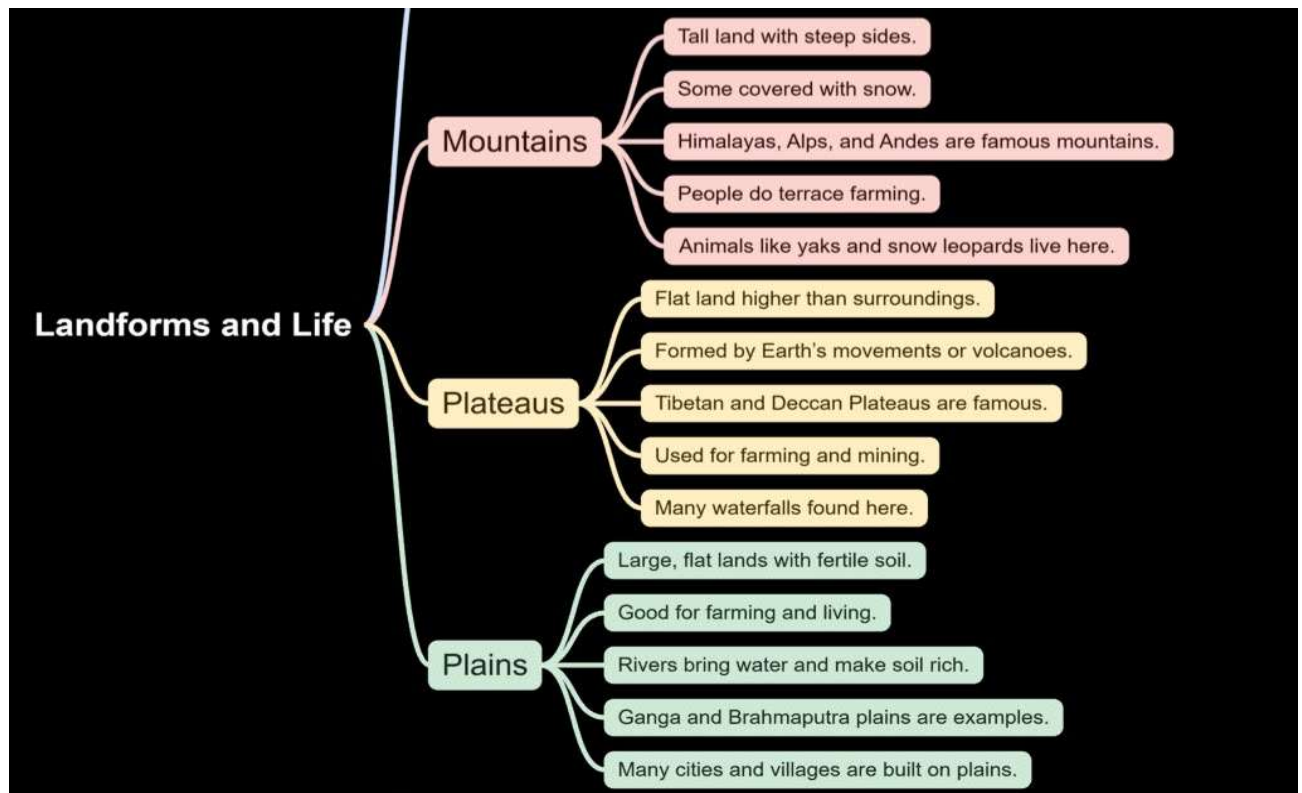




St. XAVIER'S HIGH SCHOOL

CH - 3 Landforms and Life

Mind Map



Keywords

1. altitudes
2. precipitation
3. hailstones
4. Kanchenjunga
5. Mount Aconcagua
6. Kilimanjaro
7. Anamudi
8. Lichen
9. Cloudburst
10. Avalanche

Definitions

1. **Avalanche:** The sudden fall of snow, ice or rocks from a mountainside; often occurs when the snow starts melting.
2. **Cloudburst:** A sudden violent rainstorm.
3. **Resilience:** The capacity to meet challenges and difficulties, adapt to them or overcome them
4. **Confluence:** The meeting point of two or more rivers.

