



# UNIQUE STUDY POINT

## Chapter 7 Human Environment: Settlement, Transport and Communication

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**Question 1:** Answer the following questions.

**(i)** What are the four means of transport?

**Solution:** The four means of transport are as follows:

1. Roadways
2. Railways
3. Waterways
4. Airways

**(ii)** What do you understand by the term 'settlement'?

**Solution:** Settlements are places where people build their homes—either permanent or temporary.

**(iii)** Which are the activities practiced by the rural people?

**Solution:** Activities like agriculture, fishing, forestry, crafts work, trading, etc are practised by the rural people.

**(iv)** Mention any two merits of railways.

**Solution:** Two merits of railways are as follows:

- Heavy goods can be transported to longer distances within a shorter period of time
- It is a cheaper means of transport

**(v)** What do you understand by communication?

**Solution:** Communication is the process of conveying messages to others. Technology has helped us discover faster means of communication. Telephones, Mobile phones and the internet are a few means of communication that we use.

**(vi)** What is mass media?

**Solution:** The modes of communication through which one can communicate with a large number of people are collectively known as mass media. Newspapers, radio, television and the internet are some examples of mass media.

**Question 2:** Tick the correct answer.

**(i)** Which is NOT a means of communication?

- (a) telephone
- (b) books
- (c) table

**Solution:** (c) table

**(ii)** Which type of road is constructed under the ground?

- (a) fly over
- (b) expressways
- (c) subways

**Solution:** (c) subways

**(iii)** Which mode of transport is most suitable to reach an island?

- (a) ship
- (b) train
- (c) car

**Solution:** (a) ship

**(iv)** Which vehicle does not pollute the environment

- (a) cycle

- (b) bus
- (c) aeroplane

**Solution:** (a) cycle

**Question 3:** Match the following.

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| (i) Internet            | (a) areas where people are engaged in manufacturing, trade and services |
| (ii) Canal route        | (b) closely built area of houses  |
| (iii) Urban areas       | (c) houses on stilts  |
| (iv) Compact settlement | (d) inland waterway   |
|                         | (e) a means of communication  |

**Solution:**

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| (i) Internet            | (e) a means of communication  |
| (ii) Canal route        | (d) inland waterway   |
| (iii) Urban areas       | (a) areas where people are engaged in manufacturing, trade and services |
| (iv) Compact settlement | (b) closely built area of houses  |

**Question 4:** Give reasons.

(i) Today's world is shrinking.

**Solution:** Today's world is shrinking because of the better means of transportation and communication. People can communicate with anyone across the world while they are sitting at their home and can cover the longest distances within the shortest period of time. This has enabled people to easily get in contact with each other and has made the world well-connected.

**Extra Questions**  
**Very Short Answer Questions**

**1. What is site?**

**Answer:** The place where a building or a settlement develops is called its site.

**2. Name the two types of settlements on the basis of livelihood.**

**Answer:** Rural and urban settlements.

**3. Write a short note on urban settlements.**

**Answer:** Urban settlements are found in small towns and cities. In urban areas, people are engaged in manufacturing, trading and services.

**4. What is transhumance?**

**Answer:** It is a seasonal movement of people. People who rear animals, move in search of new pastures according to change in seasons.

**5. Name the animals used for transportation.**

**Answer:** In India, the animals used for transport are donkeys, mule, bullocks and camels. In the Andes mountains, llamas are used while yaks are used in Tibet for transportation.

**6. What are the various types of roads in India?**

**Answer:** There are several national and state highways in India. The latest development in India is the construction of expressways, one of them being the Golden Quadrilateral connecting Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata.

**7. Name the highest point of railways in the world.**

**Answer:** The train from Xining to Lhasa runs at an altitude of 4,000 m above sea level and the highest point is 5,072 m.

### **8. Name the longest railway system in the world.**

**Answer:** The Trans-Siberian Railway is the longest railway system connecting St. Petersburg in Western Russia to Vladivostok on the Pacific Coast.

## **Short Answer Questions**

### **1. What are the natural conditions for the selection of an ideal site?**

**Answer:** (i) Favourable climate  
(ii) Availability of water  
(iii) Suitable land  
(iv) Fertile soil

### **2. How did settlements flourish?**

**Answer:** (i) Early human beings lived on trees and in caves.  
(ii) When they started growing crops, it became necessary to have a permanent home.  
(iii) The settlements grew near the river valleys as water was available and land was fertile.  
(iv) With the development of trade, commerce and manufacturing, human settlements became larger.  
(v) Settlements flourished and civilisations developed near river valleys.

