CBSE CLASS X

Social Science (087)

QUESTION PAPER

AI-generated question paper

Code: UCFFS4 **Questions: 42** **Maximum Marks: 114** **Generated: 2026-06-26 09:56**

SELECTIONS USED

Subject	Social Science
Lessons	1 Resources and Development
Level of understanding	Thorough understanding
Question selection	Curated chapter coverage (~5 questions per section + 8 synthesis)
Model	claude-sonnet-4-6

Composition — Difficulty: 1 straightforward · 25 medium · 16 deep | Types: 31 Short · 5 MCQ · 4 Long · 2 Very short

Q1. medium · thorough-understanding · § Introduction **[3]**

A country discovers vast oil reserves but lacks the technology to extract them and has no institutions to manage their use. Can these oil reserves be called 'resources'? Justify your answer.

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q2. deep · thorough-understanding · § Introduction **[3]**

Resources can be classified on the basis of origin (biotic/abiotic) as well as on the basis of exhaustibility (renewable/non-renewable). Give one example each of: (a) a biotic non-renewable resource, and (b) an abiotic renewable resource. What does the existence of these combinations tell us about these two methods of classifying resources?

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q3. medium · thorough-understanding · § DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES **[3]**

Indiscriminate exploitation of resources by a few individuals and countries has led to a society divided into 'haves' and 'have nots.' Why does this unequal accumulation of resources threaten global peace, and what solution does the chapter propose to address this?

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q4. medium · thorough-understanding · § DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES **[2]**

Sustainable development requires action at multiple levels of governance. Why is local-level action considered indispensable for achieving global sustainable development goals, and how does it complement efforts made at the national and international levels?

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q5. medium thorough-understanding § DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES **[1]**

Which of the following best explains why resources are considered 'a function of human activities' rather than mere 'free gifts of nature'?

(A) Resources exist in nature independently of human needs or knowledge

(B) Their value and utility are determined by technology, institutions, and human perception

(C) All natural substances automatically qualify as resources

(D) Resources are created entirely by industrial processes without any natural base

A Resources exist only in countries that have advanced economies.

B A material becomes a resource only when human beings apply technology and institutional frameworks to make it accessible and usable.

C Natural materials are unlimited and therefore do not need human effort to be useful.

D Resources are created by governments through planning policies alone.

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q6. medium thorough-understanding § RESOURCE PLANNING **[1]**

Which of the following best explains why a region rich in natural resources may still remain economically backward?

A The region lacks any form of land suitable for agriculture

B Resources alone cannot drive development without matching technological advancement and institutional support

C Resource-rich regions are always targeted by foreign investors, slowing local growth

D Planning is only required for regions that are resource-poor

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q7. medium thorough-understanding § RESOURCE PLANNING **[3]**

Rajasthan is rich in solar and wind energy yet faces an acute water shortage, while states like Goa have abundant water but limited energy resources. How does this regional imbalance justify the need for resource planning at the national level?

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q8. deep thorough-understanding § RESOURCE PLANNING **[3]**

Arunachal Pradesh has abundant water resources but lags in development, while some states with a poor resource base are economically advanced. What does this contrast reveal about the true drivers of regional economic development?

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q9. medium thorough-understanding § RESOURCE PLANNING **[2]**

Resource planning involves more than just identifying and making an inventory of resources. Explain what additional steps are essential and why, for resource planning to translate into actual development.

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q10. medium thorough-understanding § RESOURCE PLANNING **[3]**

Why is resource planning considered especially critical for a country like India, given its vast internal regional diversity in resource distribution?

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q11. deep thorough-understanding § RESOURCE PLANNING **[5]**

Explain why resource planning is described as a 'complex process'. In your answer, discuss how the three stages of resource planning are interconnected and why all three must work together for development to succeed.

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q12. medium | thorough-understanding | § LAND RESOURCES **[3]**

Mountains cover about 30% of India's total surface area and are generally unsuitable for agriculture, yet they are regarded as invaluable to India's development. Justify this by explaining the economic and ecological significance of mountainous regions for the country.

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q13. deep | thorough-understanding | § LAND RESOURCES **[3]**

India's forest cover remains far below the 33% of total geographical area recommended in the National Forest Policy (1952), yet the net sown area has also not increased significantly since 1960–61. If forests haven't grown and farmland hasn't grown much either, what does this suggest about where land has actually been shifting, and what are the likely consequences of this trend?

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q14. medium | thorough-understanding | § LAND UTILISATION **[3]**

The net sown area (NSA) in Punjab and Haryana exceeds 80% of their total area, while in Arunachal Pradesh it is less than 10%. Using your understanding of the physical and human factors that determine land use, explain why such a stark contrast exists between these regions.

