

P. 7 SST CLASSWORK WEEK TWO

Monday 8th June, 2020.

VEGETATION OF AFRICA

-It is the Plant cover of an area.

Types of vegetation

- Natural vegetation
- Planted vegetation

Examples of vegetation/ Elements of vegetation

- forests
- shrubs
- crops
- Swamps
- flowers

Natural vegetation: is the plant cover of the area that grows on its own.

Planted vegetation: is the plant cover of an area planted by people.

Difference between Natural and planted forest:

- Natural forests produce hard wood while planted forests produce soft wood.
- Natural forests have a variety of tree species while planted forests have one tree species.
- Natural forests have thick under growth while planted forests do not have thick under growth.
- Natural forests take long to mature while planted forests take short time to mature.
- Natural forests do not grow in rows while planted forests grow in rows.

NB. Natural forests produce hard wood because they take long to mature.

Why do they take long to mature?

- They compete for nutrients.
- They lack conditions for maturing faster

Examples of trees in natural forests:

- African walnut -Mahogany -Ebony -Rose wood - Mvule

Examples of tree species in planted forests.

- Eucalyptus
- Conifers
- Pines
- Cedar
- Cypress
- Fir

Vegetation zones in Africa:

- Equatorial / tropical rain forests
- Savanna
- Mediterranean
- Temperate
- Semi desert
- Desert
- Mangrove
- Swamps / swampy vegetation.

Activity

1. What is natural vegetation?
2. Why do trees in natural forests produce hard wood timber?
3. Identify any two tree species found in natural forests.
4. Why do trees in natural forests grow very tall?
5. Which type of natural vegetation covers the largest part of Africa?

Tuesday 9th June, 2020.

EQUATORIAL VEGETATION/ TROPICAL RAINFORESTS

- This type of vegetation grows in areas that experience high rainfall throughout the year.
- Equatorial rainforests are found along the coast of West Africa in Nigeria, Gabon, Ghana, Democratic Republic of Congo and around the shores of L. Victoria in Uganda.

Examples of trees in Equatorial rain forests:

-Mahogany -Greenheart -Mvule - Ebony -Rosewood

Characteristics of Equatorial rain forests:

- The trees have hardwood.
- The trees have broad leaves.
- The trees have buttress roots, standing above the ground.
- The trees are very tall.
- The forests form a canopy.
- They have a thick under growth.
- They are ever green.

Economic activities in Equatorial rainforests

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| i)Lumbering | iii)Tourism |
| ii)Latex tapping | iv)Farming |

Advantages of living near thick forests

- A lot of rainfall is received in the area.
- People can access herbs.
- The soil is fertile for farming.
- People can get wild meat (hunting).
- People can easily access timber.
- People can easily access wood fuel.

Disadvantages of forests to people

- Forests are breeding places for diseases vectors.
- They promote insecurity in an area since wrong doers hide there.

- Forests keep animals that destroy crops and lives.

Activity

1. Name the Equatorial forests in Uganda.
2. Give one reason why trees in Equatorial forests grow very tall.
3. Why are trees in Equatorial rainforests evergreen?
4. How do carpenters benefit from forests in an area?

Wednesday 10th June, 2020.

GRASSLANDS

There are two types of grasslands in Africa namely:

- Savanna grasslands.
- Temperate grasslands

Savanna grasslands:

- Savanna grassland covers the largest part of Africa.
- Savanna vegetation is basically grassland

There are two types of savanna vegetation namely;

- a) Wet Savanna
- b) Savanna woodland/dry Savanna.

Savanna grasslands:

- They are located in tropical regions.
- Savanna grasslands have plenty of grass. This explains why most game parks are located there.

Wet Savanna

- It is the most wide spread in Africa.
- It covers places like Senegal, Nigeria, South Sudan, East Africa, Zambia, Angola and South of DRC.

Characteristics of Wet Savanna vegetation

- It has tall and scattered or a few trees.
- The grass is short in areas that receive little rainfall and tall grass in areas that receive a lot of rainfall.
- The trees shed their leaves during dry season.(deciduous trees)
- The grass leaves go brown and dry in the dry season.

Savanna woodlands/dry savanna:

- The Miombo woodland in Central Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, South Eastern DRC and Western Madagascar are examples of Savanna woodland.
- The Miombo woodlands are sparsely populated due to the presence of tsetse flies.

Characteristics of Savanna woodland

- Most trees in the savanna are deciduous i.e. they shed their leaves during the dry season to reduce the rate of transpiration.
- Woodland Savanna has tall thorny trees
- It has short grass.

- The trees have long roots which they use to tap underground waters.
- The woodlands have thorny thickets.

Trees found in savanna vegetation

- Acacia
- Baobab
- Euphorbia

Activity

1. Why do trees in savannah region shed their leaves during dry season?
2. Give two reasons why cattle keeping is carried out on a large scale in Savanna grassland.
3. Identify the area in East Africa which has a lot of tsetse flies.
4. In which way do tsetse flies affect the people in Central Tanzania?
5. Why do you think savanna vegetation covers the largest part of Africa?

Thursday 11th June, 2020.

