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CLASS X · SOCIAL SCIENCE (087) · GEOGRAPHY · CBSE BOARD EXAMINATION 2027

GEOGRAPHY · CHAPTER 1 **MODEL ANSWERS**

Resources and Development

Board-Style Answer Booklet · Answers as CBSE expects them

CBSE marking-scheme pattern | Word count on every answer | 75 model answers | Most-probable 2027 answers marked

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HOW TO USE IT

1. Write your own answer first, in the practice notebook.
2. Then open this booklet. Tick each numbered point you also wrote.
3. Give yourself 1 mark per matching point – that is how the examiner marks.
4. Copy any point you missed into My Mistakes (last page of the Chapter Booklet).
5. Rewrite the answer after 3 days, from memory.

USE WITH Chapter Booklet, Geography Ch 1

M

READ THIS FIRST · BASED ON THE CBSE SAMPLE PAPER AND MARKING SCHEME 2026–27

How CBSE Marks Geography

Every answer in this booklet follows the official marking-scheme pattern: numbered value points, keyword first, inside the word limit. Under each answer you will see its word count and how the marks are split.

The Geography section of the 2027 paper

Section B · 20 marks

Item	Type	Marks	Words	What earns the marks
Q10–Q15	MCQs: statements, matching, assertion–reason, identify from clues	1 each	–	Letter + answer
Q16	Very short answer	2	40	2 points × 1 mark
Q17	Long answer, (A) **or** (B)	5	120	5 points × 1 mark
Q18	Source / case-based: 18.1, 18.2, 18.3	1+1+2	100 in all	From the passage + chapter facts
Q19	Map: locate and label any three of four items	3	–	Right place + name written

In both 2026 papers we read, this chapter gave **Q10** (a soil MCQ – laterite in 32/1/1, black soil in 32/5/1) and **Q14** (land use / current fallow). Soils can also come in **Q19** (map).

How the marking scheme gives marks

SEVEN RULES

- **Marks come from value points.** Each correct, relevant point earns 1 mark: 2 marks = 2 points, 3 marks = 3 points, 5 marks = 5 points. The scheme accepts "any other relevant point", so a correct NCERT point that is not in our answer also scores.
- **Points are numbered and short.** Official answers have no introduction or conclusion. Our 5-mark answers sometimes add one opening and one closing line only so the answer reads well – skip them when short of time.
- **Keyword first.** Start each point with the key word and underline it – the examiner scans for it. Then give one fact: a name, a date, a number or an example.
- **MCQs:** write the letter and the answer text. Combination questions are answered like "(b) Only a, b and d".
- **Case / source-based:** (i) and (ii) need one clear line each; the 2-mark part needs two separate points. Use the passage's own clues, then add chapter facts.
- **Internal choice:** write "(A)" or "(B)" in the margin and attempt only one.
- **Do not repeat** one idea in two points – it earns one mark only.

Answer frames – copy this shape

2-mark answer ≤ 40 words

1. Keyword: one reason or fact.
2. Keyword: a second, different reason or fact.

Two lines, no introduction.

3-mark answer ≤ 60 words

1. Keyword: point + name / date / number.
2. Keyword: point + example.
3. Keyword: point + result.

One sentence per point.

5-mark answer ≤ 120 words

→ Optional opening line that answers the question in short.

1–5 Five numbered points, keyword first, a fact in each.

→ Optional closing line: "So / Hence …".

Order the points in time, or from cause to result.

Case-based 1 + 1 + 2 · ≤ 100 words

(i) One line, from the passage.

(ii) One line: passage clue + chapter fact.

(iii) Two separate points, one line each.

Never copy the whole passage.

Short of time? Learn these ten first

Most probable for 2027

C1	Compare black soil and laterite soil on three points.	[3]	C3	Give two features each of arid soil and forest soil.	[2]
C5	Explain the factors that decide the land use pattern of India.	[3]	C9	"Resources are vital for development, but their irrational …	[5]
C10	Why is resource planning essential in a country like India?	[3]	C12	Explain how human activities have led to land degradation …	[5]
C13	What is soil erosion?	[5]	D1	Case: A Village Draws Its Map	[4]
D2	Case: Scars of the Mine	[4]			

ANSWERS · PART A

A Textbook Check – Answers

Model answers to every Textbook Check question. Underlined words are the keywords the examiner looks for.

