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# Soil

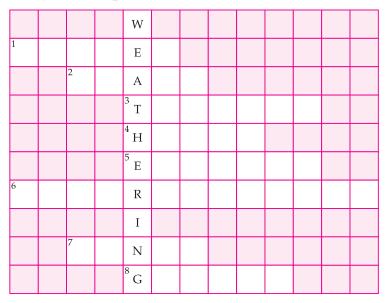
## **ORAL QUESTIONS**

#### A. Answer these questions orally.

- 1. What is the foundation of our buildings?
- 2. Agriculture provides food, shelter and clothing to us. What is essential for agriculture?
- 3. Is soil a natural resource?
- 4. What is the topmost layer of the soil called?
- 5. Which layer is also called the parent rock?

# **PUZZLE/QUIZ**

- B. Complete the following word ladder with the help of the given clues.
- 1. This type of soil is not well-aerated.
- 2. This type of soil has the right water holding capacity.
- 3. A-horizon is also known by this name.
- 4. A-horizon is rich in this.
- 5. The removal of top soil by either strong winds, flowing water or rains.
- 6. Cutting down of trees on a large scale.
- 7. This type of soil is well-aerated but cannot hold much water.
- 8. These contain the largest rock particles.



# C. Given below are some jumbled words. Arrange them into meaningful words. Take help from the clues given in the brackets.

1. E G E T W I N H A R

(The breaking down of rocks into small particles by the action of water and wind)

2. T I S L

(This consists of rock particles bigger than clay)

3. Y L C A

(This consists of smallest rock particles)

4. L P I T S O O

(The darkest and topmost layer of soil)

5. D K C O B R E

(This is also called the parent-rock)

# **CLASS TEST**

# D. MCQ-Tick ( $\checkmark$ ) the correct option.

- 1. The dead and rotting remains of plants and animals is called
  - (a) Bedrock
  - (c) Silt

- (b) Humus(d) Weathering
- 2. Which of these statements is incorrect?
  - (a) Clayey soil can hold much water.
  - (b) Sandy soil contains large-sized sand particles.
  - (c) Soil erosion is the process of formation of soil.
  - (d) Humus is important for the soil.
- 3. Humus is important because
  - (a) It makes the soil fertile.
  - (b) It improves the water holding capacity of the soil.
  - (c) It provides food to earthworm, beetles etc.
  - (d) All the above.

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- 4. Which of these do not cause soil erosion?
  - (a) Overgrazing (b) deforestation
  - (c) Excessive ploughing of fields (d) Afforestation
- 5. Soil is useful because
  - (a) It enables plants to grow
  - (b) It provides anchorage to the trees and vegetation
  - (c) It is a home for millions of soil organisms
  - (d) All of these

#### E. Very short answer questions.

- 1. What do the different layers of soil contain?
- 2. What is the topmost layer of soil called?
- 3. Which layer of soil is rich in humus?
- 4. Which layer of soil is the home of many living organisms like insects and worms?
- 5. What is C-horizon made up of?
- 6. What are the four groups into which rock particles are divided on the basis of their size?
- 7. Which of these is the most fertile soil-sandy, clayey or loamy?

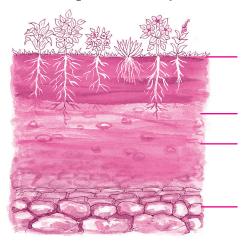
#### F. Short answer questions.

1. What is the importance of humus in the soil?

- 2. What is weathering?
- 3. How does overgrazing by cattle lead to soil erosion?
- 4. How does excessive ploughing of field leads to soil erosion?
- 5. What are the effects of soil erosion?

#### G. Long answer questions.

1. Label the diagram shown below. Explain each layer of soil.



2. What are the four groups into which rock particles are divided depending on their size. Explain.

3. Explain the various causes of soil erosion.

# **HOME ASSIGNMENT**

#### H. Think and answer.

- 1. Sunil conducted an experiment to understand the different layers of soil. He found that the uppermost horizon is the darkest in colour. Why is it so?
- 2. The best soil for growing crops is loamy. Why?
- 3. The best type of soil for making pots, toys and statues is clayey soil. Why is it so?

## WORKSHEET

# I. Give reasons for the following.

1. Sandy soil is well-aerated.

- 2. Very little air can be trapped in clayey soil.
- 3. Soil erosion is more common in areas which are not covered by trees or grass and are bare.