

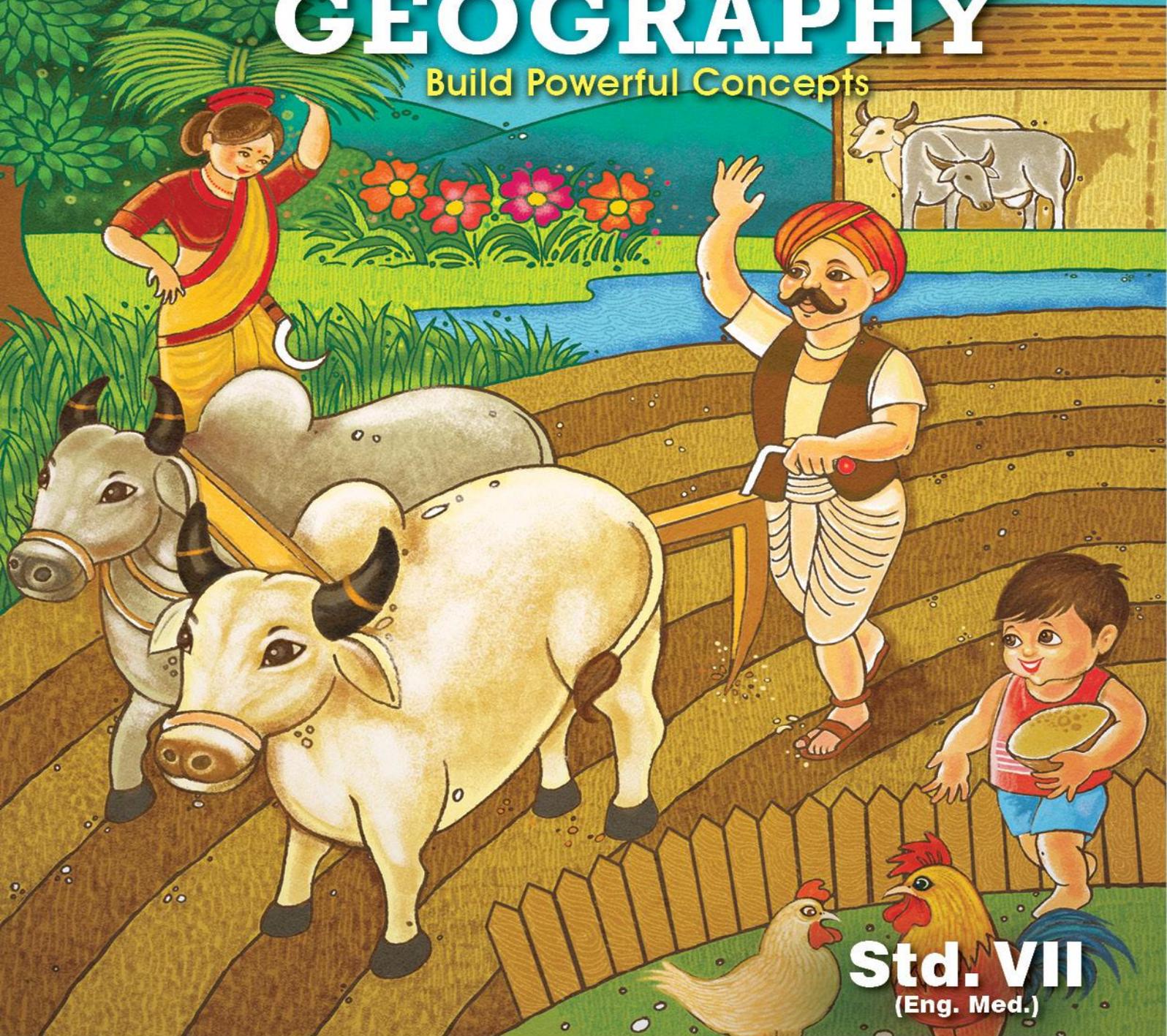
**SAMPLE CONTENT**



Perfect Notes

# GEOGRAPHY

Build Powerful Concepts



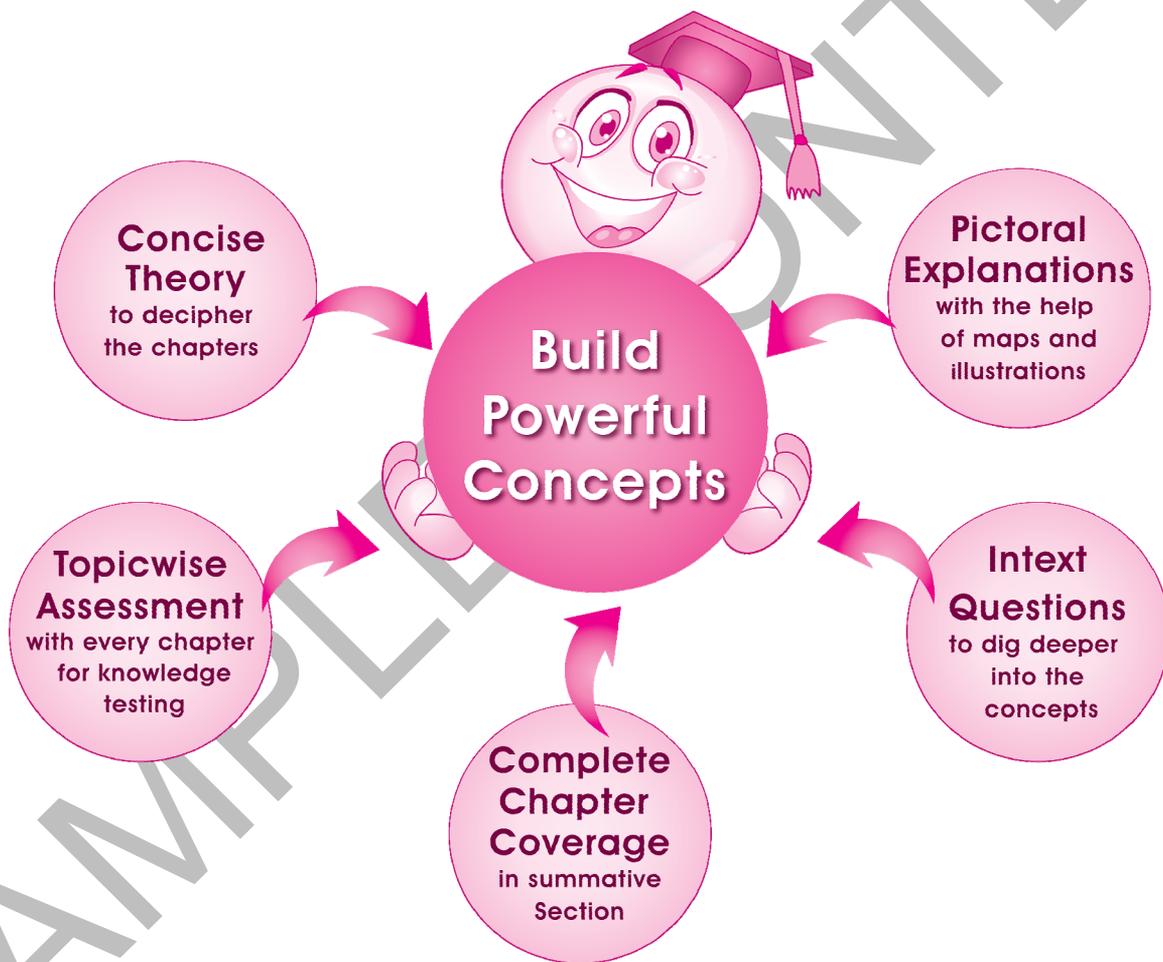
**Std. VII**  
(Eng. Med.)

