



4. In which of the following areas are tourists not allowed to practice hunting in Ethiopia? (1)

- A. Game reserves  
B. National parks  
C. Local in color  
D. ✓ **Sanctuaries**

**Answer: D**

Wildlife areas are graded by how much use they allow. A sanctuary is set aside to protect a particular species and its habitat, and hunting inside it is strictly forbidden. Game reserves and controlled hunting areas, by contrast, do allow licensed hunting.

Note that national parks also forbid hunting, so option B is not wrong in itself. The sanctuary is the strictest of the categories, which is why it is the expected answer.

5. What is the characteristics of the soil derived from crystalline rocks? (1)

- A. Deep and fertile  
B. ✓ **Poor and thin**  
C. Black in color  
D. Rich in humus

**Answer: B**

Hard crystalline basement rocks weather very slowly, so only a thin skin of soil forms on them. Those soils are poor, thin, rocky and acidic, and they range in colour from grey to brown. In Ethiopia they cover the Hararghe plateaus and the Borena lowlands.

Deep, fertile, humus rich soils come from a different parent material: the volcanic rocks of the plateaus, which give the red and black basaltic soils.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 9, Unit 3 Natural Resource Base of Ethiopia, section 3.4 Major soil types of Ethiopia (page 71).

6. Which of the following type of soil in Ethiopia is limited to grazing purpose due to its poor drainage qualities? (1)

- A. ✓ Vertisols  
B. Acrisols  
C. Regosols  
D. Lithosols

**Answer: A**

Vertisols, the black basaltic soils, hold a lot of clay. They swell and turn sticky when wet and crack when dry, and water cannot drain through them. Their nutrients are good, but the drainage problem keeps them out of ploughing and leaves them mainly for grazing. They cover about 10 percent of Ethiopia, mostly in Arsi, Bale and central Hararghe.

Regosols and Lithosols are also of little use for crops, but that is because they are shallow, young and coarse, not because water sits in them. Acrisols are heavily leached and low in nutrients.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 9, Unit 3 Natural Resource Base of Ethiopia, section 3.4 Major soil types of Ethiopia (page 72).

7. Among the following factors, which one exerts the highest impact on Ethiopian soils? (1)

- A. Over cultivation  
B. ✓ Deforestation  
C. Road construction  
D. Overgrazing

**Answer: B**

Once the trees go, nothing breaks the fall of the rain and nothing holds the soil in place, so the topsoil is washed off the slope. The syllabus lists accelerated soil erosion as the first direct consequence of deforestation, and Ethiopia's high forest cover has fallen from roughly 16 percent of the land in the early 1950s to under 3 percent by the 1990s.

Over cultivation and overgrazing do real damage too, but they work on land that has already been stripped of its cover. Road construction disturbs only a narrow strip, so it cannot be the largest cause.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 9, Unit 6 Human and Natural Environment Interactions in Ethiopia, section 6.5 Impacts of rapid population growth (pages 176 and 177).

8. Imagine a given country is highly affected by famine and requests international communities for aid. However, these communities are unwilling to help the country. The fact that they believe famine could serve as a means to control population pressure. Which population theory is related to the issues given above? (1)
- A. Boserupian  
B. Anti-Malthusian  
C. ✓ **Malthusian**  
D. Marxian

**Answer: C**

Malthus argued that population rises geometrically while food supply rises only arithmetically, so numbers always press against food. When people fail to restrain themselves, he said, positive checks step in and shorten life: disease, war and famine. Refusing aid because famine will trim the population is that argument put into practice.

Anti Malthusian and Boserupian thinking says the opposite, that more people bring more hands and more invention, so they would push for help rather than let hunger act as a check.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 12, Unit 4 Population Policies, Programs and the Environment, section 4.1 Theories on population growth and development (page 93).

9. Which of the statements below reflects the trends of population growth in Ethiopia? (1)
- A. The population size recorded in 2007 was three times more than that of the 1970 s.  
B. There has been an increase in the population growth rate over recent decades.  
C. ✓ **There was a slight increase in the rate of population growth from 1950s onwards.**  
D. There was a fast rate of population growth before the 1920 s.