### **3. What are the two types of settlements?**

**Answer:** (i) Settlements can be permanent or temporary.  
(ii) Settlements which are occupied for a short time are called temporary settlements.

(iii) The people living in deep forests, hot and cold deserts and mountains often dwell in such temporary settlements.

(iv) They practice hunting, gathering, shifting cultivation and transhumance.

(v) However, more and more settlements today are permanent settlements. In these settlements, people build homes to live in.

#### **4. Write a short note on sea routes.**

**Answer: (i)** Sea routes and oceanic routes are mostly used for transporting merchandise and goods from one country to another.

(ii) These routes are connected with ports.

(iii) Some of the important ports of the world are Singapore and Mumbai in Asia, New York and Los Angeles in North America, Sydney in Australia, Durban and Cape Town in Africa and London and Rotterdam in Europe.

#### **5. Write a short note on waterways.**

**Answer:** Waterways are the cheapest means for carrying heavy and bulky goods over long distances. There are mainly two types of routes: inland waterways and sea routes.

#### **6. What are inland waterways? Give examples.**

**Answer:** Navigable rivers and lakes are used as inland waterways. Some important waterways are the Ganga–Brahmaputra river system, the Great Lakes in North America and the river Nile in Africa.

### **Long Answer Questions**

#### **1. Write a note on the utility of communication.**

**Answer: (i)** The advancement in the field of communication has brought about an information revolution in the world.

**(ii)** Mass media like newspapers, radio and television are used to give education, information and entertainment to people.

**(iii)** Satellites detection have helped in oil exploration, survey of forests, underground water, mineral wealth, weather forecast and disaster warning.

**(iv)** Now we can send electronic mails or e-mails through Internet.

**(v)** Wireless telephonic communication through cellular phones have become very popular now-a-days.

## **2. Write a note on rural settlements.**

**Answer: (i)** Rural settlements are found in villages.

**(ii)** The villages are rural settlements engaged in activities like agriculture, fishing, forestry, crafts work, trading, etc.

**(iii)** Rural settlements can be compact or scattered.

**(iv)** A compact settlement is a closely built area of dwellings wherever flat land is available.

**(v)** In a scattered settlement, dwellings are spaced over an extensive area.

**(vi)** They are spread in hilly tracts, thick forests and regions of extreme climate and houses depend on environment.

**(vii)** In rainy areas, houses are constructed on a raised platform.

**(viii)** In areas of hot climate, thick mud-walled houses with thatched roofs are found.

## **3. Write a short note on roadways.**

**Answer: (i)** The most commonly used means of transport especially for short distance are roads.

**(ii)** These can be metalled (pucca) and unmetalled (kutchra). Plains have a high density of roads.

**(iii)** Roads have also been built in terrains like deserts, forests and even high mountains.

**(iv)** Roads built underground are called subways/underpaths.

**(v)** Flyovers are built over raised structures.

#### **4. What are the benefits of railways?**

**Answer: (i)** The railways carry heavy goods and people over long distances quickly and economically.

**(ii)** The invention of steam engine and the Industrial Revolution helped in speedy development of rail transport.

**(iii)** Diesel and electric engines have largely replaced the steam engines.

**(iv)** The constructions of superfast trains have made the journey faster.

**(v)** Railways are developed in difficult mountain terrains also.

**(vi)** Indian railway network is the largest in Asia.

#### **Hots (Higher Order Thinking Skills)**

##### **1. How has transport developed as an important mode?**

**Answer: (i)** Transport is the means by which people and goods move.

**(ii)** In the early days, it took a great deal of time to travel long distances.



**(iii)** People had to walk and they used animals to carry their goods.

**(iv)** Invention of the wheel made transport easier.

**(v)** With the passage of time, faster means of transport developed, e.g., roadways, railways, waterways and airways.

**(vi)** Now people can travel long distances in short time.

## **2. In which areas air transport is most likeable?**

**Answer: (i)** This is the fastest way of transport developed in the early 20th century.

**(ii)** It is also the most expensive due to high cost of fuels.

**(iii)** Air traffic is adversely affected due to fog and storms.

**(iv)** It helps to reach remote and distant areas where there are no roads and railways.

**(v)** Helicopters are useful to reach inaccessible areas, for rescuing people and distributing food, water, clothes and medicines in times of calamities.

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