CBSE NCERT · Class 12 · Geography

Geography

ORIGINAL STUDY COMPANION
PADIKAM
CLASS 12 | HUMANITIES
Geography
CBSE / NCERT core lessons | Academic year 2026-27
21 chapter lessons
Quick explanations, core points, exam practice and chapter-specific notation in one consistent format.
Padikam explanations are independently written. Official textbooks are used as the coverage map, chapter sequence and terminology reference.

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Study rhythm
Read the quick explanation, recall the core points aloud, then answer the prompts without looking back. Use the official textbook links for full prescribed readings, activities and diagrams.
Textbook and verification links
1. https://cbseacademic.nic.in/web_material/CurriculumMain27/SecPart2/Geography_SecP2_2026-27.pdf
2. https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php
3. https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php?legy1=0-8
4. https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php?legy2=0-9
5. https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php?legy3=0-4
6. https://cbseacademic.nic.in/curriculum_2027.html

CHAPTER 01
Human Geography: Nature and Scope
Quick understanding
Human geography studies how people create places, livelihoods and spatial organisation while interacting with nature.

Core points Check your learning
Regional and systematic approaches ask different Explain the central idea of Human
questions. Geography: Nature and Scope in your
own words.
Possibilism recognises human choice within
environmental limits. Apply one idea from Human Geography:
Nature and Scope to a textbook-style
Fields such as population, settlement and economic
example or source.
geography overlap.
One-line recall Regional and systematic approaches ask different questions.
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CHAPTER 02
The World Population: Distribution, Density and
Growth
Quick understanding
Population patterns reflect terrain, water, climate, economy, history and migration.
Core points Check your learning
Density and distribution describe different aspects. Explain the central idea of The World
Population: Distribution, Density and
Natural increase equals births minus deaths.
Growth in your own words.
Demographic transition links changing birth and
Apply one idea from The World
death rates with development.
Population: Distribution, Density and
Growth to a textbook-style example or
source.
Equation and notation
Density = Population / Area
Growth rate (%) = (Population change / Initial population) × 100
SYMBOLS AND UNITS
Population: number of persons Area: km^2 or m^2 as stated
Density: persons km^{-2} or persons m^{-2} Growth rate: percent per stated period
One-line recall Density and distribution describe different aspects.
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CHAPTER 03
Human Development
Quick understanding
Human development evaluates people’s capabilities and choices, not income alone.
Core points Check your learning
Equity, sustainability, productivity and empowerment Explain the central idea of Human
are core pillars. Development in your own words.
Health, education and income indicators form the Apply one idea from Human
HDI. Development to a textbook-style example
or source.
National averages can hide regional and social
inequality.
One-line recall Equity, sustainability, productivity and empowerment are core pillars.
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CHAPTER 04
Primary Activities

Quick understanding
Primary activities obtain resources directly from nature through gathering, pastoralism, agriculture, forestry, fishing and mining.
Core points Check your learning
Subsistence and commercial systems differ in purpose and scale. Explain the central idea of Primary Activities in your own words.
Physical and market conditions shape agricultural type. Apply one idea from Primary Activities to a textbook-style example or source.
Mining method depends on deposit depth, value and technology.
One-line recall Subsistence and commercial systems differ in purpose and scale.
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CHAPTER 05
Secondary Activities
Quick understanding
Secondary activities transform raw materials and add value through manufacturing and construction.
Core points Check your learning
Industrial location balances inputs, labour, power, transport, market and policy. Explain the central idea of Secondary Activities in your own words.
Industries can be classified by size, input, product and ownership. Apply one idea from Secondary Activities to a textbook-style example or source.
High-technology industry relies strongly on knowledge and innovation.
One-line recall Industrial location balances inputs, labour, power, transport, market and policy.
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CHAPTER 06
Tertiary and Quaternary Activities
Quick understanding
Services move goods, information and expertise, while quaternary and quinary work is increasingly knowledge-intensive.
Core points Check your learning
Retail and wholesale connect production with consumption. Explain the central idea of Tertiary and Quaternary Activities in your own words.
Tourism depends on accessibility, attractions and services. Apply one idea from Tertiary and Quaternary Activities to a textbook-style example or source.
The digital divide creates unequal access to knowledge work.
One-line recall Retail and wholesale connect production with consumption.
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CHAPTER 07
Transport and Communication
Quick understanding
Transport moves people and goods, while communication moves information through linked networks.
Core points Check your learning
Mode choice depends on distance, cost, terrain, speed and cargo. Explain the central idea of Transport and Communication in your own words.
Major routes connect production centres, markets and gateways. Apply one idea from Transport and Communication to a textbook-style example or source.
Satellite and internet systems compress time but remain unevenly accessible.