**Target** Publications® Pvt. Ltd.

Based on the latest syllabus prescribed by the Maharashtra State Bureau  
of Textbook Production and Curriculum Research, Pune.

# STD. VII

# Geography



Printed at: **Quarterfold Printabilities**, Navi Mumbai

© Target Publications Pvt. Ltd.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, C.D. ROM/Audio Video Cassettes or electronic, mechanical including photocopying; recording or by any information storage and retrieval system without permission in writing from the Publisher.

# PREFACE

Our “**Std VII: Geography**” book has been prepared as per the new ‘Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation’ (CCE) system which is more child-centric and focuses on active learning and making the process of education more enjoyable and interesting. This book comes equipped with Summaries, Maps and Illustrations, Formative and Summative Questions and Answers and of course Assessment Tests. The goal of this book is to simplify the Text Book and break it into smaller chunks so as to make it easier for the students to comprehend the subject.

Every chapter in the book begins with a **topic wise concise Summary** that gives the readers a snapshot of the chapter. It further covers the **Summative Section** which includes Questions and Answers based upon the chapters and ensures that no point in the chapter is left uncovered.

The section that follows consists of **Formative Assessment**. In this segment, we've answered as many Questions as we could and deemed necessary. To be judicious towards the exercise, we've left a few Questions unanswered and have expected the students to answer them on their own. However, this was done either based on the nature of the questions or to prod the students to dig deeper into the given topics.

At the end of every chapter, we've included an **Assessment Test**. This test gives students a chance to test their knowledge based on what they've learned so far. To provide general and understandable explanation of the difficult terms, ‘**Glossary**’ is included at the end of the book. **Additional information** is added to trigger the students’ thought process.

We hope this book turns out to be more than a guiding angel for the students of Std. VII.

The journey to create a complete book is strewn with triumphs, failures and near misses. If you think we’ve nearly missed something or want to applaud us for our triumphs, we’d love to hear from you.

Please write to us at: [mail@targetpublications.org](mailto:mail@targetpublications.org)

*A book affects eternity; one can never tell where its influence stops.*

***Best of luck to all the aspirants!***

From,  
Publisher

**Edition:** Second

---

## Disclaimer

This reference book is transformative work based on ‘Geography; First Edition: 2017’ published by the Maharashtra State Bureau of Textbook Production and Curriculum Research, Pune. We the publishers are making this reference book which constitutes as fair use of textual contents which are transformed by adding and elaborating, with a view to simplify the same to enable the students to understand, memorize and reproduce the same in examinations.

This work is purely inspired upon the course work as prescribed by the Maharashtra State Bureau of Textbook Production and Curriculum Research, Pune. Every care has been taken in the publication of this reference book by the Authors while creating the contents. The Authors and the Publishers shall not be responsible for any loss or damages caused to any person on account of errors or omissions which might have crept in or disagreement of any third party on the point of view expressed in the reference book.

© reserved with the Publisher for all the contents created by our Authors.

No copyright is claimed in the textual contents which are presented as part of fair dealing with a view to provide best supplementary study material for the benefit of students.

---

# Contents

No.	Topic Name	Page No.
1.	How Seasons Occur - Part 1	1
2.	The Sun, the Moon and the Earth	4
3.	Tides	16
4.	Air Pressure	28
5.	Winds	37
6.	Natural Regions	51
7.	Soils	61
8.	How Seasons Occur - Part 2	72
9.	Agriculture	84
10.	Human Settlements	98
11.	Contour Maps and Landforms	109
	Glossary	113

*Note: Textual Questions are represented by \* mark.*

# 9. Agriculture



## Let's Study

1. The occupations like cultivation of crops, cattle rearing, sheep and goats rearing, maintaining poultry farms, keeping bees, sericulture, horticulture, orchardry, pisciculture, pig farming, emu farming, etc. which are based on natural factors and satisfy the basic needs of food and clothing are considered as agricultural occupations. These occupations require resources like manpower, animals, implements as well as advanced technology.
2. Cultivation of crops is most important among all the agricultural occupations.

