

# UNIQUE STUDY POINT

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<b>Class:</b> VI	<b>Subject:</b> Science	<b>Session:</b> 2025-26
<b>Chapter:</b> 02 - Oceans and Continents	<b>Time:</b> 1½ Hours	<b>Max. Marks:</b> 40

## General Instructions:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper contains 20 questions divided into five sections A, B, C, D and E.
3. Section A contains 10 MCQs of 1 mark each.
4. Section B contains 4 questions of 2 marks each.
5. Section C contains 3 questions of 3 marks each.
6. Section D contains 1 question of 5 marks.
7. Section E contains 2 Case Study Based questions of 4 marks each.

## SECTION A - Multiple Choice Questions (1 mark each)

- Q1.** Which term describes animal life in the oceans?
- (a) Marine flora
  - (b) Marine fauna
  - (c) Aquatic plants
  - (d) Terrestrial fauna
- Q2.** What color does Earth appear from space?
- (a) Green
  - (b) Brown
  - (c) Blue
  - (d) White
- Q3.** Which ocean is bounded by Asia, Africa, and Australia?
- (a) Pacific Ocean
  - (b) Atlantic Ocean
  - (c) Indian Ocean
  - (d) Arctic Ocean
- Q4.** What is the name of India's first research station in Antarctica?
- (a) Maitri
  - (b) Bharati
  - (c) Dakshin Gangotri
  - (d) Himadri
- Q5.** Which continent has no permanent human inhabitants?

- (a) Australia
- (b) Antarctica
- (c) Arctic
- (d) Greenland

**Q6.** What is seawater primarily unfit for?

- (a) Marine life
- (b) Transportation
- (c) Human consumption
- (d) Climate regulation

**Q7.** Which are the two oceans on either side of North America?

- (a) Pacific and Indian
- (b) Atlantic and Indian
- (c) Pacific and Atlantic
- (d) Arctic and Southern

**Q8.** What proportion of Earth's water is freshwater?

- (a) About 50%
- (b) About 25%
- (c) About 10%
- (d) A very small proportion

**Q9.** Which natural disaster is characterized by violent winds and extreme rainfall?

- (a) Earthquake
- (b) Tsunami
- (c) Cyclone
- (d) Drought

**Q10.** Which two continents are connected by land?

- (a) Africa and Europe
- (b) Asia and Australia
- (c) North and South America
- (d) Europe and Australia

### SECTION B - Short Answer Questions (2 marks each)

**Q11.** What is the difference between an ocean and a sea?

**Q12.** List the five oceans in order from largest to smallest.

**Q13.** Why are oceans important for coastal communities? Give two reasons.

**Q14.** What is disaster management? Name India's organization responsible for it.

### SECTION C - Short Answer Questions (3 marks each)

**Q15.** Describe the diversity of marine life in oceans. Include examples of different ocean zones.

**Q16.** Explain the water cycle and the role of oceans in it.

**Q17.** What are the main limits of the Indian Ocean? Name the water bodies on either side of India.

#### SECTION D - Long Answer Question (5 marks)

**Q18.** Compare and contrast the seven continents. Discuss their relative sizes, locations, and at least one unique feature of each.

#### SECTION E - Case Study Based Questions (4 marks each)

**Q19.** Read the case study and answer the questions that follow:

Oceans have been central to human culture and spirituality across civilizations. The ancient Vedic civilization of India revered Varuna as the deity of oceans, sky, and water. In Greek mythology, Poseidon was the god of the sea, earthquakes, and horses. The Romans called him Neptune. Many coastal cultures worldwide have similar deities and rich traditions of tales about the sea. These include stories of sea monsters, mermaids, underwater kingdoms, and treasures from the deep. Sailors developed their own superstitions and rituals for safe voyages. The ocean's vastness and mystery inspired both fear and reverence. Ancient civilizations often viewed the ocean as both a blessing - providing food and trade routes - and a danger due to storms and unknown waters. This dual nature of the ocean is reflected in myths and legends globally, from the Pacific Islands to Scandinavia to Africa.

- (i) Name the Vedic deity associated with oceans. (1 mark)
- (ii) What was the name of the sea god in Greek mythology? (1 mark)
- (iii) Why did ancient civilizations view oceans with both reverence and fear? (1 mark)
- (iv) How have oceans influenced human culture according to the passage? (1 mark)

**Q20.** Read the case study and answer the questions that follow:

Continents are constantly moving, although so slowly that we cannot perceive it in our lifetime. This movement is called continental drift and is caused by the movement of tectonic plates beneath Earth's surface. About 200 million years ago, all continents were joined together in one supercontinent called Pangaea. Over millions of years, Pangaea broke apart and the pieces slowly drifted to their current positions. Africa and South America were once connected, which explains why their coastlines fit together like puzzle pieces and why similar fossils are found on both continents. The continents continue to move today at rates of a few centimeters per year - about as fast as fingernails grow. India, for example, was once a separate landmass that collided with Asia, forming the Himalayas. This ongoing movement causes earthquakes and volcanic activity along the boundaries where plates meet.