One-line recall Mode choice depends on distance, cost, terrain, speed and cargo.
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CHAPTER 08
International Trade
Quick understanding
International trade arises from differences in resources, skills, costs and demand and is organised through routes, rules and ports.
Core points Check your learning
Balance of trade compares export and import values. Explain the central idea of International Trade in your own words.
Bilateral and multilateral arrangements differ in membership. Apply one idea from International Trade to a textbook-style example or source.
Free trade, protection and dumping create competing interests.
One-line recall Balance of trade compares export and import values.
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CHAPTER 09
India: Population Distribution, Density, Growth and Composition
Quick understanding
India’s population varies greatly across regions and can be analysed by growth, settlement, language, religion and work participation.
Core points Check your learning
Physical access and economic opportunity shape concentration. Explain the central idea of India: Population Distribution, Density, Growth and Composition in your own words.
India passed through distinct phases of population growth. Apply one idea from India: Population Distribution, Density, Growth and Composition to a textbook-style example or source.
Composition data reveal social patterns but require sensitive interpretation.
Equation and notation
Population density = Total population / Area
SYMBOLS AND UNITS
Population: number of persons Area: km^2
Density: persons km^{-2}
One-line recall Physical access and economic opportunity shape concentration.
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CHAPTER 10
India: Human Settlements
Quick understanding
Indian settlements range from dispersed villages to metropolitan regions and change through urbanisation and economic function.
Core points Check your learning
Rural form reflects terrain, water, security and land Explain the central idea of India: Human relations. Settlements in your own words.
Towns can be classified by origin and function. Apply one idea from India: Human Settlements to a textbook-style example
Rapid urban growth creates both opportunity and

or source.
service pressure.
One-line recall Rural form reflects terrain, water, security and land relations.
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CHAPTER 11
India: Land Resources and Agriculture
Quick understanding
Land use and agriculture reflect environment, tenure, technology, markets and public policy.
Core points Check your learning
Cropping seasons organise agricultural calendars. Explain the central idea of India: Land
Resources and Agriculture in your own
Major crops require distinct climate and soil
words.
conditions.
Apply one idea from India: Land
Land degradation and unequal access complicate
Resources and Agriculture to a textbook-
productivity gains.
style example or source.
One-line recall Cropping seasons organise agricultural calendars.
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CHAPTER 12
India: Water Resources
Quick understanding
India’s water security depends on uneven rainfall, surface and groundwater use, quality, conservation and sharing.
Core points Check your learning
Irrigation is the largest demand but domestic and Explain the central idea of India: Water
industrial needs are rising. Resources in your own words.
Groundwater depletion links local extraction with Apply one idea from India: Water
shared aquifers. Resources to a textbook-style example
or source.
Watershed management and rainwater harvesting
work with local hydrology.
One-line recall Irrigation is the largest demand but domestic and industrial needs are rising.
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CHAPTER 13
India: Mineral and Energy Resources
Quick understanding
Mineral and energy resources are unevenly distributed, finite or flow-based, and central to industry and development.
Core points Check your learning
Ferrous, non-ferrous and non-metallic minerals have Explain the central idea of India: Mineral
different uses. and Energy Resources in your own
words.
Conventional and renewable energy differ in
replenishment and impacts. Apply one idea from India: Mineral and
Energy Resources to a textbook-style
Conservation includes efficient use, recycling and
example or source.
substitution.
One-line recall Ferrous, non-ferrous and non-metallic minerals have different uses.

