

1. **Physical Geography** Salient features of world's physical geography.
3. Distribution of **key natural resources across** the world (including South Asia and the Indian sub-continent); factors responsible for the **location** of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India).
2. **Important Geophysical phenomena** such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc., geographical features and their **location-changes** in critical geographical features (including water-bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes.

### Geography UPSC Mains Previous Year Questions 2024

1. What is **sea surface temperature rise**? How does it affect the formation of **tropical cyclones**?
2. Why do large cities tend to attract more **migrants** than smaller towns? Discuss in the light of conditions in developing countries.
3. What is the phenomenon of **'cloudbursts'**? Explain.
4. What is the concept of a **'demographic Winter'**? Is the world moving towards such a situation? Elaborate.
5. Distinguish between **gender** equality, gender equity and women's empowerment. Why is it important to take gender concerns into account in programme design and implementation?
6. The **groundwater potential** of the gangetic valley is on a serious decline. How may it affect the food security of India?
7. What are **aurora** australis and aurora borealis? How are these triggered?
8. What is a **twister**? Why are the majority of twisters observed in areas around the Gulf of Mexico?

## Geography UPSC Mains Previous Year Questions 2023

1. Discuss the consequences of **climate change** on the food security in tropical countries.
2. Why is the world today confronted with a crisis of availability of and access to **freshwater resources**?
3. How are the **fjords** formed? Why do they constitute some of the most picturesque areas of the world?
4. Why is the **South-West Monsoon** called Purvaiys' (easterly) in Bhojpur Region? How has this directional seasonal wind system influenced the cultural ethos of the region?
5. Comment on the resource potentials of the long coastline of India and highlight the status of **natural hazard preparedness** in these areas.
6. Identify and discuss the factors responsible for **diversity of natural vegetation** in India. Assess the significance of wildlife sanctuaries in rain forest regions of India.
7. Why did **human development** fail to keep pace with economic development in India?
8. From being a net **food** importer in the 1960s, India has emerged as a net food exporter to the world. Provide reasons.

## Geography UPSC Mains Previous Year Questions 2022

1. Discuss the meaning of **colour-coded weather warnings** for **cyclone-prone areas** given by the India Meteorological Department.
2. Discuss the **natural resource** potential of the **'Deccan trap'**.
3. Describe the characteristics and type of **primary rocks**.
4. The **troposphere** is a very significant atmosphere layer that determines whether processes. How?
5. Mention the significance of **straits and isthmus** in international trade.

6. Examine the potential of **wind energy** in India and explain the reasons for its limited spatial spread.
7. What are the forces that influence **ocean currents**? Describe their role in the fishing industry of the world.
8. Describing the distribution of **rubber-producing countries** indicates their major environmental issues.

### **Geography UPSC Mains Previous Year Questions 2021**

1. Differentiate the causes of landslides in the **Himalayan region** and the **Western Ghats**.
2. Despite India being one of the countries of the **Gondwanaland**, its mining industry contributes much less to its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in percentage. Discuss.
3. What are the **environmental implications** of recreating the water bodies into urban land use? Explain with examples.
4. Mention the global occurrence of **volcanic eruptions** in 2021 and their impact on the regional environment.
5. Why is **India considered a subcontinent**? Elaborate on your answer.
6. Briefly mention the alignment of **major mountain ranges of the world** and explain their impact on **local weather conditions**, with examples.
7. How does the **melting** of the Arctic ice and glaciers of the Antarctic differently affect the weather patterns and human activities on the Earth? Explain.
8. Discuss the multi-dimensional implications of the uneven **distribution of mineral oil** in the world.

### **Geography UPSC Mains Previous Year Questions 2020**

1. Discuss the geophysical characteristics of the **Circum-Pacific Zone**.
2. The **interlinking of rivers** can provide viable solutions to the multi-dimensional inter-related problems of **droughts, floods**, and interrupting navigation. Critically examine.

3. The process of **desertification** does not have climate boundaries. Justify with examples.
4. How will the **melting of Himalayan glaciers** have a far-reaching impact on the water resources of India?
5. India has immense potential for **solar energy** though there are regional variations in its developments. Elaborate.
6. Examine the status of **forest resources** in India and its resultant impact on **climate change**.
7. Account for the **huge flooding** of a million cities in India including the smart ones like Hyderabad and Pune. Suggest lasting remedial measures.

### **Geography UPSC Mains Previous Year Questions 2019**

1. How can the **mountain ecosystem** be restored from the negative impact of development initiatives and tourism?
2. Discuss the factors for localisation of **agro-based food processing** industries of North-West India.
3. Can the strategy of **regional resource-based manufacturing** help in promoting employment in India?
4. Assess the impact of **global warming** on the coral life system with examples
5. How **ocean currents and water masses** differ in their impacts on marine life and the coastal environment? Give suitable examples.
6. Discuss the **causes of the depletion of mangroves** and explain their importance in maintaining coastal ecology.
7. What is **water stress**? How and why does it differ regionally in India?