KAGZI · ORIGINAL STUDY SERIES

STUDY BOOK 02 · ENGLISH EDITION

Geography of India and the World

Physical, Human and Economic Geography

Initial English Edition · 7 November 2026

Initial edition · Chapter-wise expansion in progress

For UPPSC / UPSSSC, UPSC, SSC and Railway examination preparation.
This is an initial, chapter-wise edition. It does not claim to cover the complete syllabus. Check changing administrative and current-affairs facts against official sources before an examination.

About this book

Geography studies the natural conditions of the Earth, human activities and the relationships between them. It can be approached through physical, human and economic geography.

Chapter 01 · Earth, Latitude and Longitude

Learning objective: *Understand basic concepts, identify key terms and answer factual as well as conceptual examination questions.*

1. Shape and Rotation of the Earth

The Earth is slightly flattened at the poles and bulges at the Equator; this shape is described as an oblate spheroid. Rotation on its axis from west to east causes day and night. Revolution around the Sun, together with the tilt of the Earth's axis, produces the cycle of seasons.

2. Latitude and Longitude

The Equator is 0° latitude and divides the Earth into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. The Tropic of Cancer lies at approximately 23½° north and the Tropic of Capricorn at approximately 23½° south. The Prime Meridian is 0° longitude. Longitudes are useful for timekeeping; a difference of 15° of longitude corresponds to approximately one hour of local solar time.

3. Physical Divisions of India

The major physical divisions of India are the Himalayas, Northern Plains, Peninsular Plateau, Indian Desert, Coastal Plains and Islands. The Himalayas are young fold mountains. The Northern Plains were formed by alluvial deposits of the Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra river systems. The Peninsular Plateau is a region of ancient, hard rocks.

4. Rivers and Climate

Himalayan rivers generally receive water from both snowmelt and rainfall, whereas the flow of Peninsular rivers depends mainly on rainfall. The Indian monsoon is linked to differential heating of land and sea, pressure systems and seasonal winds.

Quick Revision

- Equator: 0° latitude
- Tropic of Cancer: approximately 23½° north
- Standard Meridian of India: 82°30′ east

Practice and Self-Assessment

What is the shape of the Earth commonly called?

Answer and explanation: An oblate spheroid: slightly flattened at the poles and bulging at the Equator.

At what longitude is the Prime Meridian located?

Answer and explanation: 0° longitude.

What is the Standard Meridian of India?

Answer and explanation: 82°30′ east longitude.

Sources and further study

This is an original KAGZI explanation translated and adapted from the corresponding Hindi study edition. For verification, consult official NCERT textbooks, relevant Government of India and state-government departments, and examination commission notifications. Administrative and current-affairs facts may change and should be checked against current official sources. No unauthorised coaching book or copyrighted PDF has been reproduced. Official PYQ labels are used only when the exact examination year and official question-paper source have been verified.

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