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CHAPTER 14
India: Planning and Sustainable Development
Quick understanding
Regional planning targets spatial inequality while sustainable development connects present needs with future ecological capacity.
Core points Check your learning
Target-area programmes respond to specific regional constraints. Explain the central idea of India: Planning and Sustainable Development in your own words.
Bharmaur and the Indira Gandhi Canal show contrasting planning contexts. Apply one idea from India: Planning and Sustainable Development to a textbook-style example or source.
Outcomes should be judged socially and environmentally, not only by output.
One-line recall Target-area programmes respond to specific regional constraints.
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CHAPTER 15
India: Transport and Communication
Quick understanding
India’s road, rail, pipeline, water, air and communication networks integrate regions at different costs and scales.
Core points Check your learning
Network density and quality are as important as total length. Explain the central idea of India: Transport and Communication in your own words.
Ports and corridors connect hinterlands with global trade. Apply one idea from India: Transport and Communication to a textbook-style example or source.
Mass and personal communication shape economic and social links.
One-line recall Network density and quality are as important as total length.
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CHAPTER 16
India: International Trade
Quick understanding
India’s trade pattern changes with production structure, policy, prices and global demand.
Core points Check your learning
Composition identifies what is traded; direction identifies partners. Explain the central idea of India: International Trade in your own words.
Ports and airports are gateways linked to hinterlands. Apply one idea from India: International Trade to a textbook-style example or source.
A trade deficit or surplus needs context before evaluation.
One-line recall Composition identifies what is traded; direction identifies partners.
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CHAPTER 17
India: Geographical Perspective on Selected

Issues and Problems
Quick understanding
Pollution, waste, migration, slums and land degradation are spatial problems produced by linked social and environmental processes.
Core points Check your learning
Identify source, pathway, exposure and impact for pollution.
Migration has both push and pull factors.
Case studies should connect location, stakeholders and feasible responses.
Explain the central idea of India: Geographical Perspective on Selected Issues and Problems in your own words.
Apply one idea from India: Geographical Perspective on Selected Issues and Problems to a textbook-style example or source.
One-line recall Identify source, pathway, exposure and impact for pollution.

CHAPTER 18
Practical: Data - Its Source and Compilation
Quick understanding
Geographical enquiry begins by selecting relevant primary or secondary data and organising them accurately.
Core points Check your learning
Metadata records source, date, definition and unit.
Classification should match the research question.
Frequency tables reveal distribution before graphing.
Explain the central idea of Practical: Data - Its Source and Compilation in your own words.
Apply one idea from Practical: Data - Its Source and Compilation to a textbook-style example or source.
One-line recall Metadata records source, date, definition and unit.

CHAPTER 19
Practical: Data Processing
Quick understanding
Processing turns raw values into comparable summaries while preserving units and limitations.
Core points Check your learning
Mean uses every value but is sensitive to extremes.
Median is positional; mode identifies the most frequent value.
Choose a statistic that suits the distribution and purpose.
Explain the central idea of Practical: Data Processing in your own words.
Apply one idea from Practical: Data Processing to a textbook-style example or source.
Equation and notation
Mean $\bar{x} = \Sigma x / n$
Grouped mean $\bar{x} = \Sigma fx / \Sigma f$
SYMBOLS AND UNITS
x, $\bar{x}$: observation and arithmetic mean in the data unit n: number of observations
f: frequency Σ: summation

One-line recall Mean uses every value but is sensitive to extremes.
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CHAPTER 20
Practical: Graphical Representation of Data
Quick understanding
Graphs and thematic maps communicate patterns when scale, labels, legend and classification are chosen honestly.
Core points Check your learning
Line, bar, pie and flow diagrams answer different questions.
Explain the central idea of Practical: Graphical Representation of Data in your own words.
Choropleth maps require rates or ratios, not raw totals.
Apply one idea from Practical: Graphical Representation of Data to a textbook-style example or source.
Isopleths join points of equal value and need interpolation.
One-line recall Line, bar, pie and flow diagrams answer different questions.
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CHAPTER 21
Practical: Spatial Information Technology
Quick understanding
GIS links spatial features with attribute data so layers can be queried, overlaid and analysed.
Core points Check your learning
Vector and raster models represent space differently.
Explain the central idea of Practical: Spatial Information Technology in your own words.
Data entry, linkage and projection choices affect results.
Apply one idea from Practical: Spatial Information Technology to a textbook-style example or source.
Buffer and overlay operations answer proximity and combination questions.
One-line recall Vector and raster models represent space differently.
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