Resources and their types

A1. What is a resource? Name the three conditions a thing must satisfy to become a resource. [2]

1. **Meaning:** anything in our environment that can be used to satisfy our needs.
2. **Conditions:** it must be technologically accessible, economically feasible and culturally acceptable.

24 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2 | MUST DO

A2. "Resources are a function of human activities." Explain. [2]

1. **Interaction:** things in nature become resources when humans use technology and institutions on them.
2. **Humans:** human beings are themselves an essential part of resources, so resources are not free gifts.

30 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2

A3. Classify resources on the basis of (i) origin (ii) exhaustibility (iii) ownership (iv) status of development. Give one example of each type. [5]

1. **Origin:** biotic – fisheries, livestock; abiotic – rocks, metals.
2. **Exhaustibility:** renewable – solar and wind energy; non-renewable – minerals, fossil fuels.
3. **Ownership (1):** individual – private orchards; community – village ponds, grazing grounds.
4. **Ownership (2):** national – land and sea up to 12 nautical miles; international – oceans beyond 200 nautical miles.
5. **Development:** potential – Rajasthan's solar energy; stock – hydrogen in water; reserves – dam water.

56 words · limit 120 | Marking: 5 points × 1 = 5 | MUST DO

A4. Distinguish between stock and reserves, with one example of each. [3]

1. **Stock:** materials that can meet our needs, but we lack the technology to use them.
2. **Example:** hydrogen in water as a source of energy.
3. **Reserves:** a subset of stock usable with existing technology but kept for the future, e.g. water in dams.

42 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | MUST DO

Development, planning and conservation

A5. What problems have arisen from the indiscriminate use of resources? [3]

1. **Depletion:** resources were used up to satisfy the greed of a few.
2. **Inequality:** resources piled up in a few hands, dividing society into haves and have-nots.
3. **Ecological crisis:** global warming, ozone depletion, pollution and land degradation.

36 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | 2025 32/1/1 Q22 (2 marks). | MUST DO

A6. What is sustainable development? What was the Rio Earth Summit and what is Agenda 21? [3]

1. **Sustainable development:** development that does not damage the environment or the needs of future generations.
2. **Rio, 1992:** over 100 heads of state met in Brazil on environment and development.
3. **Agenda 21:** a plan to fight environmental damage, poverty and disease; every local body should make its own.

47 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | MUST DO

A7. Explain the three steps of resource planning in India. [3]

1. **Inventory:** identify resources by surveying, mapping and measuring them.
2. **Planning structure:** set up the technology, skills and institutions to carry out plans.
3. **Matching:** match resource plans with overall national development plans.

31 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | MUST DO

A8. "Availability of resources alone does not bring development." Explain with examples. [2]

1. **Other factors:** technology, quality of human resources and history matter too.
2. **Examples:** many resource-rich regions are backward; colonisers used technology to exploit colonies' resources.

24 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2

A9. Explain Gandhiji's view on resource conservation. [2]

1. **Need, not greed:** there is enough for everybody's need, not for anybody's greed.
2. **Root cause:** he blamed greedy individuals and exploitative technology; he wanted production by the masses.

28 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2

Land resources

A10. Give the share of plains, mountains and plateaus in India's land area and one use of each. [3]

1. **Plains – 43%:** agriculture and industry.
2. **Mountains – 30%:** perennial rivers, tourism and ecological balance.
3. **Plateaus – 27%:** minerals, fossil fuels and forests.

20 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | MUST DO

A11. Which physical and human factors decide the land use pattern of a region? [2]

1. **Physical:** topography, climate and soil types.
2. **Human:** population density, technological capability, culture and traditions.

14 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2 | Factors of land use: 2026 32/1/3 Q13. | MUST DO

A12. Differentiate between current fallow land and other than current fallow land. What is culturable waste land? [3]

1. **Current fallow:** left uncultivated for one year or less.
2. **Other than current fallow:** left uncultivated for the past one to five years.
3. **Culturable waste:** left uncultivated for more than five years.

31 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | Current fallow: 2026 32/5/1 Q14. | MUST DO

A13. Which human activities have caused land degradation? Name the states where each is the main cause. [3]

1. **Mining:** Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha.
2. **Overgrazing:** Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra.
3. **Over-irrigation:** Punjab, Haryana, western Uttar Pradesh – waterlogging and salinity.

21 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | MUST DO

A14. Suggest four ways to solve the problem of land degradation. [2]

1. **Vegetation:** afforestation and shelter belts; thorny bushes to stabilise sand dunes.
2. **Control:** control overgrazing and mining; treat industrial effluents before disposal.