**Answer: C**

Ethiopia's population grew by less than 1 percent a year until about 1920 because so many people died young. The rate then climbed slowly, reached 2.0 percent by 1950, and kept rising through the following decades as malaria and other diseases were brought under control, reaching 2.8 percent by 1980.

Option B is the trap. Growth has eased a little in recent decades, to about 2.6 percent, so the rate is no longer rising.

Option D is also wrong: before 1920 growth was slow, not fast.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 9, Unit 4 Population and Demographic Characteristics of Ethiopia, section 4.2 Trends of population growth in Ethiopia (page 92).

10. How is the age structure of the Ethiopia population described? (1)
- A. Low number of dependent population  
B. High number of old age population  
C. Low number of young age population  
D. ✓ **High number of adult age population**

**Answer: D**

Work through the options and only one can stand. Ethiopia's pyramid has a very broad base, so the young age group is large, which rules out C. Only about 3 percent of the people are over 65, which rules out B. The age dependency ratio was about 77 dependants for every 100 workers, which is high, so A is wrong too.

That leaves D. The 15 to 64 band is still the single largest group, a little over half the population, so the adult age group is the biggest one even though the dependency burden is heavy.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 9, Unit 4 Population and Demographic Characteristics of Ethiopia, section 4.3 Population composition (page 100).

11. There is a long lasting conflict of interest over the use of the Nile: D between the upper and lower course counties. In order to Nile water problem the basin countries have worked together and developed the Nile Basin initiative. What is the main aim of this initiative? (1)
- A. To make the upper coursethan the lower countries.
  - B. ✓ **To bring about equitable utilization of the river among the basincountries.**
  - C. To ask the lower course countries for a compensation for their use of the Nile water.
  - D. To share the finance and benefit of dams that will be constructed both in the upper and lower course of the river.

**Answer: B**

The Nile Basin Initiative was set up in 1999 by the countries that share the river, with Ethiopia as a full member. Its stated aims are sustainable development in the basin states, recognition of the rights of every riparian country, and equitable utilization of and benefit from the basin's resources.

The other options describe one side winning over the other, through dominance or compensation payments. Cooperation on a shared river works the opposite way: each country accepts a fair share so that all of them can plan.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 11, Unit 3 Natural Resources and Conflicts Over Resources, section 3.5 Regional cooperation for sustainable use of transboundary rivers.

12. What type of vegetation in that have wet sumation in Africa is extensively developed in areas - The wet summers and dry winters? (1)
- A. ✓ **The Tropical grassland vegetation**
  - B. The tropical rainforest vegetation
  - C. The Afro-Alpine vegetation
  - D. The Mediterranean Vegetation

**Answer: A**

Wet summers and dry winters describe the tropical continental, or savanna, climate. Rain arrives only when the overhead sun and the rain belt swing into the area, and the long dry season that follows stops a closed forest from growing. What survives is tall grass with scattered drought resistant trees, which is tropical grassland.

Tropical rainforest needs rain in every month, so it fails the dry winter test. The Mediterranean type has the seasons the other way round, with rain in winter and a dry summer.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 10, Unit 2 Climate of Africa, section 2.2 Climate types and zones of Africa (page 31).

13. Maquis, cork oak and wild olive plants are I commonly grown in which of the following climatic regions of Africa? (1)
- A. The Tropical continental climatic region
  - B. The Temperate continental climatic region
  - C. ✓ **The Mediterranean climatic region**
  - D. The Equatorial climatic region

**Answer: C**

Maquis scrub, cork oak and wild olive share one trick: small, tough, leathery evergreen leaves and thick bark that survive a long hot dry summer and take their water in winter. That is the Mediterranean climate, found on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea in North Africa and again at the southwestern tip of South Africa.

The equatorial region is the tempting alternative for evergreen plants, but its trees are tall, broad leaved and rain fed all year, not hard leaved scrub.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 10, Unit 2 Climate of Africa, section 2.2 Climate types and zones of Africa (page 33), and Unit 3, section 3.4 Major vegetation and wildlife of Africa (page 73).