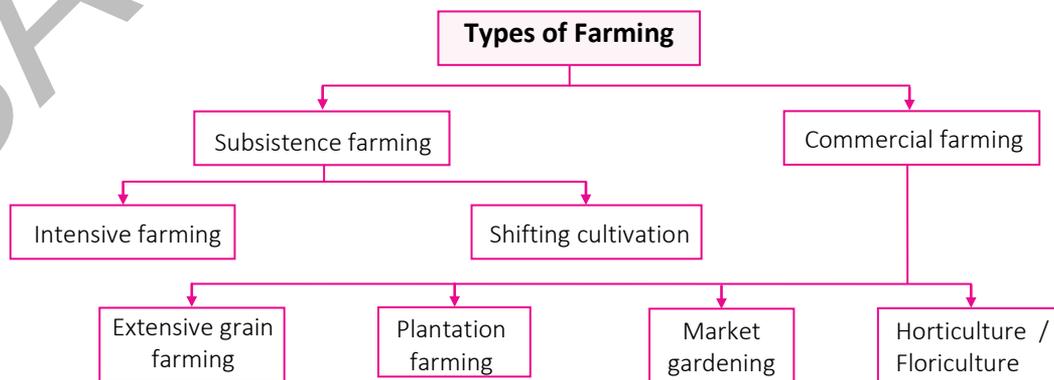
### Different Types of Agricultural Occupations

1. **Animal husbandry:** It includes rearing of animals and obtaining different products from them for subsistence. It includes the following occupations.
  - i. **Dairy Farming:** Rearing milch animals like cows, oxen, buffaloes, etc. for agriculture related work as well as for milk and meat is known as dairy farming.
  - ii. **Sheep and Goat Rearing:** In India, sheep and goats are mainly reared for meat. Sheep rearing is also carried out to obtain wool. The rearing of sheep and goats is carried out in hilly tracts and semi-arid regions with dry climate, away from urban settlements.
  - iii. **Poultry:** Commercial rearing of hens and fowls is carried out, in areas close to big cities for eggs and meat, by employing scientific methods. In some areas, pig, rabbit and emu rearing is also undertaken.
2. **Beekeeping:** Beekeeping is undertaken to obtain honey and wax. Bees also promote the process of pollination, which results in increased yield of crops and larger fruits on trees.
3. **Pisciculture (Fish farming):** Rearing of specific type of fish species like Wam, Roha, Rawas (Indian Salmon), Kolambi (Prawns), etc. separately in fish farms for commercial purpose is called as pisciculture.
4. **Sericulture:**
  - i. The rearing of moths of silk worm on leaves of Mulberry trees for commercial purposes is known as sericulture.
  - ii. Getting silk thread from cocoons of silk moth and manufacturing silk cloth from it are independent occupations and are not included in agricultural occupations.
5. **Nursery:**

The rise of occupations like floriculture, cultivation of medicinal & aromatic plants and horticulture, which require a high standard of seedlings, cutting, bulbs and seeds have led to the development of nurseries.

### Types of Farming

**Types of Farming:** Based on the purpose and aim of methods of farming, the crops being cultivated, the techniques used, land used etc., agriculture can be categorized as follows:





1. **Subsistence Farming:** The farming carried out for satisfying only the basic requirements of man is known as subsistence farming.
  - i. **Intensive Farming:**
    - a. Getting maximum production from minimum area
    - b. Only suffices the requirement of the family cultivating the land.
    - c. It is done on limited land and is carried out mostly in developing regions. Cereals, vegetables etc. are grown.
  - ii. **Shifting Cultivation:**
    - a. It is carried out in the tropics in densely forested areas or hilly tracts.
    - b. A piece of land in the forest is selected and is made cultivable by the farmer by clearing the land.
    - c. Since the production obtained from this is not sufficient, people undertake other occupations like hunting, fishing and gathering of bulbs and roots from forests.
    - d. The productivity of the land depletes in two or three years, a different piece of land is selected for cultivation.
2. **Commercial farming:** The farming carried out to fulfill the basic needs as well as for commercial gains is known as commercial farming.
  - i. **Extensive Grain Farming:**
    - a. It is carried out in farms that are greater than 200 hectares in size, with the help of machines like tractors and crushers.
    - b. Pesticides are sprayed with the help of helicopters or planes.
    - c. It is carried out in temperate grassland region and generally a single crop is cultivated at a time.
    - d. Crops like wheat, corn, barley, oats, soyabean, etc. are cultivated.
    - e. It requires heavy capital investment.
  - ii. **Plantation Farming:**
    - a. It is practised in hilly tracts, where a crop suitable for that geographical condition is cultivated.
    - b. It is practised in hilly regions, use of machines becomes difficult and so usage of local manpower becomes vital.
    - c. The farms are around 40 hectares or above and here only commercial crops like tea, rubber, coffee, coconut cocoa, spices, etc. are planted.
  - iii. **Market Gardening:**
    - a. Majorly seen in the vicinity of modern cities and works on the principle of demand and supply.
    - b. It caters to the demands of the city dwellers.
    - c. Its characteristics are - use of irrigation, organic and chemical fertilizers, low investment, use of manpower, demand of markets, use of science and technology, etc.
    - d. As the quality and price of the product is determined by quick and efficient transport network, so it is known as 'truck farming'.
  - iv. **Horticulture / Floriculture:**
    - a. It is a subtype of market gardening.
    - b. It includes cultivation of fruits and flowers using modern as well as traditional methods.
    - c. The size of farm is small and every plant is cared for properly.
    - d. Flowers like lily, gerbera, tulip, dahlia, chrysanthemum, marigold, etc. and fruits like mangoes, custard apples, grapes, bananas, pomegranates, dragon fruits, cherries, oranges, raspberries, strawberries, mulberries, etc. are cultivated in such types of farming.

### Other Types of Farming

1. **Greenhouse farming:**
  - i. It is a specialized type of farming of modern era, which involves a total control on natural factors like climate, heat, atmospheric moisture as well as soil moisture.
  - ii. Its main aim is to control the pest attack by controlling water, light and temperature.



- iii. This type of farming is used to get maximum returns.
- iv. Moreover, this type of farming is practised for cultivating flowers like lily and gerbera.

## 2. Organic Farming:

- i. It is done by using the vestal matter that is mixed in the soil, without making use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides.
- ii. For this, litter is decomposed in the ground, manures are obtained by burying grasses like sesbania or jute, cowdung and compost manures as also the vermicompost from organic waste are used.
- iii. Neem leaves are used for controlling pests.
- iv. The crops obtained from organic farming are of high quality.

### Agrotourism

1. Agrotourism is a new type of tourism which has a greater scope in tropics, where various types of agricultural products are cultivated.
2. It has mainly developed due to the curiosity of city dwellers about the farmer's life and environment.
3. The rural life, local customs and traditions, etc. are characteristics of agrotourism.
4. It is financially beneficial for the farmer and his village.

### Marketing systems

1. The goods produced by farmers are made available to the consumer at a fair price and in time, with the help of marketing systems.
2. In countries like India, where agriculture is scattered over vast areas, farmers are not organized and are economically weak and the farm produce is perishable, the importance of marketing systems increases.
3. Now-a-days, Agricultural Produce Market Committees help farmers sell their produce and institutes like farmer's organizations, consumer societies, etc. protect the farmers from exploitation by agents, mediators, etc.
4. Some of the farm produce is directly made available to industries as raw material.
5. Modern technology is being used by many farmers in their farms. They also sell their products with proper packaging.
6. Advertising over internet has helped in selling the products in local as well international markets.

