

RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

Man depends on resources for his living and the natural resources are unevenly distributed over the surface of the Earth. Hence, human activities differ from place to place, depending on the available resources.

The availability of resources in different parts of the Earth has determined the different occupations of humans. These occupations include food gathering, hunting, fishing, mining, growing crops, processing, manufacturing, assembling and trading goods. Through all these actions, man attains economic gains. Therefore, these actions of humans are otherwise called economic activities.

According to the stage of evolution of these activities, they can be grouped into 5 main types such as Primary activities, Secondary activities, Tertiary activities, Quarternary activities and Quinary activities.

Primary activities

At the first stage, humans were involved directly with the resources of nature. These are age old activities - food gathering, hunting animals, grazing, extracting minerals (mining), fishing, lumbering and cultivation of the land. These activities are called primary activities and workers involved in primary activities are called red-collar workers.

Secondary activities

Humans are able to increase the value of resources by processing and converting the raw materials into a valuable product. Examples of such activities are the production of sugar from sugarcane, and iron and steel from its raw materials, etc. These activities are called secondary activities. Raw materials are processed with other inputs like technology, capital, transport, labour (both skilled and unskilled) power, market and government licence. Workers involved in secondary activities are called blue-collar workers.

Tertiary activities

Trade, Transport and Communication, which are related to services that promote secondary activities, are called the Tertiary activities. Tertiary activities involve the expertise provided by the specialized skill of technicians, workers, bankers (Figure 10) etc. The workers involved with tertiary activities are called Pink-collar workers.



Figure 10. Banking in progress

Quarternary Activities

Services rendered by professionals in education, legal aid, medicine (Figure 11 and 12), entertainment, recreation, management, research and development, which have specialized environments fall under the category of Quarternary activities. People working in these sectors are called White-collar workers. Generally, this activity is concentrated in urban centres.



Figure 11 Teachers



Figure 12 Doctors

Quinary activities

Decision makers and policy makers at the highest level fall into this category. The decision making activity of advisors or consultants, like legal authorities and professional consultants, in private and Government sectors in all fields are included in this type of occupation. They are called as Gold-collar workers.(Figure13) Quinary activities are seen more in metropolitan centres.



Figure 13 Gold collar workers-Judges

In the developing countries the primary and secondary activities predominate whereas in developed countries the people are involved more in tertiary, quaternary and quinary activities.

In the following lessons, we shall examine primary, secondary and tertiary activities in greater detail.

EXERCISE

I) Fill in the blanks.

1. According to the stage of evolution, economic activities are grouped into _____ main types.
2. In primary activity, people are _____ involved with the resources of nature.
3. Processing and converting raw materials to a finished form is called _____ activity.
4. The workers involved with tertiary activities are called as _____ collar workers.
5. In _____ countries primary and secondary activities are more than the tertiary and quinary activities.

II) Choose the correct Answer.

1. This is a primary activity
a) Lumbering b) Banking c) Consultation
2. People working in _____ sectors are called white collar workers
a) Primary b) Secondary c) quaternary
3. _____ promotes Industrial activities.
a) grazing b) transport c) hunting
4. Quinary activities are more in.
a) Villages b) schools c) Metropolitan centres
5. Policy makers belong to the following category
a) Primary activity b) Quinary activity c) Tertiary activity

III) Match the following.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Blue collar workers | Fishing |
| 2. Entertainment | Tertiary |
| 3. Trade | Secondary |
| 4. Primary | Skilled and Unskilled |
| 5. Labour | Quaternary |

IV) Write Briefly.

1. What are primary activities?
2. Write a short note on tertiary activities
3. Write about quinary activities.

V) Detailed answers.

1. Discuss the different types of Economic activities of man.

Formative Assessment

I. Activity:

Word jumble : Re arrange the following letters by using the hints.

- a. NIPKALRLOC : workers involved in tertiary activities.
- b. ROUBAL : both the skilled and unskilled workers of blue collar job.
- c. DJUESG : belonged to gold collar workers.
- d. CRAUEIULTGR : red collar workers involved in farm activities.