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q15. deep | thorough-understanding | § LAND UTILISATION **[3]**

India's forest cover has consistently remained well below the 33% target set by the National Forest Policy, 1952, while land under non-agricultural uses such as settlements, roads, and industries has steadily increased over the same period. Analyse these two trends together and discuss what they reveal about India's approach to land use. What are the long-term consequences of this pattern for ecological balance and sustainable development?

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q16. medium | thorough-understanding | § LAND USE PATTERN IN INDIA **[3]**

The net sown area (NSA) in Punjab and Haryana exceeds 80% of their total area, while in states like Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur it is below 10%. What combination of physical and human factors best explains this sharp contrast?

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q17. medium | thorough-understanding | § LAND USE PATTERN IN INDIA **[1]**

[short_answer] India's actual forest cover remains far below one-third of its total geographical area — a long-standing national goal. Suggest two major reasons why India has struggled to achieve this target despite decades of conservation planning.

A The National Forest Policy was never formally adopted by the Indian government.
B Competing demands for land — such as settlements, roads, industries and agriculture — have continuously encroached on forest land.
C Forest soils are infertile and do not support any economically useful vegetation.
D India lacks the technology required to carry out afforestation on a large scale.

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q18. deep | thorough-understanding | § LAND USE PATTERN IN INDIA **[3]**

Land put to non-agricultural uses has been steadily rising in India. Explain why this trend, if unchecked, poses a threat to the country's food security.

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q19. medium | thorough-understanding | § LAND USE PATTERN IN INDIA **[2]**

[short_answer] India's net sown area figures do not include culturable waste land. Using this fact, assess whether India is utilising its full agricultural potential and suggest one reason why culturable waste land remains uncultivated.

◆ Resources and Development

Q20. deep | thorough-understanding | § LAND USE PATTERN IN INDIA **[3]**

The shrinking of permanent pasture and grazing land in India has continued even as the cattle population remains large. Analyse the consequences of this mismatch for both land quality and livelihoods.

◆ Resources and Development

Q21. deep | thorough-understanding | § LAND DEGRADATION AND CONSERVATION MEASURES **[3]**

In Punjab and Haryana, over-irrigation leads to land degradation through waterlogging, while in Jharkhand and Odisha, mining is the chief culprit. Although the human activities differ, explain the common underlying reason why both situations result in land that is difficult or impossible to cultivate.

◆ Resources and Development

Q22. medium | thorough-understanding | § LAND DEGRADATION AND CONSERVATION MEASURES **[3]**

Arid and semi-arid regions of India are particularly vulnerable to a specific form of land degradation driven by wind. (a) Name this process. (b) Describe any three measures recommended to check this process, explaining briefly how each one works.

◆ Resources and Development

Q23. deep | thorough-understanding | § SOIL AS A RESOURCE **[3]**

Soil is described as a 'living system' that takes millions of years to form even a few centimetres of depth. What does calling it a 'living system' imply about how we should treat soil as a resource?

◆ Resources and Development

Q24. medium | thorough-understanding | § SOIL AS A RESOURCE **[1]**

[mcq] Black soil develops deep cracks in summer due to its high clay content. Which of the following correctly explains why this property is considered agriculturally beneficial?
(A) The cracks allow rainwater to percolate quickly, preventing waterlogging
(B) The cracks aerate the soil and allow the soil to self-plough, mixing the lower and upper layers
(C) The cracks reduce salinity by allowing salts to escape through the surface
(D) The cracks increase the humus content by exposing the lower layers to sunlight

A The cracks form because the soil lacks clay; they help drain excess water quickly.
B The cracks form because the fine clayey soil shrinks on drying; they allow air to circulate and aerate the soil.
C The cracks form because the soil is sandy; they help roots penetrate deeper.
D The cracks form due to high phosphoric content; they increase the alkalinity of the soil.

◆ Resources and Development

Q25. medium | thorough-understanding | § SOIL AS A RESOURCE **[3]**

Alluvial soils are further classified as Bangar and Khadar on the basis of their age. Distinguish between the two, and explain which of the two is considered more fertile and why.

◆ Resources and Development

Q26. medium | thorough-understanding | § SOIL AS A RESOURCE **[1]**

Laterite soil is formed under tropical conditions with alternate wet and dry seasons. What specific process during the wet season is primarily responsible for making this soil generally poor in plant nutrients?

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q27. deep | thorough-understanding | § SOIL AS A RESOURCE **[2]**

Despite being generally acidic and deficient in nutrients, laterite soils in Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu are successfully used for tea and coffee cultivation. What does this tell us about the relationship between soil quality and agricultural productivity?

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q28. straightforward | thorough-understanding | § SOIL AS A RESOURCE **[1]**

[very_short_answer] In the Chambal basin, running water cuts through clayey soils and forms deep channels, rendering large stretches of land unfit for cultivation. What is this type of eroded, uncultivable land commonly referred to as, and what is the process of erosion responsible for it called?