### Israel: A major exporter of fresh farm products

1. Israel has adverse climate, severe scarcity of water and more than half of its land is occupied by deserts.
2. However, with the help of advanced agricultural technology, it has overcome all the unfavourable conditions.
3. By persistently following the path of modernization in agriculture, it has progressed a lot in the field of agriculture and become a major exporter of fresh farm produce.

### Summative Evaluation



**Rewrite the following statements after choosing the correct option:**

- \*1. Agriculture requires the following:
  - (A) Only ploughing
  - (B) Use of animals, implements, machines and manpower
  - (C) Use of only manpower
  - (D) Just cultivate the crop



- \*2. In which of the following type of farming are the crops rotated?  
 (A) Intensive (B) Plantation (C) Commercial (D) All of these
3. Extensive grain farming is carried out with the help of tractors and crushers due to .....  
 (A) large farm size and sparse population (B) favourable geographical conditions  
 (C) unavailability of heavy capital investment (D) plantations on hilly tracts
4. Market gardening is also known as 'truck farming' because .....  
 (A) it is a type of cultivation developed in modern cities  
 (B) it works on the principle of economics  
 (C) it is dependent on good transport network  
 (D) it uses organic and chemical fertilizers
- \*5. In India, agriculture has developed because .....  
 (A) there are two seasons of agriculture in India  
 (B) majority of the people depend on agriculture  
 (C) traditional agriculture is practised in India  
 (D) In India factors like climate, soils, water, etc. are conducive.
- \*6. It is necessary that modern methods and technology be used in agriculture in India because .....  
 (A) there are factories producing improved seeds  
 (B) there are industries producing fertilizers  
 (C) population is growing and there are agro-based industries  
 (D) modern means and machines are available

**Answers:**

- Use of animals, implements, machines and manpower
- Intensive
- large farm size and sparse population
- it is dependent on good transport network
- In India factors like climate, soils, water, etc. are conducive.
- population is growing and there are agro-based industries

**Match the Following**

1. Match the types of farming given in group 'A' with the regions where they are practiced mentioned in group 'B'.

Group 'A'		Group 'B'	
1.	Shifting cultivation	a.	Carried out in temperate grassland regions
2.	Plantation farming	b.	Countries having Mediterranean climate
3.	Extensive grain farming	c.	Practised in the tropics in densely forested areas
4.	Horticulture	d.	Practised in hilly tracts

Ans: (1 - c), (2 - d), (3 - a), (4 - b)

**Right or Wrong? If Wrong, write the correct sentence.**

1. In India, commercial poultry farming is carried out in the areas close to big cities.

Ans: Right.

2. Extensive grain farming and shifting plantation are types of subsistence farming.

Ans: Wrong.

Intensive farming and shifting cultivation are types of subsistence farming.

3. Multiple crop cultivation is a characteristic of commercial farming.

Ans: Wrong.

Monocrop cultivation is a characteristic of commercial farming.



4. **Chemical fertilizers and pesticides are not used in organic farming.**

Ans: Right

5. **Due to globalization, international markets are now becoming easily available for farm produce.**

Ans: Right



**Answer in one sentence**

1. **What is the core of animal husbandry?**

Ans: Rearing different animals and obtaining various products from them for subsistence is the core of animal husbandry.

2. **What is considered to be an inseparable part of mixed farming?**

Ans: Rearing milch animals and animals which can be employed in farming is considered to be an inseparable part of mixed farming.

3. **Where is sheep and goat rearing generally carried out?**

Ans: Sheep and goat rearing is generally carried out in hilly tracts and semi-arid regions with dry climate.

4. **Which are the two independent occupations derived out of sericulture?**

Ans: Getting silk thread from cocoons and manufacturing of silk cloth are two independent occupations derived out of sericulture.

5. **What is the main aim of Greenhouse farming?**

Ans: The main aim of Greenhouse farming is to control pest attack by controlling water, light and temperature.

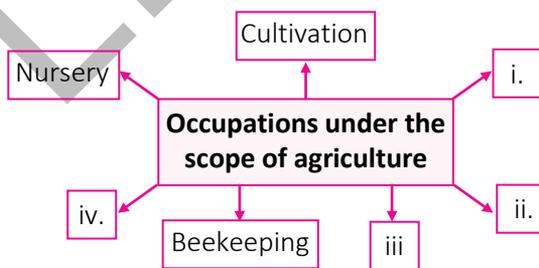
6. **Where is the shifting type of cultivation generally practised?**

Ans: The shifting type of cultivation is generally practised in the tropics in densely forested areas or hilly tracts.



**Complete the flow chart**

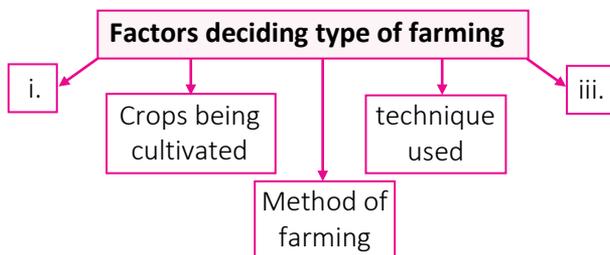
1.



Ans: i. Animal husbandry  
iii. Poultry

ii. Pisciculture  
iv. Sericulture

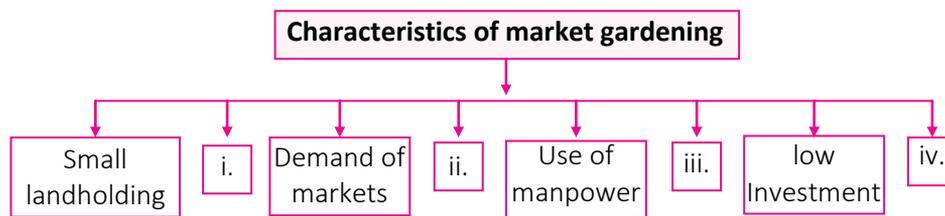
2.



