

1. India Location

1. Choose the right answer from the four alternatives given below

(i) Which one of the following latitudinal extent is relevant for the extent of India's area?

(a) 8°41'N - 35°7'N (b) 8°4'N - 37°6'N (c) 8°4'N - 35°6'N (d) 6°45'N - 37°6'N

Answer: (b) 8°4'N - 37°6'N

(ii) Which one of the following countries shares the longest land frontier with India?

(a) Bangladesh (c) Pakistan (b) China (d) Myanmar

Answer: (a) Bangladesh

(iii) Which one of the following countries is larger in area than India?

(a) China (c) France (b) Egypt (d) Iran

Answer: (a) China

(iv) Which one of the following longitudes is the standard meridian for India?

(a) 69°30'E (c) 75°30'E (b) 82°30'E (d) 90°30'E

Answer: (b) 82°30'E

2. Answer the following questions in about 30 words

(i) Does India need to have more than one standard time? If yes, why do you think so?

Answer: Yes, India needs to have more than one standard time. This is because its east-west extension of India is nearly 30 degrees (2933 kms), and there is a difference of about two hours in the time of its eastern and western ends. Some countries have more than one standard meridian due to their vast east-to-west extent. For example, the USA has seven time zones.

(ii) What are the implications of India having a long coastline?

Answer: India's long coastline (7,517 km) gives several advantages to the country. The trans-oceanic routes connecting Africa, Europe, China, Japan, Australia and western coast of the USA pass through Indian Ocean.

(iii) How is the latitudinal spread of India advantageous to her?

Answer: The latitudinal spread of India is advantageous because it gives large variety of landforms, climate, soil types and natural vegetation in the country.

(iv) While the sun rises earlier in the east, say Nagaland and also sets earlier, how do the watches at Kohima and New Delhi show the same time?

Answer: Watches-at Kohima and New Delhi show the same time because Indian Standard Time is calculated on the basis of 82.5° E longitude and watches all over India are set accordingly.