

CLASS 6 SOCIAL SCIENCE

Chapter 2: Oceans and Continents

Competency-Based Questions • Exam-Oriented Practice

Based on: NCERT Class 6 Social Science, Exploring Society: India and Beyond

Instructions: Read each situation carefully. Answer using geographical reasoning, map skills, application of concepts, and evidence from the chapter.

A. Case-Based Questions

1. Riya is looking at a world map. She notices that large areas of blue cover much of the Earth's surface. Her teacher explains that these blue areas represent oceans, while the large landmasses are called continents.
 - a) What do the blue areas on most world maps represent?
 - b) What is a continent?
 - c) Name any two continents.
 - d) Why is it useful to study oceans and continents together?
2. A ship is travelling from India towards the eastern coast of Africa. The captain uses a world map to understand the oceans and continents along the route.
 - a) Which ocean lies between India and Africa?
 - b) Which continent lies to the west of India?
 - c) How can a world map help the captain plan the journey?
 - d) What geographical skill is being used?

B. Assertion-Reason

3. Assertion: Oceans play an important role in regulating Earth's climate.
Reason: Oceans absorb and redistribute large amounts of heat.
Choose: A) Both are correct and Reason explains Assertion. B) Both are correct but Reason does not explain Assertion. C) Assertion correct, Reason incorrect. D) Assertion incorrect, Reason correct.
4. Assertion: Continents are large landmasses.
Reason: Continents are completely covered by water.
Choose: A) Both are correct. B) Both are incorrect. C) Assertion correct, Reason incorrect. D) Assertion incorrect, Reason correct.

C. Application-Based Questions

5. Imagine that you are planning a journey from India to Australia. Which ocean would you cross? Which continent would you reach? Explain how a world map would help you plan the journey.
6. A student says, "There is more land than water on Earth because continents look very large on a map." Do you agree? Give a reason.
7. Your friend confuses the terms ocean and continent. Explain the difference and give one example of each.

8. Suppose the oceans became significantly warmer. What kinds of environmental changes might occur? Give two possible effects.

D. Map-Based Competency Questions

9. Using a world map, identify:

a) the largest ocean; b) the continent around the South Pole; c) the continent in which India is located; d) the ocean to the south of India.

10. A traveller wants to travel from India to the eastern coast of Africa. Using a world map, identify the ocean between them and explain why knowing the relative location of the two continents is useful.

11. On a blank world map, mark and label: Asia, Africa, Europe, Australia, Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean. Competency: Locate and identify major geographical features accurately.

E. Visual/Interpretation-Based Questions

12. Imagine a globe showing large blue areas and several large landmasses. What do the blue areas and landmasses represent? Why does Earth appear mostly blue when viewed from space?

13. A satellite image shows Earth with extensive blue areas and smaller areas of land. What does this suggest about the distribution of water and land on Earth?

F. Higher-Order Thinking Questions

14. Why do you think many early human settlements developed near rivers, lakes and seas? Give two reasons.

15. Oceans are not just large bodies of water. They are connected to human life in many ways. Explain with three examples.

16. Suppose there were no oceans on Earth. How might this affect climate, rainfall and life? Give one point for each.

17. Why is it important to learn about continents and oceans even if a person does not plan to travel to other countries?

G. Real-Life Situation Questions

18. A fisherman says that the ocean provides food and supports his livelihood. What does this tell us about the importance of oceans to people?

19. An international flight travels from Asia to Europe. Why would accurate geographical information about continents, oceans and their locations be useful?

20. A news report says that a cyclone has developed over the ocean and may affect coastal areas. What does this show about the relationship between oceans and human life?

H. Competency-Based Short Answer Questions

21. How are oceans and continents connected to one another?

22. Why are maps and globes useful for understanding oceans and continents?

23. What is the difference between a sea and an ocean?

24. Why is the Pacific Ocean significant when studying the distribution of water on Earth?

25. Why is Asia significant when studying the continents?

I. Challenge Questions

26. A student says, "A map helps us understand Earth, but it cannot show Earth exactly as it is." Do you agree? Explain.

27. If you had to teach a younger student the difference between an ocean and a continent without using a textbook, what activity would you use?