- (i) What is the movement of continents called? (1 mark)
- (ii) What was the name of the ancient supercontinent? (1 mark)
- (iii) What evidence shows that Africa and South America were once connected? (1 mark)
- (iv) How did the Himalayas form according to the passage? (1 mark)



SECTION A - Answers to MCQs

**Answer 1: (b) Marine fauna**

Fauna refers to animal life. Marine fauna consists of all animal species found in oceans and seas, including fish, dolphins, whales, sharks, and many other creatures.

**Answer 2: (c) Blue**

Earth appears blue from space because most of its surface (about three-fourths) is covered with water. The vast oceans give Earth its characteristic blue appearance, which is why astronauts call it the 'blue planet'.

**Answer 3: (c) Indian Ocean**

The Indian Ocean is bounded by Asia to the north, Africa to the west, and Australia to the east. The Southern Ocean forms its southern boundary.

**Answer 4: (c) Dakshin Gangotri**

Dakshin Gangotri was India's first research station in Antarctica, established in 1983. India later established two more stations: Maitri (1989) and Bharati (2012).

**Answer 5: (b) Antarctica**

Antarctica has no permanent human inhabitants due to its extremely cold climate and harsh environment. Only scientists live there temporarily at research stations.

**Answer 6: (c) Human consumption**

Seawater is salty and contains high concentrations of dissolved salts, making it unfit for consumption by most land animals, including humans. Drinking seawater can actually dehydrate the body.

**Answer 7: (c) Pacific and Atlantic**

The Pacific Ocean is on the western side of North America, and the Atlantic Ocean is on the eastern side. The Arctic Ocean is to the north.

**Answer 8: (d) A very small proportion**

Freshwater makes up only a very small proportion (about 3%) of Earth's total water resources. Most of Earth's water (about 97%) is salty seawater in the oceans.

**Answer 9: (c) Cyclone**

A cyclone is a violent storm with extreme rainfall and very strong winds. Cyclones originate in oceans and can cause widespread damage to coastal regions.

**Answer 10: (c) North and South America**

North and South America are connected by land (through Central America and the Isthmus of Panama), which is why they can be considered as either one continent (America) or two separate continents.

## SECTION B - Answers to Short Answer Questions

### Answer 11:

The main differences between oceans and seas are:

- Oceans are the largest water bodies on Earth, while seas are smaller extensions of oceans
- There are five major oceans (Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic, and Southern), while there are many seas (like the Arabian Sea, Red Sea, Mediterranean Sea, etc.)
- Seas are often partially enclosed by land and are usually shallower than oceans
- Examples: The Arabian Sea is part of the Indian Ocean, and the Mediterranean Sea is connected to the Atlantic Ocean

### Answer 12:

The five oceans in order from largest to smallest are:

1. Pacific Ocean (largest)
2. Atlantic Ocean
3. Indian Ocean
4. Southern Ocean (Antarctic Ocean)
5. Arctic Ocean (smallest)

### Answer 13:

Oceans are important for coastal communities for several reasons:

1. Food Source: Oceans provide fish and seafood, which is a major source of protein and livelihood for coastal communities through fishing.
2. Economic Activities: Coastal communities benefit from maritime trade, tourism, and port activities. Oceans have been vital routes for commerce and cultural exchange throughout history. Additionally, oceans influence the climate of coastal regions and have deeply influenced coastal cultures, traditions, and ways of life.

### Answer 14:

Disaster management refers to the systematic process of preparing for, responding to, and recovering from natural or man-made disasters to minimize loss of life and property.

Organization: India has the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) responsible for handling all kinds of disasters including tsunamis, cyclones, earthquakes, floods, and other emergencies. This organization coordinates disaster preparedness, early warning systems, relief operations, and recovery efforts.

## SECTION C - Answers to Short Answer Questions

### Answer 15:

Oceans support rich diversity of marine life across different zones:

#### **Marine Flora (Plants):**

- Tiny plants called algae
- Various types of seaweeds
- Phytoplankton (microscopic marine plants)

**Marine Fauna (Animals):**

- Thousands of species of colorful fish
- Marine mammals like dolphins and whales
- Sharks and other predators
- Countless mysterious deep-sea creatures

**Different Ocean Zones:**

1. Sun-lit surface zone: Contains most marine plants, colorful fish, and coral reefs due to availability of sunlight for photosynthesis
2. Mid-water zone: Home to larger fish, squids, and various swimming creatures
3. Dark depths: Contains unique species adapted to extreme pressure and darkness, including bioluminescent organisms

Each part of the ocean, from the surface to the depths, has its own diverse life forms adapted to specific conditions. Many species can be found across multiple oceans as seawater constantly flows between them.

**Answer 16:**

The water cycle is the continuous movement of water between Earth's surface and the atmosphere. Oceans play the central role in this cycle:

**Steps of the Water Cycle:**

1. Evaporation: The sun's heat causes water to evaporate from ocean surfaces, turning liquid water into water vapor. Oceans are the primary source of this water vapor.
2. Condensation: As water vapor rises and cools in the atmosphere, it condenses to form clouds.
3. Precipitation: Clouds move over land and release water as rain, snow, or other forms of precipitation.
4. Collection: Rain water collects in rivers, lakes, and underground aquifers. Eventually, this water flows back to the oceans through rivers.
5. The cycle repeats continuously.