21 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2

Soils

A15. Which factors are important in the formation of soil? [2]

1. **Physical:** relief, parent rock and climate.
2. **Living and time:** vegetation, other forms of life and time.

16 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2

A16. Describe the distribution and features of alluvial soil. How does khadar differ from bangar? [3]

1. **Distribution:** northern plains, Rajasthan–Gujarat corridor and east-coast deltas.
2. **Features:** rich in potash, phosphoric acid and lime; good for sugarcane, paddy and wheat.
3. **Khadar vs bangar:** khadar is new, finer and more fertile; bangar is old with kankar.

38 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | MUST DO

A17. Describe the formation, distribution and features of black soil. [3]

1. **Formation:** from lava rocks of the Deccan trap, with climate.
2. **Distribution:** Maharashtra, Saurashtra, Malwa, MP, Chhattisgarh; Godavari–Krishna valleys.
3. **Features:** fine clay, holds moisture, cracks in summer; poor in phosphorus; ideal for cotton.

33 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | Black soil: 2026 32/5/1 Q10. | MUST DO

A18. What is soil erosion? Explain gully erosion and sheet erosion. [3]

1. **Soil erosion:** the removal of the soil cover and its washing down.
2. **Gully erosion:** running water cuts deep channels, making bad land (ravines in Chambal).
3. **Sheet erosion:** water flows as a sheet over large areas and washes away the topsoil.

40 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

A19. Suggest methods of soil conservation for (i) hilly areas (ii) desert areas (iii) large flat fields. [3]

1. **Hilly areas:** terrace farming and contour ploughing.
2. **Desert areas:** shelter belts of trees to stabilise sand dunes.
3. **Large fields:** strip cropping – grass strips between crops break the wind.

28 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | MUST DO

B

ANSWER KEY · PART B

Objective – Answer Key

All 22 MCQ and assertion–reason answers, each with a one-line reason so you learn the fact, not only the letter.

Write the option letter **and** the answer, as the marking scheme does – e.g. "(b) ..." followed by the answer text.

Q	Answer	Why (one line)
B1	**(b) potential resources**	Present but not yet fully used.
B2	**(d) reserves**	Usable with today's technology, kept for the future.
B3	**(c) a stock**	No technology yet = stock.
B4	**(a) a-iii, b-i, c-ii, d-iv**	Fisheries–biotic; rocks–abiotic; wind–renewable; coal–non-renewable.
B5	**(d) international resources**	Beyond the Exclusive Economic Zone.
B6	**(a) community resources**	Open to all members of a community.
B7	**(a) a-ii, b-iv, c-i, d-iii**	1968, 1974, 1987, 1992.
B8	**(b) current fallow**	One year or less. Type of 2026 32/5/1 Q14.
B9	**(b) culturable waste land**	More than 5 years.
B10	**(c) Punjab, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh**	Waterlogging raises salinity and alkalinity.
B11	**(d) Punjab**	Punjab and Haryana; the others are below 10%.
B12	**(d) Red and yellow**	Red from iron; yellow when hydrated.
B13	**(b) Arid**	Western Rajasthan.
B14	**(a) Laterite**	Type of 2026 32/1/1 Q10.
B15	**(c) It is rich in phosphoric content.**	It is poor in phosphoric content.
B16	**(d) Khadar has finer particles and is more fertile.**	Khadar = new alluvium.
B17	**(a) Chambal basin**	Bad land.
B18	**(c) Both I and II are correct**	II explains part of I.
B19	**(a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.**	R explains A.
B20	**(c) A is true, but R is false.**	A true; R false – they are fertile plains.
B21	**(a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.**	R explains A.
B22	**(d) A is false, but R is true.**	A false; R true.

C

ANSWERS · PART C

Board Pattern – Answers

Model answers in the marking-scheme pattern. Orange tags show where a similar question came in a board or sample paper.

Soils

★★★ every 2026 paper · 1–3 marks

C1. Compare black soil and laterite soil on three points. [3]

1. **Formation:** black – from Deccan trap lava; laterite – by intense leaching under heavy rain.
2. **Nature:** black – fine clay, holds moisture, rich in lime; laterite – acidic, poor in nutrients.
3. **Use:** black – cotton in Maharashtra and Malwa; laterite – tea, coffee, cashew after conservation.

