports (Kandla/Deendayal, Vadinar), iron ore ports (Marmagao, Paradip, Visakhapatnam), container

ports (JNPT), which increase efficiency. (v) After independence, Kandla was developed to compensate for the loss of Karachi; Mumbai, the biggest natural port; ports like Kochi, Chennai, Ennore, Tuticorin, Haldia have developed, helping regional development.

Q28(b) (i) The **volume** of India's international trade has increased many-fold since 1950–51 (exports and imports both rose). (ii) **Exports:** traditional items (cashews, tea, coffee, spices) have declined in share; floriculture, fresh fruits, marine products and sugar increased; **manufactured goods, engineering goods, chemicals, software and services** grew greatly. (iii) **Imports:** in the 1950s and 60s food grains, capital goods, machinery and equipment were imported; after the 1970s food-grain imports were replaced by **fertilisers** (Green Revolution) and **crude petroleum**; machines and equipment, special steel, edible oils and chemicals form a large share. (iv) Pearls, precious stones, gold and silver are both imported and exported (value is added through gems and jewellery). (v) The **direction** of trade has shifted: Asia and the USA are now major partners; India's **trade deficit** has been increasing due to rising imports of crude oil.

Q29(A) St. Petersburg (western terminal; Vladivostok is the eastern terminal).

Q29(B) Valparaiso (Chile).

Q29(C) Nairobi (Jomo Kenyatta International Airport).

Q29(D) Panama Canal.

Q29(E) Tropical Africa (Congo basin).

Q29(F) Western parts of the USA (also the Prairies; other areas: Pampas, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa).

Q29(G) South-eastern Australia (on the map); in North America: the north-eastern USA and south-eastern **Canada**.

Q30(1) Bihar (1,106 persons per sq km).

Q30(2) Assam.

Q30(3) Bailadila (Dantewara district); also Durg/Dalli-Rajhara.

Q30(4) Koraput (also Kalahandi, Sambalpur, Bolangir).

Q30(5) Mathura.

Q30(6) Kandla (Deendayal Port).

Q30(7) Amritsar (Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport, Raja Sansi).



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