14. A wild animal called 'jerboa' is mainly found in which one of the following climatic regions? (1)
- A. ✓ **Desert and semi-desert**                      B. Tropical maritime  
C. Monsoon                                              D. Highland

**Answer: A**

The jerboa is a small jumping rodent with long hind legs and huge ears. It shelters in a burrow through the heat of the day and comes out at night, and it can live on the water it gets from seeds. Those are desert adaptations, and it lives in the Sahara and other desert and semi desert areas alongside the wild ass, the fennec fox and desert snakes.

Highland, monsoon and tropical maritime areas all have far more rain and plant cover, so an animal built to save every drop of water has no advantage there.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 10, Unit 2 Climate of Africa, section 2.2 Climate types and zones of Africa (page 32).

15. Natural vegetation and wild animals of Africa are facing serious threats due to various human actions. What conservation measure should be taken in order to safeguard these natural resources. (1)
- A. Encouraging extensive use of firewood                      B. Promoting domestication of wild animals  
C. Supporting legal human settlement                      D. ✓ **Raising the awareness of people**

**Answer: D**

Forests are cleared and animals are hunted by people who need fuel, farmland and income and who often do not know the long term cost. Teaching communities why the vegetation and wildlife matter, and what they lose when both are gone, is what turns conservation rules into behaviour that lasts.

Option A would speed up the destruction, since firewood cutting is a leading cause of deforestation. Domesticating wild animals and settling people inside protected land do not save the wild populations or their habitat.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 10, Unit 3 Natural Resource Base of Africa, section 3.4 Major vegetation and wildlife of Africa (page 76).

16. In which of the following climatic regions of Africa are Ferrasols mainly found? (1)
- A. Mediterranean                                              B. ✓ **Equatorial**  
C. Highland                                              D. Monsoon

**Answer: B**

Ferralsols form under heavy year round rain on very old land surfaces. The rain leaches out almost every soluble mineral and leaves iron and aluminium oxides behind, which is what gives these soils their strong red and yellow colour and their low fertility. Those conditions belong to the hot, wet equatorial belt.

Mediterranean and monsoon areas have a marked dry season, so leaching never goes that far, and highland and desert soils are usually young and shallow rather than deeply weathered.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 10, Unit 3 Natural Resource Base of Africa, section 3.3 Main types of soils and mineral resources in Africa (page 64).

17. One of the following is among the most densely populated areas of Africa Which one is it? (1)
- A. Namibia                                              B. Mauritania  
C. ✓ **Sao Tome and Principe**                      D. Central African Republic

**Answer: C**

Sao Tome and Principe is a very small island state, so its people are squeezed into a few hundred square kilometres and its density passes 150 people per square kilometre, among the highest in Africa.

The other three are huge and mostly empty. Namibia and Mauritania are largely desert with only about 3 to 4 people per square kilometre, and the Central African Republic is thinly settled as well. A big population is not the same thing as a dense one.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 10, Unit 4 Population of Africa, section 4.4 Distribution and density of Africa's population (page 105).

18. Which region of Africa has the highest rate of mortality? (1)

- A. Western Africa
- B. Eastern Africa
- C. Northern Africa
- D. ✓ **Southern Africa**

**Answer: D**

Comparing crude death rates across the continent, the figure runs from about 6 per 1,000 in Northern Africa up to about 11 per 1,000 in Southern Africa, the highest of the regions. The main reason is the HIV and AIDS epidemic, which hit Southern Africa harder than anywhere else and killed many adults in their working years.

Take care not to mix this up with infant mortality, where Central Africa leads. A region can have healthy babies and still lose adults, or the reverse.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 10, Unit 4 Population of Africa, section 4.2 Africa's major demographic trends (page 96).

19. Which of the following countries is known for having the lowest sex ratio in Africa? (1)

- A. Malawi
- B. Uganda
- C. Gabon
- D. ✓ **Senegal**

**Answer: D**

Sex ratio is the number of males for every 100 females, so the lowest ratio means the biggest shortage of men. Senegal comes out lowest of the four at roughly 95 males per 100 females, because large numbers of Senegalese men work abroad in Europe and in neighbouring countries.

Gabon is the opposite case and the easiest to eliminate: its ratio is above 100 because it attracts male labour migrants into its oil and timber industries.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 10, Unit 4 Population of Africa, section 4.3 Population structure (page 102).