40 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | 2026 32/1/1 Q10 (laterite), 32/5/1 Q10 (black). | MUST DO

C2. "Alluvial soil is the most widespread and important soil of India." Justify the statement. [3]

1. **Widespread:** covers the northern plains, a Rajasthan–Gujarat corridor and the east-coast deltas.
2. **Fertile:** has enough potash, phosphoric acid and lime.
3. **Productive:** grows sugarcane, paddy and wheat, so these areas are densely populated.

33 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

C3. Give two features each of arid soil and forest soil. [2]

1. **Arid:** sandy and saline, low in humus and moisture, with kankar below.
2. **Forest:** loamy in valleys, coarse on upper slopes; acidic with low humus in snowy areas.

27 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2 | MUST DO

C4. Why is red soil red, and when does it look yellow? Name two areas where it is found. [2]

1. **Colour:** red from diffusion of iron in crystalline rocks; yellow when hydrated.
2. **Areas:** eastern and southern Deccan, Odisha and Chhattisgarh.

20 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2

Land use pattern

★★★ every 2026 paper · 1–2 marks

C5. Explain the factors that decide the land use pattern of India. Why does the net sown area vary so much from state to state? [3]

1. **Physical:** topography, climate and soils decide land use.
2. **Human:** population density, technology, culture and traditions.
3. **Variation:** over 80% NSA in plain Punjab and Haryana; below 10% in hilly, forested Arunachal and Mizoram.

32 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | Factors of land use: 2026 32/1/3 Q13; land use 2026 32/1/1 Q14. | MUST DO

C6. Why is the decrease in land under permanent pastures a cause for concern? [2]

1. **Fodder:** India's large cattle population depends on grazing land.
2. **Pressure:** less pasture means overgrazing of what is left, which degrades land.

21 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2

C7. Why is the area under forests in India a matter of concern? What does the National Forest Policy recommend? [2]

1. **Below target:** forest area is far below what ecological balance needs.
2. **Policy:** the National Forest Policy (1952) set 33% of the geographical area under forests.

25 words · limit 40 | Marking: 2 points × 1 = 2

Resources and their use

★★☆ 2–4 papers · 1–3 marks

C8. Distinguish between: (i) renewable and non-renewable (ii) potential and developed (iii) national and international resources. [3]

1. **Renewable vs non-renewable:** replenished by natural processes (wind) vs formed over millions of years (coal).
2. **Potential vs developed:** found but unused (Rajasthan's wind) vs surveyed and in use.
3. **National vs international:** within borders and 12 nautical miles vs oceans beyond 200 nautical miles.

43 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

C9. "Resources are vital for development, but their irrational use creates problems." Explain the problems and the global efforts to conserve resources. [5]

1. **Depletion:** resources were used up to satisfy the greed of a few.
2. **Inequality:** accumulation in a few hands divided society into haves and have-nots.
3. **Ecological crises:** global warming, ozone depletion, pollution and land degradation.
4. **Early efforts:** Club of Rome (1968); Brundtland Report (1987) gave the idea of sustainable development.
5. **Rio, 1992:** Earth Summit adopted Agenda 21 and the Forest Principles.

60 words · limit 120 | Marking: 5 points × 1 = 5 | Problems of resource use: 2025 32/1/1 Q22. | MUST DO

C10. Why is resource planning essential in a country like India? Give examples of the uneven distribution of resources. [3]

1. **Uneven spread:** Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh are rich in minerals; Rajasthan in solar energy but short of water.
2. **Gaps:** Arunachal has water but lacks infrastructure; Ladakh lacks water and minerals.
3. **Balanced use:** planning at national, state, regional and local levels avoids waste.

41 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | MUST DO

C11. "There is enough for everybody's need and not for anybody's greed." Explain this view of Gandhiji. [3]

1. **Greed:** he blamed greedy, selfish individuals for resource depletion.
2. **Technology:** he saw modern technology as exploitative.
3. **Masses:** he wanted production by the masses, not mass production.

26 words · limit 60 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

Land degradation and soil conservation

★☆☆ 2 of 12 papers · 1–5 marks

C12. Explain how human activities have led to land degradation in India. Suggest measures to control it. [5]

1. **Mining:** pits and overburden in Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, MP and Odisha.
2. **Overgrazing:** in Gujarat, Rajasthan, MP and Maharashtra.
3. **Over-irrigation:** waterlogging, salinity and alkalinity in Punjab, Haryana and western UP.
4. **Industry:** mineral dust and effluents stop water soaking in and pollute land.
5. **Measures:** afforestation, shelter belts, controlled grazing and mining, treated effluents.

