

Chapter 6-Major Landforms of the Earth

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 1.

- a. The major landforms are:
 - i. Mountains
 - ii. Plateaus
 - iii. Plains
- b. The difference between a mountain and a plateau is given below:

Mountain	Plateau
A mountain is any natural elevation of the earth surface.	A plateau is an elevated flat land.
It is considerably higher than the surrounding area.	It is a flat-topped table land, standing above the surrounding area.

(c) There are 3 different types of mountain:

- Fold Mountains
- Block Mountains
- Volcanic Mountains

(d) Mountains are useful to man in various ways:

- Mountains are a storehouse of water.
- Water from the mountains is also used for irrigation and generation of hydro-electricity.
- The river valleys and terraces are ideal for the cultivation of crops.
- Mountains have a rich variety of flora and fauna.

- Several sports like paragliding, hang gliding, river rafting and skiing are popular in the mountains.

(e) When the rivers flow through mountain slopes, erosion of mountains occur. The flowing river carries the eroded material and the deposit materials like silt, clay, stones are gathered on the valleys. This leads to the formation of plains.

(f) River plains are thickly populated because of the fertility of the plains. This makes the construction of a transportation network comparatively easier.

(g) Mountains are thinly populated because :

1. The climate is harsh at the mountain areas.
2. Slopes are steep at the mountains and that reduces the land available for farming.

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 2.

- (i) elevation
- (i) the mountains
- (iii) India
- (iii) China
- (ii) the Alps

3. Fill in the blanks.

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

2. The Himalayas and the Alps are examples of _____ types of mountains.
3. _____ areas are rich in mineral deposits.
4. The _____ is a line of mountains.
5. The _____ areas are most productive for farming.

Answer 3.

1. A **Plain** is an unbroken flat or a low-level land.
2. The Himalayas and the Alps are examples of **fold** types of mountains.
3. **Plateau** areas are rich in mineral deposits.
4. The **Range** is a line of mountains.
5. The **plain** areas are most productive for farming.