

Major Landforms of the Earth

Chapter 3: Landforms and Life · Topic 1

Key Concept

Mountains are tall, steep landforms, like the Himalayas, often formed by the movement of tectonic plates over millions of years.

Plateaus are flat, raised areas of land, like the Deccan Plateau in India, often used for farming or mining due to their fertile soil or mineral deposits.

Plains are flat, low-lying areas, like the Indo-Gangetic Plains, which are usually very fertile and densely populated due to easy farming and settlement.

Valleys are low areas between hills or mountains, often formed by rivers, and can be fertile and suitable for agriculture and settlement.

Quick Revision Notes

- Mountains are tall, steep landforms, like the Himalayas.
- Mountains form from tectonic plate movement.
- Plateaus are flat, raised areas, like the Deccan Plateau.
- Plateaus are used for farming or mining.
- Plains are flat, low-lying areas, like the Indo-Gangetic Plains.
- Plains are fertile and densely populated.
- Valleys are low areas between hills or mountains.
- Valleys are often formed by rivers.

Practice Questions

- 1 Find an example each of a mountain, plateau, plain and valley in India.
- 2 Research how the Himalayas were formed.
- 3 Discuss why plains are good for farming.
- 4 Draw a diagram showing different landforms.
- 5 Research the Deccan Plateau's uses.
- 6 Explain why valleys are often fertile.