Ans: i. Purpose and aim of farming ii. Land use

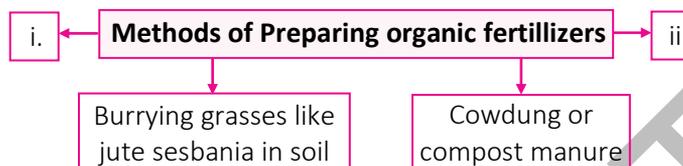


3.



- Ans:** i. Use of irrigation  
 ii. Use of organic and chemical fertilizers.  
 iii. Use of science and technology  
 iv. Dependence on good transport Network

4.



- Ans:** i. Decomposing litter in ground  
 ii. vermicompost obtained from organic waste



### Differentiate between the following

#### 1. Extensive Grain Farming and Plantation Farming

Ans:

Sr. No.	Extensive Grain Farming	Plantation Farming
i.	In this type of farming, the farm size is greater than 200 hectares.	In this type of farming, the farm size is around 40 hectares or above.
ii.	Due to huge farm size and sparse population, this type of farming is carried out with the help of machines like tractors, crushers etc.	As the plantations are in hilly tract, machines cannot be used for this type of farming. Hence, Local manpower is used.
iii.	This type of farming is carried out in temperate grassland regions.	It is practised in India & other South Asian Countries, Africa, South & Central America, etc.
iv.	Crops such as wheat, corn, barley, oats, soyabean, etc. are cultivated in this type of farming.	The commercial crops such as tea, rubber, coffee, coconut, cocoa, spices etc. are cultivated in this type of farming.

#### 2. Intensive Farming and Shifting Cultivation

Ans:

Sr. No.	Intensive Farming	Shifting Cultivation
i.	Intensive farming is carried out on the same piece of land for years together.	In shifting cultivation, every two-three years a new areas is selected for cultivation.
ii.	In this type of farming, the cultivator and his family depends totally on the farming.	The production obtained from this type of farming is not sufficient and hence the cultivators also undertake hunting, fishing, gathering of bulbs and roots from forests etc.



### Answer in short

#### 1. How do bees help in increasing the yield of crops?

- Ans:**
- Bees hover around flower bearing plants in order to collect honey (nectar).
  - This promotes the process of pollination.
  - Due to this, the trees bear large number of fruits and thus the yield of crops increases.

#### 2. How is fish farming or pisciculture carried out?

- Ans.**
- Fish farming or pisciculture is carried out in farm ponds which are dug specially for this purpose.
  - Water is stored in such ponds and fish seeds of freshwater species are released in these ponds.
  - Scientific methods are employed to achieve the best growth of fish.

#### 3. What are the different risk factors of fishing in open seas?

**Ans:** The risk factors associated with fishing in open seas are as follows:

- Different aquatic organisms may get caught in the fishing nets. Separating them from the fishes becomes a difficult task.
- All the organisms which are caught in the net do not fetch the same price on selling.

#### 4. How does the farmer prepares a cultivable land in shifting type of cultivation?

- Ans.**
- In shifting type of cultivation, the farmer initially selects a piece of land in the forest.
  - In order to make it cultivable, he clears the land by cutting down trees, plants, removing the shrubs and grass.
  - After the cut trees dry out, the farmer burns them and the leftover ash mixes with the soil and acts as manure.

Thus, a cultivable land is prepared by the farmer.

#### 5. Use your brain power! (Textbook page no. 57)

##### i. Why does extensive commercial farming need more capital?

- Ans:**
- Extensive commercial farming is carried out in farms that are greater than 200 hectares in size.
  - Due to such large farm size and sparse population, farming is carried out with the help of machines like tractors and crushers.
  - Also pesticides are sprayed with the help of helicopters or planes.
- Due to the above reasons, extensive commercial farming requires more capital.

##### ii. Why does plantation farming need skilled and experienced labour?

- Ans:**
- Plantation farming is carried out in hilly tracts.
  - It is difficult to use machines in such areas.
  - Also, in this type of farming the crops for which the geographical conditions are suitable are cultivated.
  - This requires skill and knowledge on the part of the cultivator that comes with experience.

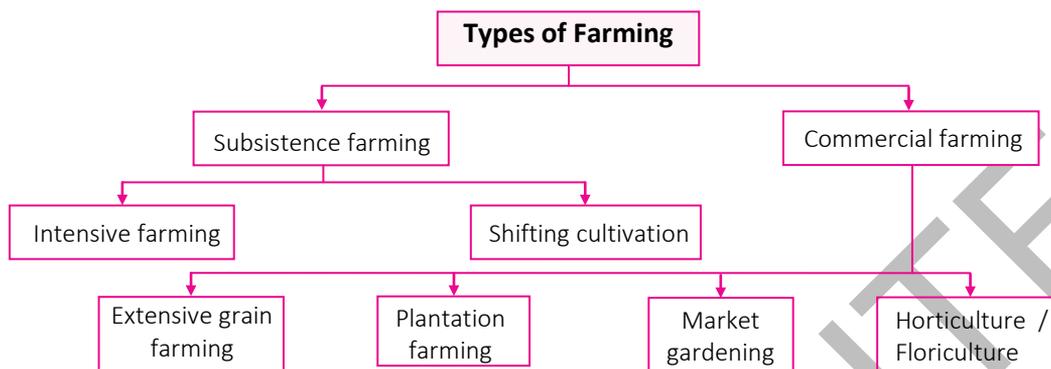
Hence, skilled and experienced local manpower is required for plantation farming.



### Answer in brief

**\*1. Mention the major types of farming and give information about intensive farming and extensive grain farming.**

**Ans:** Based on the purpose and aim of methods of farming, the crops being cultivated, the techniques used, land use, etc., the major types of farming can be classified as follows –



#### **Intensive farming:**

- It is a type of subsistence farming and is carried out in the same farm for many years and it is mostly seen in developing regions.
- The main characteristic of this type of farming is to get maximum production from minimum area.
- The per head holding of land is less due to its limited availability and large population.
- The cultivator and his family are totally dependent on this type of farming. Due to low farm production, the produce is sufficient to fulfil only the family's requirement and hence the economic condition of the cultivator is poor.
- In this farming, mostly animate energy is used.
- Along with cereals, vegetables are grown to some extent.