50 words · limit 120 | Marking: 5 points × 1 = 5 | MUST DO

C13. What is soil erosion? Explain its causes and three methods of soil conservation. [5]

1. **Meaning:** removal of the soil cover and its washing down.
2. **Human causes:** deforestation, overgrazing, mining and ploughing up and down slopes.
3. **Natural causes:** running water (gully and sheet erosion) and wind.
4. **Slopes:** contour ploughing and terrace farming slow running water.
5. **Wind:** strip cropping and shelter belts break the force of the wind.

52 words · limit 120 | Marking: 5 points × 1 = 5 | MUST DO

D

ANSWERS · PART D

Case-Based – Answers

One line each for the 1-mark parts; separate points for the 2-mark parts. The whole answer stays within the word limit.

D1. Case-Based · A Village Draws Its Map (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) Name one community resource and one individual resource from the passage. [1]

Community: village pond or grazing ground. Individual: private orchards.

(ii) Which step of resource planning did the students carry out? [1]

Identification and inventory of resources – surveying and mapping.

(iii) Why is it important to match local plans with the overall development plan? Give two reasons. [2]

(i) Local resources are then used for the priorities of the region and the nation.
(ii) It avoids waste and uneven development.

39 words in all · limit 100 | Marking: 1 + 1 + 2 = 4

D2. Case-Based · Scars of the Mine (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) Name two states where mining is the main cause of land degradation. [1]

Any two: Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha.

(ii) How does dust from mineral processing harm the land? [1]

It settles on the soil and stops water from soaking in.

(iii) Suggest two more measures to restore such degraded land. [2]

(i) Fill abandoned pits and control future mining.
(ii) Treat industrial wastes before disposal and manage grazing.

35 words in all · limit 100 | Marking: 1 + 1 + 2 = 4

D3. Case-Based · The Hill Farm (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) What name is given to land cut by deep channels of running water? [1]

Bad land (ravines in the Chambal basin) – gully erosion.

(ii) Why was ploughing up and down the slope harmful? [1]

It made channels for water to rush down, washing soil away.

(iii) Name the three conservation methods the farmer used and explain how any one of them helps. [2]

(i) Terrace farming, contour ploughing and a shelter belt.
(ii) Contour ploughing slows water flowing down the slope.

38 words in all · limit 100 | Marking: 1 + 1 + 2 = 4

D4. Case-Based · Cotton Country (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) Identify the soil. [1]

Black soil (regur).

(ii) Why does the farmer plough right after the first shower? [1]

The soil becomes very sticky when wet, so it must be tilled early.

(iii) Give two reasons why cotton grows well here, and name the nutrient the soil lacks. [2]

(i) Fine clay holds moisture; cracks let air in.
(ii) It is rich in lime, potash and magnesium but poor in phosphorus.

38 words in all · limit 100 | Marking: 1 + 1 + 2 = 4 | Same topic as 2026 32/5/1 Q10.

D5. Case-Based · Two Districts (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) Which land-use category is compared here? [1]

Net sown area.

(ii) What is land left unsown for one year or less called? [1]

Current fallow.

(iii) Give two reasons for the difference between the districts. [2]

(i) Punjab has level, fertile alluvial plains with irrigation.
(ii) Mizoram has hilly, forested terrain unsuited to farming.

23 words in all · limit 100 | Marking: 1 + 1 + 2 = 4 | Same topic as 2026 32/1/1 Q14 and 32/5/1 Q14.

ANSWERS · PART E

E Map Work – Key

Where each map item lies, so you can check your own outline map.

Map answers are marked only if the place is shown at the right spot **and** its name is written. Use the school's printed outline map. This key tells you where each item lies.

Item	Where it is – check your map against this
Alluvial soil	Northern plains (Punjab to West Bengal); deltas of Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri
Black soil	Maharashtra, Saurashtra, Malwa, Chhattisgarh; Godavari–Krishna valleys
Red and yellow soil	Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, eastern and southern Deccan
Laterite soil	Western Ghats strip (Kerala, Karnataka), parts of Odisha, West Bengal, Meghalaya
Arid soil	Western Rajasthan
Mountain / forest soil	Himalayan belt – J&K, Himachal, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Arunachal