II. Collect pictures:

1. Collect five pictures for each of the following activities and paste it in a scrap book.
 - a. Tertiary
 - b. Secondary
 - c. Quinary
2. Collect pictures of an industry and prepare a table of its activities.

III. Debate :

“More percentage of tertiary, quarternary and quinary activities are concentrated in developed regions of the world”

IV. Map skill:

In a political map of the world, mark the developed countries of the world.

V. Project:

Choose a primary activity and do a project on it.

PRIMARY ACTIVITY I

TYPES OF PRIMARY ACTIVITY

In the history of human civilization, agriculture was a major landmark in the life of humans because it allowed them to have a settled life. Before man started his sedentary life, he was dependent on hunting, gathering, herding, lumbering, mining, fishing and agriculture for his livelihood. All these activities for which man had to depend on collecting things directly from nature are known as primary activities.

In its most primitive form, primary activity includes food gathering and hunting .

1. Gathering

Gathering is a primary activity in which people gather their requirements from nature. This includes the collection of fruits and roots from forests and sometimes includes hunting. This kind of activity is prevalent among remote, isolated tribal groups of people.

Example : Bushman of Africa, aborigines (Jarawas, (Figure14) Onges) of Andaman and Nicobar.



Figure 14. Jarawas of Andaman island

2. Hunting

Hunting is a primary activity in which people hunt animals for their meat and skin. This kind of activity is still prevalent among remote isolated groups of people. Example: Pygmies of Africa, the Amerindians of the Amazon basin, Eskimos (Figure 15) of Canada.



Figure 15. Eskimos

Other primary activities like herding and fishing require greater organization.

3. Herding

Herding is a primary activity in which people graze a large number of animals on natural pastures. This involves seasonal migration of the nomads and their flock from one area to another in search of fresh pastures.

Today the nature of herding is different in different regions. The herders of Africa (Figure16) and central Asia still move in relation to the climatic season and the availability of natural pastures. The



Figure 16. Masai Herdsmen of Africa

Nomads	Place	Animals
Masai	Africa-Kenya, Tanzania	Cattle
Bedouin	Arabia	Camels
Lapps	Scandinavia	Reindeer
Tauregs	Africa, S.W. Asia	Camel
Kurds	West Asia	Sheep and Goats
Rabari	India-Rajasthan	Camels

herders of North America (Figure 17), South America and Australia have large ranches where fodder is cultivated and the animals here are not dependent on natural vegetation. These ranches are able to support very large herds of animals.

4. Fishing

Fishing is a primary activity along rivers and lakes and in coastal areas. Inland fishing is usually



Figure 17. Cattle Ranching

simple and on a small scale. Simple fish nets are used to catch fish. Tonle Sap is the world's largest inland fishing lake in the world (Figure 18 and 19).

Fishing in the oceans is a more complex activity. Abundant food for the fish in the form of plankton is available in the continental shelves and shallow seas. Large ships called factory ships travel the oceans for months at a time. They catch, process and tin the fish on the ship itself. They use modern technology to track the fish and this has often resulted in overfishing in parts of the world. Countries like Japan, Peru and Canada and areas like the North Sea and North West Atlantic Ocean are important fishing grounds. Besides fishing, whale and seal hunting and pearl collection are also carried out in the oceans.

5. Lumbering

Lumbering is a primary activity that extracts wood from the forests for varied uses. Timber is used for



Figure 18. Tonle Sap – worlds Largest inland fishing lake



Figure 19. Floating village on the Tonle sap

fuel, furniture making, paper and pulp industry.

Temperate forests are more extensively used for two reasons - the trees have softwood and large

number of coniferous trees of the same type are found together. Countries like USSR, Canada and USA have large timber resources. Two-thirds of the world's industries use in wood from the temperate forests. (Figure 20)

Tropical forests have valuable hardwood trees like teak and rosewood. But lumbering is not a major occupation because the valuable timber trees are scattered in the forests.



Figure 20. Lumbering in the Temperate forests

Mining and agriculture are also primary activities but they involve more human interaction and are practised on a large scale. Therefore, we shall study these two primary activities in the following lessons.

EXERCISE

I) Fill in the Blanks.