28. Imagine you are a geographer exploring an unfamiliar part of Earth. What information would you look for on a map before beginning your journey? Give at least three points.

J. Integrated Competency Question

29. A group of students plans an imaginary journey around the world. They start in India, travel towards Africa, continue to Europe, cross the Atlantic Ocean and reach the Americas. They then travel across the Pacific Ocean towards Asia.

a) Name the continent where their journey begins.

b) Which ocean lies between Africa and the Americas?

c) Which ocean would they cross while travelling from the Americas towards Asia?

d) What geographical skill are the students using?

e) Why is understanding the relative location of continents and oceans important for their journey?

ANSWER KEY / SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1. a) Oceans or large bodies of salt water. b) A continent is a large continuous landmass. c) Any two: Asia, Africa, Europe, North America, South America, Australia, Antarctica. d) It helps us understand the spatial relationship between major land and water bodies.
2. a) Indian Ocean. b) Africa. c) It helps identify locations, directions, routes and surrounding water bodies. d) Map-reading and spatial/geographical reasoning.
3. A — Both are correct and the Reason explains the Assertion.
4. C — The Assertion is correct, but the Reason is incorrect.
5. The route from India to Australia crosses the Indian Ocean; Australia is the continent reached. A world map helps identify direction, route and intervening water bodies.
6. No. Water covers about 71% of Earth's surface, while land covers about 29%. Maps can make land areas look larger than they are because they are representations of Earth.
7. An ocean is a vast body of salt water; a continent is a large landmass. Examples: Indian Ocean and Asia.
8. Possible effects include changes in ocean ecosystems, weather and climate patterns, sea-level changes and impacts on marine life.
9. a) Pacific Ocean. b) Antarctica. c) Asia. d) Indian Ocean.
10. Indian Ocean. Relative location helps the traveller understand direction, route and the relationship between India and Africa.
11. Students should correctly locate and label all six features on the world map.
12. Blue areas represent oceans/water; large landmasses represent continents/land. Earth appears mostly blue because water covers most of its surface.
13. It indicates that water covers a much larger portion of Earth's surface than land.
14. Access to water for drinking and irrigation, fertile soils, food resources, transport and other livelihood opportunities.
15. Oceans support food and livelihoods, influence climate and weather, and provide routes for transport and trade.
16. Climate: major changes in the global climate system. Rainfall: the water cycle would be severely disrupted. Life: marine and land ecosystems would be greatly affected.
17. It builds geographical awareness and helps people understand Earth's environment, climate, resources and connections between places.
18. Oceans provide resources such as fish and support livelihoods and economic activities.
19. It helps with route planning, navigation, understanding locations and safe travel.
20. Ocean conditions can influence weather systems, and changes over the ocean can affect coastal populations.
21. Continents are major landmasses separated or partly surrounded by oceans and seas; together they form the major land-water pattern of Earth.
22. They show location, direction, distance and the spatial relationship between places and features.
23. An ocean is a very large expanse of interconnected salt water. A sea is generally a smaller part of the ocean, often partly enclosed by land.
24. The Pacific Ocean is the largest of the world's oceans and occupies a major portion of Earth's water surface.
25. Asia is the largest continent and has great diversity in landscapes, climates, peoples and cultures.

26. Yes. A map is a representation of the Earth's surface on a flat or simplified form, so it cannot reproduce every feature exactly and may involve simplification or distortion.

27. Use a globe or a simple classroom map activity: students identify land areas as continents and blue water areas as oceans, then give examples.

28. Possible points: location, direction, nearby land and water bodies, distance, terrain, scale and possible routes.

29. a) Asia. b) Atlantic Ocean. c) Pacific Ocean. d) Map-reading/spatial-location skills. e) It helps them plan routes and understand the relative positions of places.

Teacher Note: Answers to open-ended competency questions may vary if the student provides a scientifically correct explanation supported by appropriate reasoning.