#### **Extensive Grain Farming:**

- It is a type of commercial farming and is carried out in farms greater than 200 hectares in size in temperate grassland regions.
- This type of farming requires the use of machines like tractors and crushers due to the large farm size and sparse population. Also helicopters or planes are used to spray pesticides over farms where extensive grain farming is undertaken. Therefore a large capital investment is required for this type of farming.
- Monocrop cultivation is the main characteristic of this type of farming. The different types of crops cultivated include wheat, corn, barley, oats, soyabean, etc.
- Droughts, attack by pests, locusts, etc. and market fluctuations are some of the problems faced by this type of farming.

**\*2. Describe the characteristics of Plantation Farming.**

**Ans:** Plantation farming is a type of commercial farming.

The characteristics of plantation farming are stated as follows -

- Plantation is carried out in hilly tracts of tropical regions, in farms of above 40 hectares in size.
- As use of machines is not possible in these areas, local manpower is utilized.
- Plantation farming is a single crop cultivation technique. Here, the crops for which the geographical conditions are favourable are cultivated.
- Foodgrains are not cultivated in this type of farming. Commercial crops like tea, rubber, coffee, coconut, cocoa, spices, etc. are cultivated.
- The long duration of crops, use of scientific methods, exportable production, processing etc. in this type of farming requires large scale capital investment.



- vi. Some of the issues faced by this type of farming include climate, manpower, deterioration of environment, economic and managerial problems, etc.
- vii. This type of farming is practised in India and other South Asian countries as well as in Africa, South and Central America, etc.

### 3. Write in short about horticulture and floriculture.

- Ans:**
- i. Horticulture and floriculture are subtypes of market gardening and consists of cultivation of fruits and flowers.
  - ii. Here, the farm sizes are small and both, modern as well as traditional methods of farming are used. Each sapling is nurtured properly.
  - iii. In recent times, irrigation, chemical fertilizers, green houses are also used for getting more profit.
  - iv. Flowers like lily, gerbera, tulip, dahlia, chrysanthemum, marigold, etc. are major products of horticulture.
  - v. Countries like France, Italy and those having Mediterranean climate are famous for horticulture.
  - vi. The fruits which are cultivated in fruit farming include mangoes, custard apples, grapes, bananas, pomegranates, dragon fruits, cherries, oranges, raspberries, strawberries, mulberries, etc.
  - vii. Fruit farming is seen at places like Mahabaleshwar, Panchgani, Pune, Nagpur, Jalgaon, Nashik, etc.

### 4. Write in short about Marketing Systems.

- Ans:**
- i. Marketing systems help to make the goods produced by the farmers available to the consumer at a fair price and in time.
  - ii. They are important because agriculture in India is scattered over vast areas and all the farmers and not organized.
  - iii. Agricultural Produce Market Committees help the farmers from economically weak background to market their production. The farmers bring their produce at these places and sell to the traders.
  - iv. Institutes like farmer's organizations, consumer committees, etc. help in making proper arrangement for the sale of perishable goods and also try to protect farmers from the exploitation by agents, mediators and others.
  - v. Part of the farm produce is directly made available to industries as raw material.
  - vi. Many farmers use modern technology in their farms and also sell their products with proper packaging.
  - vii. Due to globalization, advertising over internet helps in selling the products not only in local markets but also in international markets.



### Write Short Notes

#### 1. Greenhouse Farming

- Ans:**
- i. Greenhouse farming is a highly specialized farming of the modern era. It helps to get maximum product from land.
  - ii. This type of farming can have total control over factors like climate, heat, atmospheric moisture and soil moisture.
  - iii. Its main aim is to control water, light and temperature to prevent attacks from pest and assists in getting maximum economic benefits.
  - iv. A greenhouse is erected using galvanized iron pipes and plastic sheets.
  - v. They are used on larger scales for growing flowers like lily and gerbera.

#### 2. Market Gardening

- Ans:**
- i. Market gardening is a type of cultivation developed as a result of urbanization and the ready markets available in urban centres.
  - ii. This type of cultivation works on the economic principle of supply and demand.
  - iii. The land holding in this type of cultivation is small.
  - iv. The main characteristics of this type of farming include the use of irrigation, organic and chemical fertilizers, low investment, use of manpower, demand of markets, use of science and technology, etc.
  - v. Since, the quality and price of the product is dependent on rapid transport, this type of farming is also known as 'truck farming'.



### 3. Organic Farming

- Ans:**
- The farming done using all the vestal matter mixed in the soil is known as organic farming.
  - Chemical fertilizers and pesticides are not used in this type of farming.
  - When the nutrients of the soil get used up by the crop, it needs to be replenished. Also, additional nutrients are required to increase the yield of the crop.
  - Organic fertilizers are prepared for replenishing the nutrient level of the soil, by the following methods:
    - Decomposing the litter in the ground
    - Burying grasses like sesbania or jute in the soil for making manures
    - Using cowdung or compost manures
    - Obtaining vermicompost from organic waste
  - Also, organic pesticides like *neem* are used for controlling the pests.
  - The crop obtained from organic farming is high in quality.

### 4. Agrotourism

- Ans:**
- Agrotourism is a new field in tourism, which has developed in agrarian countries.
  - It is based on the curiosity of the city dwellers about farmer's life and rural environment. Many of them visit rural areas to experience rural life.
  - Since various types of agricultural products are cultivated in the tropics, agrotourism has a greater scope in these regions.
  - Agrotourism is financially beneficial for the farmer and his village.



#### Give reasons

#### 1. In intensive farming, the economic condition of farmer is poor.

- Ans:**
- Intensive farming is carried out in limited area of land.
  - Hence, the farm production is low; which can only suffice the farmer's family requirement.
  - Also, the cultivator and his family are totally dependent on farming.
- Due to all this, the economic condition of farmer is poor.

#### 2. People practicing shifting cultivation also undertake other activities in forests.

- Ans:**
- In shifting cultivation type of farming, the production obtained is not sufficient to fulfill the food requirement.
  - The fallow period in this type of farming is longer than the crop period.
  - Also, the productivity of the land depletes in two or three years and a different piece of land needs to be selected for farming.

Hence, people practicing shifting cultivation also undertake other activities like hunting, fishing and gathering of bulbs and roots from forests.

#### 3. The fruits and vegetables that appear fresh and attractive may not always be good.

- Ans:**
- Various artificial chemicals and pesticides are used on plants to get earlier produce.
  - Due to this, a part from getting quicker production, the produce also appears fresh and attractive.
  - However, the fruits and vegetables produced by such methods are harmful to health and do not last long enough.