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q29. deep | thorough-understanding | § SOIL AS A RESOURCE **[3]**

A farmer in western Rajasthan notices that water does not seep into the lower layers of the arid soil easily, even after irrigation. Using your understanding of arid soil formation, explain the reason for this and suggest what has been done to overcome the resulting limitation.

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q30. medium | thorough-understanding | § SOIL AS A RESOURCE **[5]**

Soil erosion and soil formation are described as simultaneous processes that are normally in balance. Identify any THREE human activities that disturb this balance and accelerate erosion, and for each, briefly explain the mechanism by which it causes erosion.

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q31. medium | thorough-understanding | § SOIL AS A RESOURCE **[2]**

[very_short_answer] Red soils appear red in colour but turn yellow when found in hydrated form. Name the mineral responsible for this colour difference and identify the type of rock on which red soils typically develop.

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q32. medium | thorough-understanding | § SOIL AS A RESOURCE **[3]**

Contour ploughing, terrace cultivation, strip cropping and shelter belts are all methods of soil conservation. Explain how ANY TWO of these methods work, making clear the physical process each one interrupts or slows down.

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q33. deep | thorough-understanding | § SOIL AS A RESOURCE **[2]**

Black soil is described as sticky when wet and difficult to work on. Farmers are advised to till it immediately after the first shower or during the pre-monsoon period. Using the properties of black soil, justify this farming practice.

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q34. medium | thorough-understanding | § SOIL AS A RESOURCE **[3]**

[short_answer] Forest soils are found across varied mountain environments. Compare the characteristics — in terms of texture, humus content and fertility — of forest soils found on the upper slopes of mountains with those found on valley sides and river terraces, and account for the differences.

◆ Resources and Development

Q35. deep | thorough-understanding | § SOIL AS A RESOURCE **[5]**

Alluvial soils cover the entire northern plains and parts of the eastern coastal deltas and are intensively cultivated. Using the properties of alluvial soil and the chapter's broader argument about resources, explain why high resource availability alone does not guarantee economic development across all alluvial regions.

◆ Resources and Development

Q36. deep | thorough-understanding | § (whole-chapter synthesis) **[3]**

Rajasthan is rich in solar and wind energy but lacks water resources, yet it remains economically underdeveloped. Arunachal Pradesh has abundant water resources but also lags behind economically. What common factor — beyond resource availability — does this pattern highlight as essential for development, and how does India's resource planning process attempt to address it?

◆ Resources and Development

Q37. medium | thorough-understanding | § (whole-chapter synthesis) **[3]**

[short_answer] Gandhiji said, 'There is enough for everybody's need and not for anybody's greed.' Using this idea as a lens, explain how unchecked human greed drives both resource depletion at the national level and specific causes of land degradation in India.

◆ Resources and Development

Q38. deep | thorough-understanding | § (whole-chapter synthesis) **[3]**

Both arid soils and laterite soils are affected by climatic extremes, yet the nature of their degradation and the reason they lack humus are different. Compare these two soils on the basis of: (i) the climatic condition responsible for humus deficiency, (ii) the specific process that degrades or limits each soil's fertility, and (iii) one crop for which each can be made productive.

◆ Resources and Development

Q39. medium | thorough-understanding | § (whole-chapter synthesis) **[1]**

[mcq] Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh are rich in minerals and coal, yet they record some of the highest rates of land degradation in India. Which one of the following best explains this paradox?
(A) These states receive very low rainfall, causing arid soil conditions.
(B) Mining activities leave behind abandoned pits, debris, and toxic effluents that permanently damage land.
(C) Over-irrigation in these states leads to waterlogging and soil salinity.
(D) Intensive shifting cultivation strips the topsoil of all nutrients.

A Mining activities leave deep scars, cause deforestation and generate dust that retards water infiltration into the soil.
B These regions receive very high rainfall that causes intense leaching of the topsoil.
C Over-irrigation in these states leads to waterlogging and increase in soil salinity.
D The soils in these regions are laterite, which are inherently prone to erosion.

◆ Resources and Development

Q40. medium | thorough-understanding | § (whole-chapter synthesis) **[3]**

The chapter argues that 'resources are not free gifts of nature' and that human beings are essential components of resources. Using the example of any ONE soil type and ONE method of soil conservation, explain how human intervention can both degrade a resource and restore its utility.

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q41. deep | thorough-understanding | § (whole-chapter synthesis) **[5]**

Sustainable development requires that present development does not compromise the needs of future generations. Analyse how THREE of the following — over-irrigation, mining without reclamation, deforestation, and ploughing up-and-down slopes — each violate this principle by creating a specific, lasting form of land or soil damage.

◆ **Resources and Development**

Q42. medium | thorough-understanding | § (whole-chapter synthesis) **[3]**

Sheet erosion and gully erosion both result from running water, yet they damage agricultural land in fundamentally different ways. Explain the mechanism of each, identify the type of land they produce, and state one farming practice that can reduce water-induced soil erosion in general.

◆ **Resources and Development**

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