

I. Geology

- A. About 10 million years ago, the Indian Plate (subcontinent) collided with the Eurasian Plate creating a _____ zone where mountains are still being uplifted today.
- B. The clashing tectonic plates that produced the Himalayas (Indian plate & Eurasian plate) continue to set off _____, mainly along the base of the Himalayas.
1. The October 2005 Kashmir earthquake measured 7.6 on the Richter scale. It killed 86,000 people & injured more than 69,000 as well as causing widespread destruction of buildings & roads.
 2. The April 2015 Nepal Earthquake measured 8.1 on the Richter scale. It killed 9,000 people & injured 22,000 as well as causing wide-spread destruction and an avalanche on Mt. Everest.
- C. _____ have caused issues in the past for the coastal regions of India, _____, & the Maldives.
1. Example - The Indonesian Tsunami of 2004 killed over 31,000 people in Sri Lanka & over 10,000 in India.

II. Landforms

- A. Mountains - the subcontinent is rimmed by formidable mountain ranges that have protected the people for centuries.
1. The Himalayan Mountains form the _____ boundary of the region.
 - a. The world's _____ are found in the Himalayas including the tallest mountain (by elevation), _____ at 29,035 ft. above sea level.
 2. The Hindu Kush is a mountain range in present day Afghanistan & Pakistan. It forms the _____ boundary. In the past, once crossed, the region east was all known as India.
 - a. The _____ was and is still the most important pass through the mountains and connects Afghanistan with Pakistan. It was part of the ancient Silk Road.
 3. The Ghats are two mountain ranges in southern India.
 - a. The Western Ghats create a spectacular example of the _____ effect.
 - (1) The windward side is on the western flank and the leeward side on the eastern flank. This causes a _____ desert east of the mountains in central India
- B. Plateaus - The Deccan Plateau was created around 66 million years ago by massive _____ flows.
- C. Deserts - Thar, creates a _____ between India & Pakistan.

III. Bodies of Water

- A. Oceans & Seas - _____, Arabian Sea & Andaman Sea
1. Tropical storms in the Indian Ocean are called _____.
- B. Gulfs & Other
1. _____ is the largest bay in the world and separates South Asia from Southeast Asia
- C. Rivers - Rock fragments & particles have built up deposits of _____ (about 10,000 ft) in the river basins (Indus, Ganges, & Brahmaputra).
1. The _____ flows out of Tibet, into India, and through Pakistan before emptying into the Arabian Sea.
 - a. It is the site of one of 4 major early human “_____” along with the Nile River in Egypt, the Tigris-Euphrates system in Iraq, & the Yellow River in China.

2. The _____ begins in the Himalayas, flows across northern India into Bangladesh and forms a _____ with the Brahmaputra River before emptying into the Bay of Bengal.
 - a. The Ganges River is highly sacred to the _____ of India.
3. The _____ River begins in the Himalayas, flows briefly into India and then into Bangladesh and forms a delta with the Ganges River before emptying into the Bay of Bengal.

IV. Climate

- A. The _____ dominate the climactic environment & life of much of South Asia.
 1. Monsoons are _____ that are seasonal in nature.
 - a. Cool, dry winter
 - b. Hot, dry spring
 - c. Hot, rainy _____
 2. It is caused by the _____ of the Asian continent to the north.
 - a. In the _____, the lands heats up, air _____ and pulls in humid air from the Indian Ocean & Arabian Sea. This is the _____.
 - b. In the _____, the land cools down, air _____ and pushes dry air towards the Indian Ocean & Arabian Sea. This is the _____.
 3. Some of the world's largest annual rainfall totals (over 400 in/yr) are recorded in the Assam hills of _____ from the summer rain brought by monsoons winds.
 - a. Most flooding in the region occurs during the _____.

B. Regional climate zones

1. Nepal & Bhutan - _____ climate in the north; humid continental in the south
2. India - tropical wet/dry mainly in the northeast & east; humid subtropical in the north; semiarid in the central & northwest
3. Sri Lanka & Maldives - mainly _____
4. Bangladesh - tropical wet/dry
5. Pakistan - mainly semiarid & _____ except in extreme northern parts

V. Natural Resources

- A. South Asia has many _____ resources such as iron & uranium ore.
- B. India has large _____, one of the world's largest reserves. Most of India's demand for _____ come from _____ power plants.
- C. Timber from boreal forests in _____ & Bhutan & timber from Sri Lanka & Bangladesh (_____) also provide a major resource for export.

VII. Environmental issues are mainly due to the huge rise in _____ & the necessary growth in national economies that leave landscapes of exploitation, degraded resources, & pollution.

- A. The _____ was a period when agriculture in India increased due to improved methods & technology.
 1. It included heavy use of _____ & herbicides.
 2. The production of these chemicals resulted in _____ concentrations of chemical factories in certain areas.

a. Example: In 1984, at the Union Carbide pesticide plant in Bhopal, India, water leaked into a methyl isocyanate storage tank, triggering chemical reactions & a cloud of toxic gases. It is considered the world's worst industrial disaster killing over 15,000 people.

3. It was considered an agricultural success, but not an _____ success due to farmers in higher _____ receiving the education needed for the new farming methods.

B. _____ pollution from _____ burning power plants & other industry, but not as much acid rain as of yet, but totals have been increasing. The _____.

C. Water pollution

1. In the _____ - from leather tanning runoff, trash dumping, funeral pyres, despite its sacredness to Hindus.

2. _____ contamination of over 200 wells in Bangladesh was discovered in the year 2000. Arsenic is naturally found in groundwater and wells dug there were never tested. Up to 77 million people in Bangladesh are exposed to toxic levels of arsenic.

3. Due to sub-standard _____, water-borne diseases are prevalent in the region.

D. Deforestation is causing erosion & the _____:

1. _____ logging

2. industrial & urban _____

3. for agricultural land

E. _____ is a major problem in the lower Ganges & Brahmaputra valleys & their combined delta (Bangladesh). Causes include:

1. snowmelt in the Himalayas combined with heavy rainfall;

2. the funneling effect of the Bay of Bengal & _____ from cyclones;

3. _____ in Tibet, Nepal, & Bhutan (increases erosion), & low topography;

4. very highly populated which causes major humanitarian disasters

5. there is very little regional cooperation to reduce this effect

South Asia Vocabulary

orographic effect -