**Importance:**

Without oceans driving the water cycle, there would be no rainfall on continents. Earth would be a desert, and life as we know it would be impossible. The monsoon rains that India receives originate from evaporation over the Indian Ocean.

**Answer 17:**

The main limits of the Indian Ocean are:

- North: Asia (including India, Pakistan, Iran, and Arabian Peninsula)
- West: Africa (eastern coast)

- East: Australia and Southeast Asian islands
- South: Southern Ocean (Antarctic Ocean)

**Water bodies on either side of India:**

1. Arabian Sea - Located to the west of India
2. Bay of Bengal - Located to the east of India

Both the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal are parts of the Indian Ocean. These water bodies have historically been important for India's maritime trade, cultural connections with other civilizations, and climate (especially monsoon patterns).

## SECTION D - Answer to Long Answer Question

### Answer 18:

The seven continents vary greatly in size, location, and characteristics:

**1. Asia (Largest Continent):**

Size: Largest continent in both area and population

Location: Eastern Hemisphere, Northern Hemisphere primarily

Unique Feature: Home to the world's highest mountain range (Himalayas) and most populous countries (China and India)

**2. Africa (Second Largest):**

Size: Second largest continent

Location: Straddles the Equator, mainly in Eastern Hemisphere

Unique Feature: Known as the cradle of human civilization; has the Sahara Desert (world's largest hot desert) and diverse wildlife

**3. North America (Third Largest):**

Size: Third largest continent

Location: Western Hemisphere, Northern Hemisphere

Unique Feature: Contains varied climates from Arctic to tropical; home to the Rocky Mountains and Great Lakes

**4. South America (Fourth Largest):**

Size: Fourth largest continent

Location: Western Hemisphere, mostly Southern Hemisphere

Unique Feature: Contains the Amazon Rainforest (world's largest tropical rainforest) and the Andes (longest mountain range)

**5. Antarctica (Fifth Largest):**

Size: Fifth largest continent

Location: Surrounds the South Pole, entirely in Southern Hemisphere

Unique Feature: Coldest continent with no permanent human inhabitants; covered almost entirely with ice containing about 70% of Earth's freshwater

**6. Europe (Sixth Largest):**

Size: Sixth largest continent

Location: Eastern Hemisphere, Northern Hemisphere

Unique Feature: Though small, historically very influential in global culture, science, and politics; forms a single landmass with Asia (Eurasia)

### **7. Australia (Smallest Continent):**

Size: Smallest continent

Location: Eastern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere

Unique Feature: The only continent that is also a single country; known for unique wildlife like kangaroos and koalas found nowhere else

### **Comparison Summary:**

- Northern Hemisphere contains more land (Europe, Asia, North America, most of Africa)
- Southern Hemisphere is more dominated by oceans (Antarctica, Australia, part of South America and Africa)
- Europe and Asia form one continuous landmass but are considered separate for cultural and historical reasons
- North and South America are connected by land but usually counted as two continents
- Each continent has unique geographical features, climates, and biodiversity

## **SECTION E - Answers to Case Study Based Questions**

### **Answer 19:**

#### **(i) Name the Vedic deity associated with oceans.**

Varuna is the Vedic deity associated with oceans, sky, and water in ancient Indian civilization.

#### **(ii) What was the name of the sea god in Greek mythology?**

Poseidon was the god of the sea, earthquakes, and horses in Greek mythology. The Romans called him Neptune.

#### **(iii) Why did ancient civilizations view oceans with both reverence and fear?**

Ancient civilizations viewed oceans with both reverence and fear because oceans had a dual nature - they were a blessing (providing food through fishing and enabling trade routes for commerce) but also a danger (due to violent storms, unknown waters, and the ocean's vast, mysterious nature).

#### **(iv) How have oceans influenced human culture according to the passage?**

Oceans have deeply influenced human culture by inspiring rich traditions of tales, legends, and myths about sea monsters, mermaids, underwater kingdoms, and treasures. Sailors developed superstitions and rituals, and the ocean's vastness and mystery inspired both fear and reverence, which is reflected in myths and legends across civilizations globally.

### **Answer 20:**

#### **(i) What is the movement of continents called?**

The movement of continents is called continental drift. This movement is caused by the movement of tectonic plates beneath Earth's surface.

#### **(ii) What was the name of the ancient supercontinent?**

Pangaea was the name of the ancient supercontinent that existed about 200 million years ago when

all continents were joined together.

**(iii) What evidence shows that Africa and South America were once connected?**

Two pieces of evidence show they were connected:

1. Their coastlines fit together like puzzle pieces
2. Similar fossils are found on both continents

**(iv) How did the Himalayas form according to the passage?**

The Himalayas formed when India, which was once a separate landmass, collided with Asia. This collision of landmasses pushed up the earth to create the Himalayan mountain range.

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