

TENDER HEART HIGH SCHOOL

Section 33 B, Chandigarh

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SUBJECT: Geography

CLASS: VI

Chapter 6 (continue)

Climate Types

(1) Tundra Climate:

- It prevails in northern region of North America, including coastal Canada and Alaska.
- Here, temperature is very low throughout the year.
- Here, the winters are long and cold and summers are short and cool.
- Blizzards are common during winters.

(2) Taiga Climate:

- This region lies below the Tundra Region.
- It extends from Pacific Coast in west to Atlantic Coast in East.
- Winters are long and cold but summers are warmer than Tundra region.
- This region receives rainfall during summer.

(3) Cool Temperate Climate (East Coast):

- It is found in east of St. Lawrence River and Great Lakes.
- Here, summers are mild due to the influence of Gulf Stream, while it rains moderately throughout the year.
- Here winters are cold due to Labrador Current.

(4) Cool Temperate Climate (West Coast):

- It is found around the west coast in the northern part of the continent.
- It is called marine type of climate.
- Here, summers are warm and winters are mild due to the influence of North Pacific Drift.
- This region receives abundant rainfall in winter season and in summer it receives less rainfall.

(5) Cool Temperate Continental Climate:

- This climate prevails in the interior of the continent.
- Here, summers are warm with rain, which occurs due to North-east trade winds, while winters are mild.
- It receives less rainfall because the winds have less moisture.
- It receives snowfall in winter.

(6) Tropical Type Climate:

- It is experienced in Southern Mexico, Central America and Caribbean Islands.
- It is hot and humid with plenty of Rain.
- Here, the rain is brought by North-East Trade winds.

(7) Mediterranean Type of Climate:

- It is found along the South-western Coast and narrow coastal belt of California.
- Here, winters are cool with rain brought by westerlies and summers are dry and hot.

(8) Desert type Climate:

- It is found in Southwestern part of North-America.
- In Summer, the climate is very hot, dry and harsh, winters are cool with no rainfall.
- In winters the night temperature may fall below freezing point.
- Mojave Desert is the driest and smallest desert. It lies between Great Basin Desert and Sonoran Desert.

Natural Vegetation

(A) Tundra Vegetation

- It consists of mosses, lichens, grasses and dwarf bushes.
- It grows during summer season. In winter, it has permafrost condition.
- It is a treeless region, but some trees grow along its southern margin.
- It is found from Alaska to Labrador Peninsula.

(b) Taiga Vegetation:

- It is found south of Taiga Vegetation
- Important trees found here are pine, spruce, maple, fir, larch etc.
- The wood of these trees are used to make furniture, sleepers etc.

(c) Cool Temperate Vegetation:

- The vegetation is combination of coniferous and deciduous trees.
- The coniferous trees grow in colder areas and deciduous trees grow in warmer areas.
- eg. oak, chestnut, yellow pine, cypress etc.

(d) Temperate Grasslands:

- They are located in interior of the continent and also known as Prairies.
- It is divided into three types namely - short grass prairies, middle grass prairies, tall grass prairies.
- It extends from central lowlands to Gulf of Mexico.
- Firs are very important part of prairies ecosystem.

(e) Tropical Vegetation:

- It is found in hot and wet region in central America, Caribbean Islands and parts of Mexico.
- Trees with thick bark and long root are found here.
- Trees grown here are Mahogany, ebony, logwood, palm etc.
- The chicle tree also grows here, which is source of chewing gum.

(f) Mediterranean Vegetation:

- It is found along west coast of North America, especially California Coast.
- Trees like Magnolia, Oak, cork, cedar, laurel and Olive grow here.
- Fruit trees such as lemon, peach, orange, apricot and walnut are grown in this region.

(g) Desert Vegetation:

- It is found in south of Taiga and east of prairies.
- The vegetation of this region are cacti, short grasses, thorny bushes etc.

Wildlife:

- Tundra - Arctic fox, reindeer, polar bear, musk ox, walrus, seals
- Taiga - mink, fox, beaver, bear and wolf
- cool Temperate forest - fox, bear, skunk, deer
- Temperate Grassland - American Bison, Prairie Dog, Coyote, Rattlesnake, bobcat
- Tropical forest - monkeys, snakes, parrots and insects
- Desert Vegetation - rats, scorpion, lizard, snakes, insects