

Le: 4 THE WESTERN DESSERT

I. Question Answers;

1.Where is the great Indian desert located?

The great Indian desert or the Thar desert lies in Rajasthan. It extends from the Rann of Kutch in Gujarat to the borders of Haryana.

2.What are dust storms?

When strong winds blow in the desert, sand dunes means Sand hills shift from one place to another place ,this shift is called dust storms. This is very common feature in Rajasthan.

3.What are oases?

At some places underground water comes up to the surface, such places are known as Oasis.

4.Why is there shortage of water in desert areas?

In deserts rainfall is scanty which leads to shortages of water.

II. Long answer questions.

1.Describe the climate of the great Indian desert?

The climate of the desert is very hot and dry throughout the year . Rainfall is scanty which leads to shortage of water .summer season is marked by hot days and cool nights, during winters days are warm but nights are extremely cold.

2.Describe the vegetation of the desert region? How does the climate affect vegetation of this region?

There is hardly any vegetation. only thorny bushes, different varieties of cactus and Keekar grow here. At some places underground water comes to the surface such places are known as Oases. Date palms grown here.

3.How has the Indira Gandhi canal changed the life of the people in the desert?

Water of the satluj and its tributaries now reached the desert through the Indira Gandhi canal , also known as the Rajasthan canal. This has changed the life of the people and has also made the desert green. Around the canal green fields have come up over a period of time , farmers grow wheat , gram, bajra and maize.

4.Why are camels important in the desert region?

The camel is known as the ship of the deser. It is the most efficient mode of transportation in the deser. The camels have padded feet and can walk as well as run on the loose sand. They can stay without water and food for a long time, dust storms do not affect their vision. so camel is very important for transportation in deserts.

5.Who are nomads why is their life difficult?

Life of the people is very difficult in desert regions due to shortage of water and scanty rainfall .people cannot grow many crops. Many people live like nomads ,they do not have permanent homes and move from one place to another in search of their food. These are called banjaras.