20. What is the movement of people from one area to another in search of seasonal job called? (1)

- A. ✓ **Temporary migration**
- B. Permanent migration
- C. Intra-continental migration
- D. International migration

**Answer: A**

Seasonal work means the person leaves for the harvest or another busy period and goes home when it ends. Movement that lasts a short time and finishes with a return to the place of origin is temporary migration.

Permanent migration is ruled out by the return journey, and intra continental and international migration describe how far the person travels, not how long they stay. Someone can move seasonally without leaving their own district.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 10, Unit 7 Geographic Issues and Public Concerns in Africa, section 7.2 Migration, factors and impacts on Africa (page 157).

21. At what stage of the Action Research is the Research Design prepared? (1)

- A. After collecting the required data
- B. Before reviewing the literature
- C. ✓ **After formulating the research problem**
- D. Before defining the objectives of the study

**Answer: C**

The research design is the plan that answers what, where, when, how much and by what means the study will be carried out. You can only draw such a plan once you know precisely what you are investigating, so it comes after the research problem has been identified and formulated.

Option A is the trap. Data collection follows the design, because the design is what tells you which data to gather and from whom. Working the other way round wastes time and money on figures you cannot use.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 12, Unit 8 Geographical Enquiry and Map Making, section 8.1 Fundamentals of research in geography (page 228).

22. Assume you are conducting an action research entitled 'Lateness of students for morning classes'. What will be the first step to conduct this action research? (1)

- A. Making review of literature  
B. ✓ **Stating objectives of the study**  
C. Collecting the required data  
D. Determining the sample size

**Answer: B**

The title 'Lateness of students for morning classes' already states the problem, so that step is done. The next component in the research process is the objectives, which say what you want the study to achieve and keep the whole enquiry focused.

Literature review, sampling and data collection all come later, and each of them depends on the objectives. Without objectives you would not know which studies are worth reading or which figures are worth collecting.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 12, Unit 8 Geographical Enquiry and Map Making, section 8.1 Fundamentals of research in geography (pages 226 and 227).

23. What is the disadvantage of having a large areal size for countries? (1)

- A. Shortage of agricultural products  
B. Unavailability of diverse resources  
C. ✓ **Difficulty of communication**  
D. Causes conflicts of ethnic groups

**Answer: C**

A large territory is expensive to hold together. Roads, telephone lines, post and administration have to stretch over long distances to reach far corners, so contact between the centre and the periphery is slow and costly. The syllabus lists heavy administrative expenditure and difficult socio economic integration among the drawbacks of Ethiopia's size.

Options A and B state the reverse of the truth: a large area usually brings varied agro ecological zones, plenty of arable land and a wide range of minerals. Ethnic conflict has political causes, not simply territorial ones.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 9, Unit 1 Geological History and Topography of Ethiopia, section 1.2 Location, size and shape of Ethiopia (page 12).

24. Which of the following explains the relative location of Ethiopia? (1)

- A. ✓ **It is situated west of Djibouti.**  
B. It is found north of Eritrea.  
C. It is located east of Somalia.  
D. It is located southwest of Sudan.

**Answer: A**

Relative location fixes a place by naming what lies around it. Ethiopia sits west of Djibouti, south of Eritrea, north of Kenya, northwest of Somalia and east of Sudan and South Sudan.

The other three reverse the compass. Ethiopia is south of Eritrea, not north of it; west of Somalia, not east; and southeast of Sudan, not southwest. Reading the map in the wrong direction is the usual mistake here.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 9, Unit 1 Geological History and Topography of Ethiopia, section 1.2 Location, size and shape of Ethiopia, Table 1.1 (page 10).

25. What proves the relative compact shape of Ethiopia?

(1)

- A. Ethiopia has a large geographical areal size.
- B. Ethiopia is a landlocked country
- C. It is located a short distance away from Equator and Prime meridian,
- D. ✓ **Its small differences between latitudinal and longitudinal distances.**

**Answer: D**

A compact country is one that is close to circular, so that no part sticks far out from the centre. Ethiopia qualifies because its extreme north to south span and its extreme east to west span cover roughly comparable distances, which is exactly what option D says.