1. Activities for which humans depend directly on nature are known as _____.
2. _____ is an activity in which people graze a large number of animals on natural pastures.

3. The most primitive form of primary activities are _____ and _____.
4. Temperate forests are more extensively used for _____
5. _____ in oceans is usually a more complex activity

II) Choose the correct answer.

1. Jaravas are aborigines of
a) Andaman and Nicobar b) Africa c) Canada
2. Eskimos of Canada are
a) Hunters b) Gatherers c) Herders
3. Abundant food for fishes are available near _____.
a) Continental shelf b) Continental slope
c) trenches
4. Two-thirds of industrial wood is obtained from _____.
a) Temperate forests b) Tropical forests c) Tundra
5. Primary activity that is practised on a larger scale is _____.
a) Gathering b) Hunting c) Mining

III) Match the following.

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Bushmen | Tropical forests |
| 2. Japan | Africa |
| 3. Teak | Fishing grounds |
| 4. Coniferous | Animal food |
| 5. Fodder | Soft wood |

IV) Answer Briefly.

1. Name the primary activities.
2. What is herding?
4. Name some places and people involved in gathering activity.
5. What is inland fishing?
6. Why are temperate forests used more extensively than tropical forests for lumbering?

V) Answer in detail.

1. Discuss the fishing activity in the oceans.
2. Write an essay on the ' types of primary activities.

Formative Assessment

I. Activity:

1. Word search:

M	P	R	L	U	M	B	E	R	I	N	G	G
V	L	A	G	R	I	C	U	L	T	U	R	E
K	M	A	D	R	K	V	L	P	A	R	P	T
T	H	A	S	A	B	R	S	A	T	H	L	Y
G	E	G	A	T	H	E	R	I	N	G	A	S
S	E	A	A	M	G	A	D	V	R	T	N	I
I	E	S	N	N	D	A	E	O	N	K	K	R
J	T	L	O	I	I	H	C	T	U	I	T	P
K	H	R	V	S	Y	P	R	K	R	I	O	T
A	A	T	H	A	H	I	Y	A	E	S	N	H
V	I	J	A	Y	A	S	A	R	A	T	H	Y
Y	H	T	A	R	A	S	A	Y	A	J	I	V
R	A	T	R	T	Q	S	B	C	K	J	L	W

- a. Collection of fruits and roots from forests.
- b. Arabian nomads who herds camel.
- c. Activity that extracts wood from forests.
- d. Food gatherers of Andaman and Nicobar islands.
- e. A primary activity involves more interaction practiced on a larger scale.
- f. Food for the fish.

2. Make a table with the headings Nomads, Places and Animals of the world.

II. Discussion:

“Why is lumbering not a major activity in the tropical forests”?

III. Do a project work on the following

- a) Pygmies of Africa
- b) Jaravas of Andamans

IV. Map Skill:

On a world map, mark the following

- a) Dogger Bank
- b) North Sea
- c) Peru
- d) Japan

PRIMARY ACTIVITY I

MINING

Mining is an important primary activity. It supports the industrial growth of a country.

Mining is the extraction of valuable minerals or other geological materials from the Earth. Mining of stone and metal has been an important activity from pre-historic times. Early humans used minerals to make crude implements and weapons. Today, mining is carried on a very large scale since industries use minerals extensively.

Minerals are non-renewable resources. Mining therefore is known as a **Robber industry** because the extracted materials cannot be replaced.

Classification of Minerals

Minerals are classified based on their mineral content and used as metallic minerals, non-metallic minerals and power minerals. Metallic minerals like iron ore contain metals while non metallic minerals like limestone do not contain metals. Power minerals are non-metallic minerals which are very important fuel resources.

Metallic	Non-metallic	Power Mineral
Iron	Sulphur	Coal
Copper	Mica	Petroleum
Gold	Nitrate	Natural gas
Tin	Limestone	Uranium
Aluminum	Asbestos	Thorium

Minerals may occur in pure form or maybe mixed with other materials of the rocks as ores. The ores are mined and then refined to extract valuable elements.

Mineral ores may occur in cracks, faults or joints of rocks or as sediments. Mineral ore deposits are thus classified as occurring in veins, lodes, beds and alluvial deposits.

