

CBSE Class–VI Social Science
NCERT Solutions
GEOGRAPHY Chapter 6
MAJOR LANDFORMS OF THE EARTH

Question 1: Answer the following questions briefly.

- (a) What are the major landforms?**
- (b) What is the difference between a mountain and a plateau?**
- (c) What are the different types of mountains?**
- (d) How are mountains useful to man?**
- (e) How are plains formed?**
- (f) Why are the river plains thickly populated?**
- (g) Why are mountains thinly populated?**

Answer: (a) The major landforms are: mountains, plateaus and plains.

(b)

Mountain	Plateau
A mountain is any natural elevation of the Earth's surface. It is considerably higher than the surrounding area.	A plateau is an elevated flat land. It is a flat-topped table land standing above the surrounding area.
Mountains have peaks. Most mountains are formed by folding, faulting or volcanic action.	Plateaus are flattened highlands formed mostly due to tectonic or volcanic action and also due to erosion caused by wind and rain.

(c) The different types of mountains are: Fold mountains, Block mountains and Volcanic mountains.

(d) Usefulness of Mountains

Mountains are a store house of water. Many rivers have their source in the glaciers. Reservoirs are made to harness this water for consumption, irrigation and generating electricity.

River valleys and terraces are ideal for cultivation of crops.

Mountains have a rich variety of flora and fauna. Mountains provide an idyllic site for tourists. Several sports like paragliding, hang gliding, river rafting and skiing are popular in the mountains.

(e) Plains are the flat and low-lying areas. Most of the plains are formed by rivers and their tributaries. The rivers flow down the slopes of mountains and erode them. They carry forward the eroded material. Then they deposit their load (consisting of stones, sand and silt) along their courses and in their valleys. It is from these deposits that plains are formed. Plains provide the most fertile agricultural land and the best living conditions.

(f) A lot of flat lands are available in plains. Also, the available land is generally fertile. Hence, plains are the most useful areas for human habitation as well as for cultivation. Transport network can also be easily constructed in plains. Thus, plains are very thickly populated regions of the world.

(g) Mountains have very harsh cold climate. The slopes of the mountains are very steep. Also, mountains offer very little land for farming. For these reasons, mountains are thinly populated.

Question 2: Tick the correct answers.

(a) The mountains differ from the hills in terms of

- (i) elevation**
- (ii) slope**
- (iii) aspect**

(b) Glaciers are found in

- (i) the mountains**
- (ii) the plains**
- (iii) the plateaus**

(c) The Deccan plateau is located in

- (i) Kenya**
- (ii) Australia**
- (iii) India**

(d) The river Yangtze flows in

- (i) South America
 - (ii) Australia
 - (iii) China
- (e) An important mountain range of Europe is
- (i) The Andes
 - (ii) The alps
 - (iii) The Rockies

Answer: (a) (i) elevation

(b) (i) the mountains

(c) (iii) India

(d) (iii) China

(e) (ii) the alps

Question 3: Fill in the blanks.

(a) A _____ is an unbroken flat or a low-level land.

(b) The Himalayas and the Alps are examples of _____ types of mountains.

(c) _____ areas are rich in mineral deposits.

(d) The _____ is a line of mountains.

(e) The _____ areas are most productive for farming.

Answer: (a) A **plain** is an unbroken flat or a low-level land.

(b) The Himalayas and the Alps are examples of **fold** types of mountains.

(c) **Plateau** areas are rich in mineral deposits.

(d) The **Himalayas** is a line of mountains.

(e) The **plain** areas are most productive for farming.