Thus, the fruits and vegetables which appear fresh and attractive may not always be good.

#### Formative Evaluation

#### Answer in your own words

##### \*1. Which are the crops cultivated in your area? What are the geographical reasons for that?

- Ans:**
- The crops grown in the area near my village i.e. Konkan, are rice, coconuts, mangoes, cashew, etc.
  - Rice plantation requires ample amount of water supply. Since, this region receives heavy rainfall, rice farming is carried out there.
  - Also, the humid climate over here is suitable for mango, coconut and cashew crops.



**\*2. Why is the agriculture in India seasonal in nature? What are the difficulties for perennial agriculture?**

- Ans.** i. Agriculture in India depends majorly on rainfall.  
 ii. India receives rain mainly from the south-western monsoon winds which is seasonal in nature.  
 iii. Modern techniques of irrigation, which are essential for perennial agriculture, are not used everywhere in India.  
 iv. Also, the water storage reservoirs required for providing continuous supply to farms is limited in India. Due to the above reasons, the agriculture in India is seasonal in nature.

**\*3. Describe the importance of irrigation for agriculture.**

- Ans:** i. Agriculture is dependent on various natural resources. Water is the most important among them.  
 ii. It is impossible to cultivate crops without adequate supply of water.  
 iii. As it rains only for a specific period in a year, it is necessary to provide proper irrigation to the crops in the remaining months.  
 iv. Agriculture can be carried out properly throughout the year only with the help of proper irrigation. Hence, irrigation is important for agriculture.

**\*4. Give a comparative account of any two methods of irrigation.**

- Ans.** i. Watering through canals and drip irrigation are both methods of irrigation.  
 ii. Traditionally, crops were watered through canals.  
 iii. However, in this process lot of water through canals is lost due to evaporation and seepage into the ground.  
 iv. Drip irrigation is a modern method which makes use of pipes with holes.  
 v. It ensures that only required amount of water drips near the plants.  
 vi. Thus, optimum usage of the available water is ensured in drip irrigation.



**Can you tell?** (Textbook page no. 52)

**See figure 9.1 from your textbook and discuss the following questions:**

**1. What all do you see in the picture?**

**Ans:** In the picture, we can see standing crops, a farmer holding a spade, cows and buffaloes being milked (an act of removing milk), a woman feeding the goats, a hen along with her chickens, a person collecting egg which is laid under a basket along with a hen too and a dog sitting outside the house.

**2. Why has the family kept goats and hens?**

**Ans:** The family must have kept the goats for milk and meat, while hens must have been kept for eggs and meat. The family could have also kept them to make money by selling them.

**3. Which implements are seen in the picture?**

**Ans:** A plough and a spade are the two implements seen in the picture.

**4. How are these implements used?**

**Ans:** The plough is used for ploughing the field before sowing seeds. Whereas, the spade is used for removing soil from a particular pit or place.

**5. In which major occupation type will the activities shown here be included?**

**Ans:** The activities shown in the picture fall majorly under agriculture.

**6. What could be the main occupation of these people?**

**Ans:** The main occupation of these people could be cultivation of crops.

**7. Who could be the owner of the house?**

**Ans:** The farmer shown with the spade could be the owner of the house.

**8. Which products shown in the above picture do you use daily?**

**Ans:** In our daily life, we consume the milk obtained from cows and buffaloes, meat obtained from goats, meat and eggs obtained from hen as well the food grains obtained from farming.



**Give it a try.** (Textbook page no. 53)

**1. Observe the pictures shown in figure 9.2 of your textbook. What differences do you observe through these pictures?**

**Ans:** The given pictures showcase the changes that have occurred in the way man undertook farming since the ancient times.

- i. The first set of pictures depicts the development in agricultural technology. The progress is stated as follows:
  - a. The initial picture shows man doing the agricultural work by himself, using his hands.
  - b. The next picture shows a farmer ploughing the field with help of bullocks and a plough.
  - c. The later picture shows modern machinery and equipments being used for farming.
- ii. The second set of pictures depicts the improvements that have taken place in irrigation methods. The progress is stated as follows:
  - a. The initial picture shows water being let to flow freely in the field through an outlet of a pipe.
  - b. The next picture shows the use of sprinkle irrigation.
  - c. The later picture shows the use of drip irrigation, which saves a lot of water as compared to the other types.
- iii. The third set of pictures depicts the changes that have occurred in poultry farming. The progress is stated as follows:
  - a. The initial picture shows hens being reared in the open.
  - b. The next picture shows the use of baskets for rearing hens, so that the eggs procured from them are safe.
  - c. The later picture shows use of modern poultry farming techniques. Here, the hens are reared on a large scale in such a manner that they get adequate food and water so that they give large produce of eggs.

**2. What changes have taken place in traditional agricultural practices?**

**Ans:** Traditionally, agriculture has been carried out with the help of animals like bullocks, oxen, etc. for ploughing the fields. However, with the advance in science and technology, machines like tractors and crushers etc. started being used for these activities.

Also, traditional agriculture used to be dependent on natural factors like rain. With the development of various irrigation techniques and water storage systems, water can now be made available to crops throughout the year.



**Can you tell?** (Textbook page no. 58)

**Observe the pictures in figure 9.12 from your textbook and briefly describe the type of agriculture shown in the picture.**

**Ans:**

i.	The first image shows fruit farming (Horticulture).	The second image shows extensive grain farming.	The third image shows plantation type of farming.	The fourth image shows intensive type of farming.
ii.	The size of farm is small and each plant requires proper attention and care.	The farm size is generally greater than 200 hectares.	The farm size is generally 40 hectares or above.	The farm size is small.
iii.	Modern as well as traditional methods of farming are used.	Farming is carried out with the help of machines.	The use of machines is less. More local manpower is used.	The farm is cultivated by the farmer and his family.



iv.	Use of irrigation, chemical fertilizers, green houses, etc. is done to get more profit.	Monocrop cultivation is practised in this type of farming.	Single crop cultivation is practised and crops suitable for the geographic conditions are selected. Generally, commercial crops are cultivated.	The farm production is sufficient only for the requirement of the farmer's family.
-----	---	--	---	--



**Use your brain power!** (Textbook page no. 59)

*The students are expected to attempt the activity mentioned in the textbook on their own.*



**Give it a try.** (Textbook page no. 60)

**Write a paragraph on the basis of the following questions:**

**[Note:** *The answer to the questions below may differ from student to student*]

**1. Which improper practices arising out of man's greed are observed in agriculture?**

**Ans:** Agriculture and related occupations are needed to fulfill the man's requirement of food. Humans have made advances in technology and developed new techniques of getting maximum production. However, excessive use of technology and artificial methods can hamper the quality of the production. For e.g. Excessive use of chemicals for faster ripening of fruits and vegetables can reduce nutritional levels.

