

5. Agriculture – An Introduction

Worksheet 1

A Fill in the blanks to complete the sentences below:

1. The primary activities of agriculture involve the _____ and _____ of products provided by nature.
2. The secondary activities involve the _____ of the products of the primary activities.
3. The tertiary activities help the primary and secondary activities by providing _____, _____, _____, _____ and _____.
4. A number of _____, _____ and _____ factors are jointly responsible for the growth and development of agriculture.
5. When agriculture is developed into an industry, it has _____, _____ and _____.
6. Farming is classified into two basic types: _____ and _____.

B Answer the following questions:

1. What is the difference between subsistence farming and commercial farming?

2. What is shifting cultivation?

3. Describe mixed farming.

4. What are the two essential factors for plantations to be economically successful?

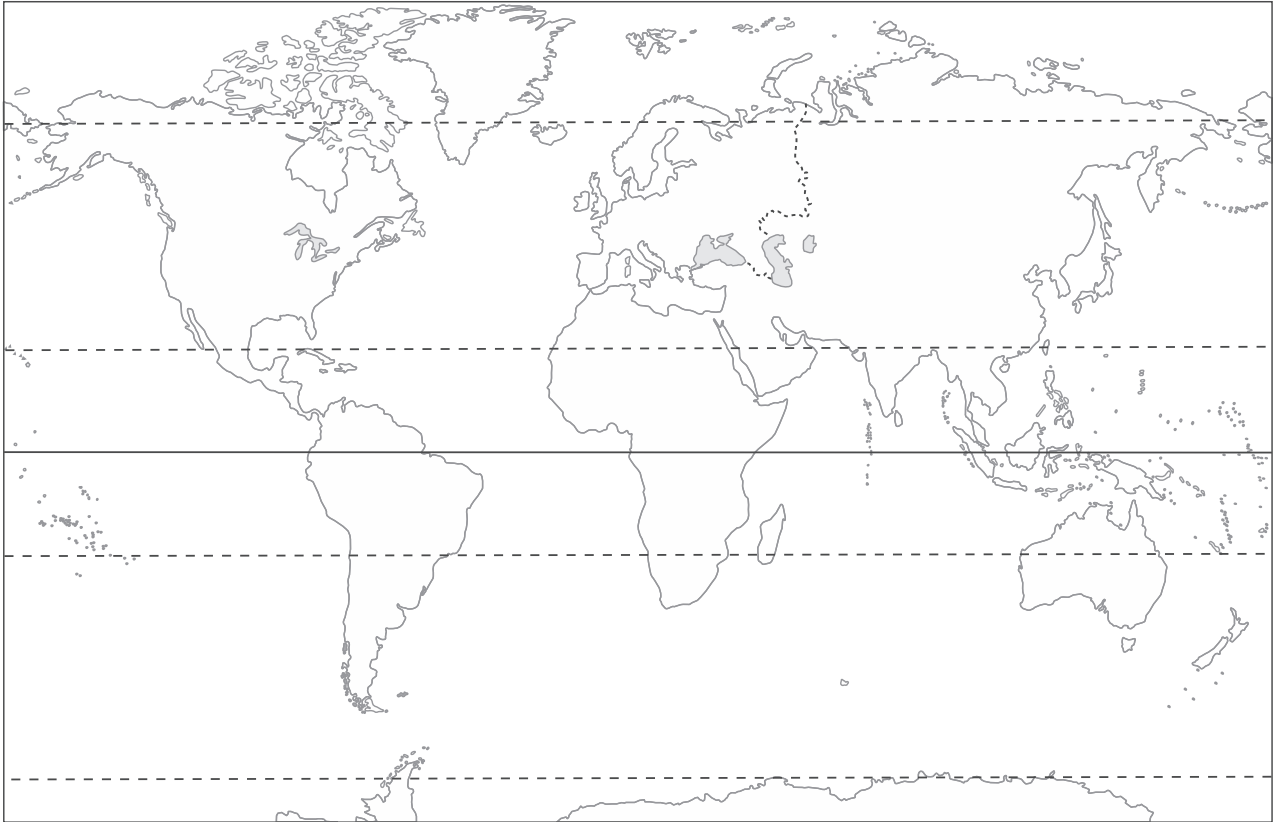
ANSWERS TO WORKSHEET I



- A. 1. extraction; production 2. processing 3. service; transport; trade; insurance; banking
4. geographical; cultural; economic 5. inputs; operations; outputs
6. subsistence; commercial
- B. 1. In subsistence farming, all produce is consumed by the farmer and nothing is sent for the commercial market. There are small landholdings and high population pressure and the crops are produced according to farmer's needs. In commercial farming, most of the products are for sale in the market and crops are chosen keeping in mind their sale value. The farms are very large and require a large amount of capital.
2. Shifting cultivation, also called slash-and-burn, is mostly practised by nomadic, migratory, primitive people and involves rotation of fields, not of crops. A patch of land is cleared by cutting and burning trees and ashes are mixed with the soil. After 2-3 crops, when the land becomes infertile, it is abandoned and a new one selected.
3. Mixed farming involves raising livestock along with crops and fodder on moderate-sized farms. Both cereal crops and fodder are grown. Animal waste is used as manure. Cattle are reared for milk and beef; sheep, for wool and mutton.
4. Cheap and skilled labour and efficient and adequate network of transport are essential for the economic success of plantations.

Worksheet 2

A On a map of the world, show the areas that practise different types of agriculture.



ANSWERS TO WORKSHEET 2

A. Refer to page 40 of Srijan Social Sciences 8.