TEMPERATE GRASSLANDS

- The temperate grasslands are found in the temperate regions.
- They are located in Southern Africa.
- The temperate grasslands of South Africa are called the High Velds.
- They cover areas of Orange Free State, Transvaal and Natal.

Characteristics of temperate grasslands

- It has short grass in the drier region.
- It has few scattered trees and shrubs.
- The grass has short roots.
- They have long and narrow leaves.
- The leaves have hairy covering.
- These conditions help them to survive in the dry seasons (reduce the rate of transpiration)

Economic activities in temperate grasslands

- Sheep rearing – Merino for wool.
- Goat rearing – Angora goats for mohair.
- Growing of oak trees.
- Crop growing e.g citrus fruits, vegetables, maize, sugarcane and wheat.

MEDITERRANEAN VEGETATION

- The Mediterranean vegetation is found in the North extreme.
- It is found along the coast of Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Libya and South West tip of Africa (at Cape province)

Examples of trees found in the Mediterranean vegetation

- conifers e.g pines, cedar, cypress and fir.
- Olives
- Oak

Characteristics of Mediterranean vegetation

- The trees develop thick bark.

- The trees have long roots to tap water from deep the ground.
- The leaves are wax covered, shiny and hairy to reduce the loss of water (transpiration)
- The roots are widely spread.
- The vegetation consists of short thin stemmed trees .

Economic activities in Mediterranean vegetation

- Growing of citrus fruits e.g oranges, lemon, tangerines, limes, vines, grapes, etc.
- Sheep and cattle rearing.
- Other crops: wheat, maize. Barley and vegetables.

Activity

1. How does the Mediterranean vegetation contribute to the wine making industry?
2. Identify any three products that can be made from the wood got in Mediterranean vegetation.
3. Of what value are citrus fruits to a school child?
4. What name is given to the temperate grasslands of South Africa?
5. How do trees in Mediterranean vegetation reduce the rate of transpiration?

Friday 12th June, 2020.

SEMI DESERT VEGETATION

- It is found in areas which receive little rainfall.
- It is found near Sahara and Kalahari- Namib deserts, in Karamoja, North eastern part of Kenya and South Sudan.
- The common tree species is cactus.

Characteristics of Semi- desert climate:

- It consists of short scrub, bushes and thorny trees.
- It has rough scattered grass.
- It has few trees because of little rainfall received.
- The plants have deep roots tap water from deep the ground.
- The plants have small leaves to reduce transpiration.

DESERT VEGETATION

- It is found in Kalahari, Sahara and Namib deserts.

Characteristics Desert vegetation:

- The ground has bare rock and sand heaps (sand dunes)
- Few trees grow in desert regions
- Trees have very long roots
- Trees have thick bark and thin leaves to reduce transpiration.

Examples of trees in the desert

- Baobab - Cactus
- poppies - thorny bushes

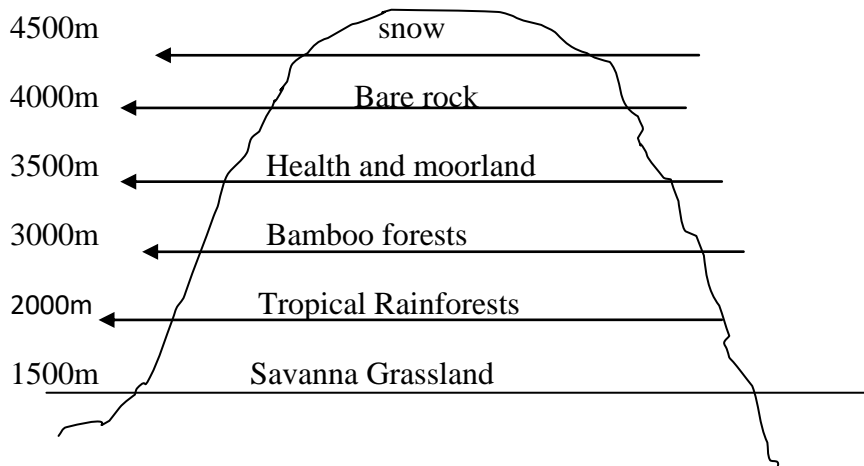
Economic activities in desert vegetation.

- Oil mining e.g in Libya
- Nomadic pastoralism
- Irrigation farming
- Tourism

MOUNTAIN VEGETATION:

- It is found in Drakensberg mountains, Mount Kilimanjaro, Kenya, Elgon, Rwenzori and Ethiopian highlands.
- Mountain vegetation is also called Montane vegetation.
- It changes with the difference in altitude.
- At the foot of the mountain, there is Savanna grassland / Tropical grassland.
- From 1500m to about 3000m there are Equatorial forests / tropical Rain forests.
- Above 3000 – 3500m there are Bamboo forests.
- From 3500m – 4000m there is health and moorland.
- From 4000m – 4500m there are bare rocks.
- Above 4500m there is a snow line.

Diagram showing types of mountain vegetation:



MANGROVE FORESTS

- Mangrove forests grow in coastal waters.
- They are found along the East coast of Africa, the Western part of Madagascar and Western coast of Africa.
- The forests have hard wood used in boat and ship building.
- This wood is suitable for ship building because it is water proof.

MAP SHOWING VEGETATION ZONES OF AFRICA