Types of Mining

There are different methods of mining to extract minerals. Mining may be on the surface or subsurface (underground) depending on the occurrence of minerals.

Surface mining methods include open cast mining, strip mining and alluvial mining. It is used to mine the minerals that are found closer to the surface.

Open cast mining involves the digging out of minerals that occur on the surface of the Earth. (Figure 21)



Figure 21. Open cast mining

Strip mining removes long strips of overlying soil and rock. (Figure 22)



Figure 22. Strip mining

Alluvial mining is used to extract minerals by panning or dredging minerals like tin and gold which are sometimes mixed with alluvium in the river bed. (Figure 23)



Figure 23. Alluvial mining for gold

Quarrying is the mining of building materials like limestone from the Earth's surface.

In **underground mining**, ores are extracted from greater depths beneath the surface. Underground mining is usually more expensive than the surface mining. Safety precautions are very important in underground mining (Figure 24). For example, coal mines are often prone to catch fire because of the gases trapped underground.



Figure 24. Underground Mining

Drilling is a mining method used to extract minerals like Oil and natural gas. Oil rigs are used for drilling oil wells. The most familiar sights in the oil fields are the tower like features or derricks which mark the places where the oil is being drilled.(Figure 25)



Figure 25. Oil Rig with Derricks

DISTRIBUTION OF MINERALS **Metallic minerals** **Iron Ore**

Magnetite, hematite, limonite and siderite are different types of iron ore, according to the iron content of the ore. Iron ore mines are found **extensively** in U.S.A, Canada, Australia, China, Brazil, India and Kazhakaztan.