Areal size, being landlocked and distance from the Equator all describe other properties of a country. Shape is about proportions, so only the comparison of the two spans can prove it.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 9, Unit 1 Geological History and Topography of Ethiopia, section 1.2 Location, size and shape of Ethiopia (page 13).

26. Which of the following major events took place in the horn of Africa during the Paleozoic Era?

(1)

- A. Intensive volcanic activities
- B. Outpouring of trappean lave series
- C. ✓ **Predominance of invertebrates**
- D. Disappearance of dinosaurs

**Answer: C**

In the Horn of Africa the Paleozoic, from about 600 to 250 million years ago, was a quiet era of wearing down: denudation followed by peneplanation, with almost no new rock formed, which is why it leaves a gap in Ethiopia's rock record. In life, it is the era known for the predominance of invertebrates.

Options A and B belong to the Cenozoic, when the trappean lava series poured out and built the plateaus, and the dinosaurs in option D died at the end of the Mesozoic.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 9, Unit 1 Geological History and Topography of Ethiopia, section 1.3 Geological history of Ethiopia (page 18).

27. Which of the following eras is associated with a pluvial rain in the horn Africa?

(1)

- A. The Paleozoic Era
- B. The Precambrian Era
- C. ✓ **The Cenozoic Era**
- D. The Mesozoic Era

**Answer: C**

The pluvial rains fell during the Quaternary Period, the most recent part of the Cenozoic Era, when the climate of Africa turned much wetter. The heavy rain washed material off the highlands and laid thick deposits down in the lowlands and the Rift Valley.

The Precambrian and Paleozoic are far too early, and the Mesozoic in Ethiopia is remembered for the sea flooding in and laying down limestone and sandstone rather than for a rainy phase.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 9, Unit 1 Geological History and Topography of Ethiopia, section 1.3 Geological history of Ethiopia (page 21).

28. Among the following mountains, which one belongs to the south-eastern highlands of Ethiopia? (1)

- A. Assimba  
B. Guna  
C. Gughe  
D. ✓ Batu

**Answer: D**

The southeastern highlands lie east and south of the Rift Valley and take in the Arsi plateau, the Bale massif, the Hararghe plateau and the Sidama highlands. Mount Batu, at 4,307 metres, stands in the Bale massif next to Tulu Dimtu, so it is the one that belongs there.

The others sit west of the rift or in the north: Assimba is in Tigray, Guna is in South Gondar, and Gughe, at 4,200 metres, rises from the Gamo plateau in the southwestern highlands.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 9, Unit 1 Geological History and Topography of Ethiopia, section 1.3, the topography of Ethiopia (pages 29 and 30).

29. What makes the Afar Triangle different from the other rift valley subdivisions of Ethiopia? (1)

- A. ✓ Prevalence of fossil rich sediments  
B. Presence of dense human population  
C. Dense vegetation cover of the area  
D. Presence of lakes of aesthetic values

**Answer: A**

The Afar Triangle is the northern and widest part of the Ethiopian Rift. What sets it apart from the other rift subdivisions is what lies in its ground: fossil rich sediments and rich archaeological sites that have shown the area to be a home of early hominids, which is where Lucy was found.

Option B is the tempting one, but dense population, thick vegetation and the scenic lakes belong to the Main Ethiopian Rift, the lakes region in the centre. The Afar is hot, dry and thinly settled.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 9, Unit 1 Geological History and Topography of Ethiopia, section 1.3, the Rift Valley (page 32).

30. Which of the following southeastern lowlands borders the Indian Ocean? (1)

- A. The Afar plains  
B. ✓ The Benadir plains  
C. The Borana plains  
D. The Elkeri Plains

**Answer: B**

The southeastern lowlands run from the foot of the southeastern highlands out toward the Somali and Kenyan borders. Of the four named, only the Benadir plains reach the sea: they form the Somali coastal belt on the Indian Ocean, which is where the Wabe Shebelle ends its course.

The Afar plains lie in the northeast on the Red Sea side of the country, and the Borana and Elkeri plains stay inland with no coast at all.

**Textbook:** Geography Grade 9, Unit 1, the southeastern lowlands (page 30), and Unit 3, section 3.2 Drainage systems of Ethiopia (page 63).

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