Terrain: A piece or stretch of land, from the point of view of its physical features.

Short Answer Questions

1. **Name the two highest peaks of the Himalayan range.**

Answer:

Mount Everest and Kanchenjunga.

2. **Early civilisations often located near rivers in plains. Why?**

Answer:

Early civilisations were often located near the river in plains because it is a fertile region and supports various crop cultivation.

3. **What are mountain forests, and where are they commonly found?
What are common animals found there?**

Answer:

Mountain forests are types of forests found in mountainous regions, characterised by coniferous trees like pines and firs. These forests are commonly found in the Himalayas and other high-altitude areas around the world. At higher altitudes only grasses, mosses and lichens are found. Some typical animals found in mountain habitats are: the golden eagle, peregrine falcon, canadian lynx, snow leopard, ibex, Himalayan tahr, mountain hare, yak, grey fox and black bear.

4. **What evidence suggests mountains held spiritual significance in many cultures?**

Answer:

The following evidence suggests mountains hold a spiritual significance in many cultures

- Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world at 8,849 m. It is known by many names. Tibetans name it 'Chomolungma', which means 'Mother

Goddess of the World', Nepalis call it 'Sagarmatha', meaning 'Goddess of the Sky'. Thus, it is worshiped by Tibetans and Nepalis.

- Mount Kailash in Tibet is held sacred by followers of Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Bon.

5. What challenges do people face living in mountainous areas?

Answer:

The following challenges are faced by the people living in mountainous areas

- Sudden heavy rain can quickly turn mountain streams into dangerous floods. It can damage homes and roads.
- Landslide Soil and rocks sliding down slopes can destroy homes and block roads in mountain areas.
- Avalanches It is a landslide due to heavy snowfall. disrupt travel in snowy mountain regions.
- Heavy Snowfall Excessive snow can block roads, limit access, and cause damage to houses in mountain areas.
- Cloudburst Intense, short bursts of rain can lead to sudden floods

Long Answer Questions :

- **What are the major types of landforms and their significance to life and culture?**

ANS - The major types of landforms and their significance to life and culture are as follows:

Mountains: They are large landforms that rise prominently above their surroundings. Their significance is that it affects the climate and weather pattern, provide freshwater from rivers and streams originating in mountains. It is considered sacred in various cultures. It is home to unique flora and fauna.

Plains: They are large areas of flat or gently rolling land. It is ideal for farming due to fertile soil, easy to build infrastructure, leading to dense human settlements. Plain areas are cultural and economic hubs due to ease of transportation and trade.

Plateaus: They are elevated flatlands that rise sharply above the surrounding area. They are rich in minerals and often sites for mining.

2. Describe the characteristics and significance of plateaus, with examples.

Answer:

The following are the characteristics and significance of plateaus

- Plateaus are elevated flatlands with one or more sides having steep slopes.

- Plateaus vary in height from a few hundred to several thousand meters. The Tibetan Plateau is the largest and highest in the world. Its average altitude is 4,500 meters. It is also known as the 'Roof of the World'.
- The Deccan Plateau in India, one of the oldest, was formed through volcanic activity millions of years ago.
- Plateaus are rich in minerals, making mining a major activity. For example, the East African Plateau is famous for gold and diamond mining, while the Chhota Nagpur Plateau in India has vast reserves of iron, coal, and manganese.

3. Explain the importance of plains for human habitation and agriculture.

Answer:

The plains are important for human habitation and agriculture because

- Plains are extensive flat or gently undulating areas, generally not more than 300 meters above sea level.
- Plains are formed by river deposits that create fertile soil ideal for agriculture.
- Plains are fertile areas that support intensive farming, which is a major economic activity.
- In India, the Ganga Plain supports over 40 crore people, showcasing its significance for human habitation and agricultural productivity.