Major Iron and Copper Regions of the World

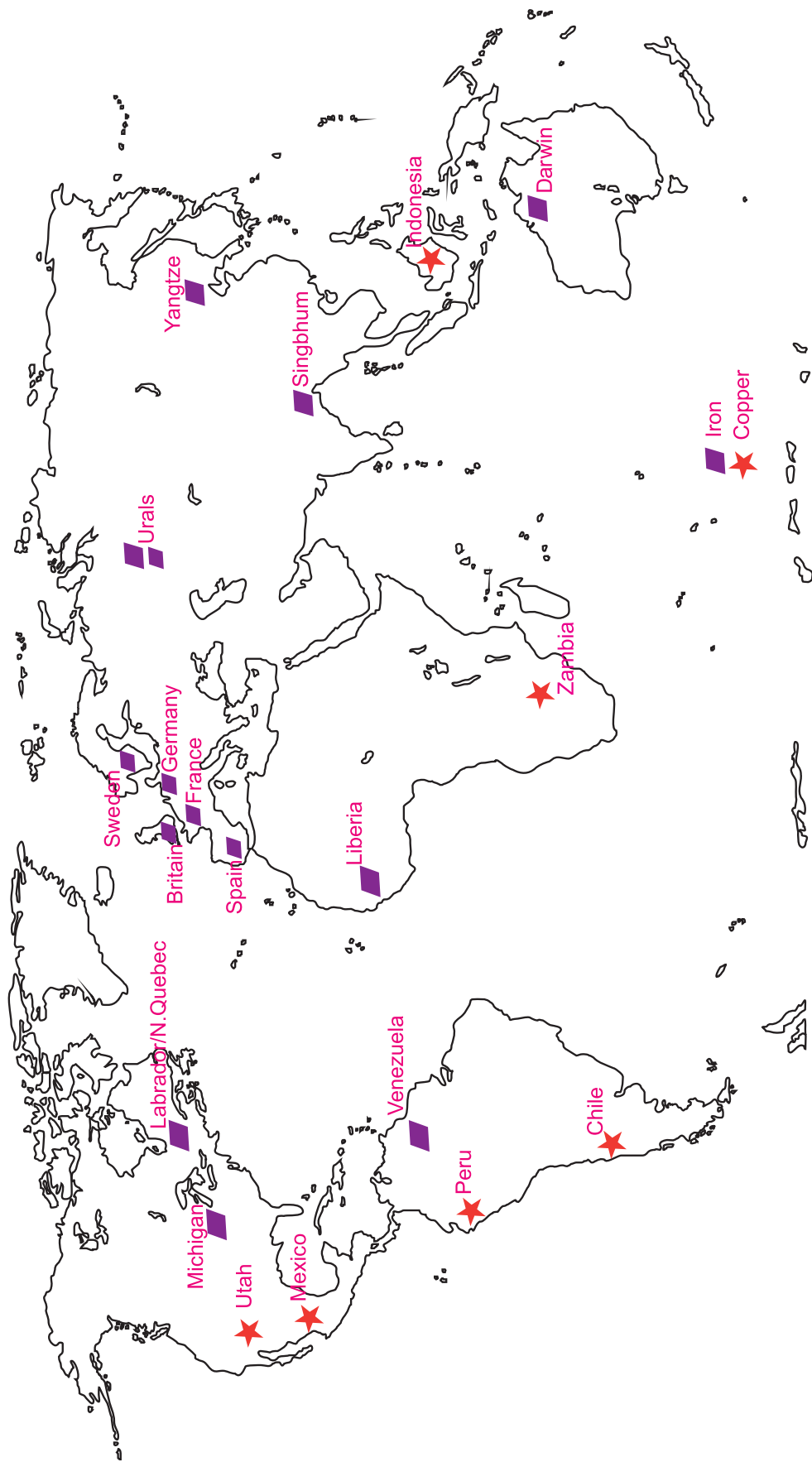


Figure 26

Copper

It is mined from open pits. Large copper mines are found in Utah in USA, Mexico, Zambia, Chile and Indonesia. (figure 26)

Bauxite

Bauxite is the ore of aluminium. Bauxite is extracted from open pit mines. Australia, Brazil, Jamaica and Guinea have large reserves of bauxite.

Tin

The ore is called cassiterite. The ore is obtained by alluvial mining. Tin is mined in Malaysia, Bolivia, Indonesia, China, Russia, Nigeria and Congo.

Gold

Gold is a precious metal that is extracted through the placer or alluvial method. Carat is the term used for the purity of the gold. The largest producers are South Africa, Canada, USA, Australia and Ghana.

Non-metallic Minerals

Salt, potash, nitrates, sulphur, mica, rocksalt and phosphates are non-metallic minerals. Rubies and diamonds are also classified as non-metallic.

Sulphur

It is extracted through underground mining. It is a bright yellow mineral. Heavy chemical industries require sulphur to produce chemical products. The USA, Mexico, Italy and Japan are large producers.

Mica

Mica is a black, transparent matter that splits easily into thin sheets. Mica is used in electrical industries. The USA, India, Norway, Brazil and Russia are important producers.

Asbestos

Generally extracted from open pit mines. It is used to make fire proof materials. It is mined in Canada, Russia, Brazil, South Africa, Rhodesia, China, USA and Italy.

Mineral Fuels

The three major sources of Power resources are coal, oil and natural gas. These non-renewable minerals have been discussed in an earlier lesson.

EXERCISE

1) Fill in the blanks.

1. Mining is also known as a _____ industry.
2. Open cast mining is also called _____.
3. Minerals are non-renewable _____.
4. Mica is used in _____ Industries.
5. _____ are tower like features in the oil fields.

II) Choose the correct answer.

1. The mineral found in alluvial deposits is _____.
a) Gold b) Iron c) Coal
2. The ore of aluminium is _____.
a) Sulphur b) Salt c) Bauxite
3. Anthracite is the ore of _____.
a) Iron b) Coal c) Gold
4. A kind of non metallic mineral is _____.
a) Petroleum b) Sulphur c) Iron

III) Match the following.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| 1. Fuel | Tin |
| 2. Malaysia | Gold |
| 3. Alluvial mining | Quarrying |
| 4. limestone | Chile |
| 5. Copper | coal |

IV) Answer briefly.

1. How do minerals occur on the Earth?
2. Write a note on shaft mining.
3. Name the different types of coal.
4. What are mineral fuels?
5. What is alluvial mining?

V) Write in 200 words.

1. Describe the types of mining.
2. Write an essay on metallic minerals.