**2. What means of irrigation are available in your area?**

**Ans:** Canal irrigation is used in several parts in Maharashtra. However, some of the farms also use modern irrigation techniques like drip irrigation and sprinkle irrigation.

**3. Have you observed the wastage of water in agriculture? If yes, describe it.**

**Ans:** Yes, I have observed wastage of water in agriculture. The traditional method of watering through canals leads to wastage of water. Here, water from canals is lost due to evaporation and seepage into the ground. Nonetheless, some improved methods of irrigation like drip irrigation and sprinkle irrigation can be followed that would help in avoiding wastage of water.

**4. Which steps can easily be taken to avoid improper practices in agriculture?**

**Ans:** Some improper practices in agriculture include - wastage of water due to improper irrigation methods, excessive use of chemical fertilizers that leads to their accumulation in the soil which in turn lowers the soil fertility and reduces its productivity, overwatering that makes the land saline and fallow. The steps that can be taken to avoid the above mentioned improper practices are - usage of modern irrigation methods like drip and sprinkle irrigation to reduce wastage of water, usage of chemical fertilizers only in required quantities.



**Use your brain power!** (Textbook page no. 60)

**In what different ways is ground water obtained for agriculture?**

**Ans:** i. Digging of wells is one of the methods of utilizing the ground water. Pumps can be used to draw the water from these wells which can then be used for irrigation and other purposes.  
ii. Bore wells are also dug at several places to get access to the ground water.



**Activity.**

- \*1. Visit a farm where modern technology is used for agriculture. Collect information about it.
- \*2. Collect the pictures of improved seeds and means of irrigation from the internet.
- \*3. Collect information regarding agriculture in Israel from the internet and present it.

*(Students are expected to attempt the above activities on their own.)*



## Chapter Assessment

## 1. Fill in the blanks.

- i. Commercial dairy farming is mainly undertaken for ..... and .....
- ii. Sheep and goats mainly survive on ....., ..... and ..... which grow in remote hilly rural areas.
- iii. The occupation of ..... is undertaken to obtain honey and wax.
- iv. Silk thread is obtained from the ..... of the silk moth.
- v. Leaves of ..... trees are the main food for the silk worms.
- vi. .... cultivation is a primitive type of cultivation.

## 2. Answer in Short.

- i. Write a note on poultry farming.
- ii. What do you mean by intensive farming?

## 3. Differentiate between.

Intensive farming and plantation farming

## Answers:

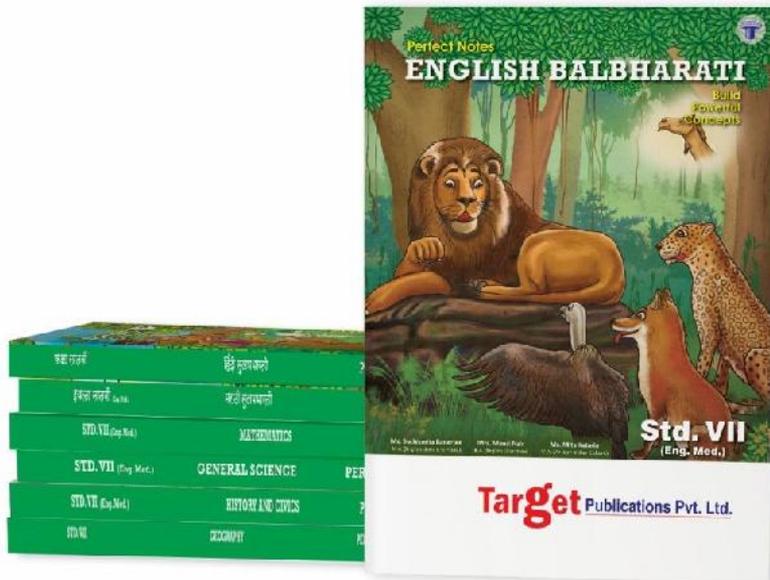
1.
  - i. meat, milk
  - ii. short grasses, shrubs, acacia
  - iii. beekeeping
  - iv. cocoon
  - v. Mulberry
  - vi. Shifting
2.
  - i.
    - a. Keeping hen and other fowl as household or on commercial basis is known as poultry farming. This is a traditional occupation.
    - b. For running a poultry on commercial basis lot of care has to be taken. Scientific methods are employed for this purpose.
    - c. In India, commercial poultries are generally found near big cities, due to the ready markets available for this occupation.
  - ii. Refer 'Answer in brief' Q. 1.

3.

Sr. No.	Intensive Farming	Plantation farming
i.	This is a subsistence farming and it produces cereals and vegetables for fulfilling the requirements of the farmer and his family.	This is carried out on commercial basis. Here, food grains are not produced. Instead, production of commercial crops is undertaken. e.g. tea, rubber, spices, etc.
ii.	The size of the farm is very small.	The size of the farm is around 40 hectares or above.
iii.	The cultivator and his family undertake this type of farming. Hence, additional manpower is not required.	Local manpower is required for undertaking this type of farming.
iv.	This type of farming does not require capital investment.	This type of farming requires large scale capital investment.



# Std. VII



## Available Subjects:

- English Balbharati
- हिंदी सुलभभारती
- मराठी सुलभभारती
- Mathematics
- General Science
- History & Civics
- Geography

## Salient Features

**BUY NOW**

- Based on the latest syllabus of Maharashtra State Board
- Extensive coverage of textual questions as well as additional question for practice
- Coverage of textual activity based questions to widen the knowledge spectrum of students
- Provision of Chapter wise Assessment in Mathematics, Social Studies and General Science for self-assessment
- A detailed glossary, Summary and Paraphrase is provided for all Chapters and Poems in languages

**Target** Publications® Pvt. Ltd.

88799 39712 / 13 / 14 / 15

mail@targetpublications.org

www.targetpublications.org