

PTS 2020| L2 Test 6 - Solutions | **ForumIAS**

Q.7)

Ans) b

Exp) Option (b) is the correct answer.

**Statement 1 is incorrect.** The cool temperate western margins are under the permanent influence of the Westerlies all-round the year. Westerlies are the planetary winds that blow in the middle latitudes between 30 and 60 degrees latitude.

**Statement 2 is correct.** Cool temperate western margins or British type of climate is also referred to as the North-West European Maritime climate. There is much oceanic influence on both the temperature and precipitation.

Source) GC Leong, Ch 22, Page no 163

Q.8)

Ans) d

Exp) Option (d) is the correct answer.

**Statement 1 is incorrect.** It is natural to expect the steppes to be grass-covered, differing only in the density and quality of the grass. Their greatest difference from the tropical savanna is that they are practically treeless and the grasses are much shorter. Where the rainfall is moderate, above 20 inches, the grasses are tall, fresh and nutritious and are better described as long prairies grass. This is typical of the grass of the wheat lands in North America, the rich black earth or chernozem areas of Russian Ukraine and the better watered areas of the Asiatic Steppes. Where the rainfall is light (less than 20 inches) or unreliable, or the soil is poor, as in the continental interiors of Asia the short steppe type of grass prevails.

**Statement 2 is incorrect.** Trees are very scarce in the steppes, because of scanty rainfall, long droughts and severe winters. The rolling plain is an endless stretch of grass, whether green or brown, except along the water courses where a few low willows, poplars or alders break the monotony. Polewards, an increase in precipitation gives rise to a transitional zone of wooded steppes where some conifers gradually appear. Even then the trees are very scattered and few in number. Towards the equator, the steppe grass becomes shorter and sparser, till it merges into the deserts with thorny scrub.

Source) G C Leong – Chapter 20, Page no. 150 and 151.

Q.9)

Ans) c

Exp) Option (c) is the correct answer.

**Statement 1 is correct.** Temperate deciduous forests are located in the middle latitude areas. This means they are found between the polar regions and the tropics. The trees shed their leaves in the cold season. This is an adaptation for protecting themselves against the winter snow and frost. They have typically rounded outlines with thick trunks and out-spreading branches that yield valuable temperate hardwood. Some of the most common species include oak, birch, beech, poplar, and hornbeam. In the wetter areas grow willows, alder and aspen. Elsewhere are found other species, e.g. chestnut, maple and lime.

**Statement 2 is correct.** Unlike the equatorial forests, the deciduous trees occur in pure strands and have greater lumbering value from a commercial point of view. A pure strand is that in which at least 80% of the trees in the main canopy are of single species. The open nature of the forests with sparse undergrowth is useful in logging operations. Easy penetration means much cost can be saved in the movement of the logs. The deciduous hardwoods are excellent for both fuel and industrial purposes. In Tasmania, the temperate eucalypts are also extensively felled for the lumbering industry.