

KLINE MEMORIAL SCHOOL OF UBS
GEOGRAPHY
WORK SHEET 7 CLASS X

SUPPLEMENT TO WK SHEET 2

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CHAPTER 9 SOILS SUPPLEMENT TO WK SHEET 2

Soil is the outer most thin layer of broken down rock materials in different ways on the Earth's Surface. It is this layer which supports forests, grasslands and agriculture too. So we must always see that the soil remains fertile. Fertile doesn't mean only for crops.

Various factors like temperature, running water and wind affect the formation of soil. These are agents of erosion which break down big boulders into smaller particles, carry them and deposit them. It takes hundreds of years to form 1 cm of soil.

CONSTITUENTS OF SOIL

Soils are derived from **Parent Rocks** through a process of wear and tear due to climatic conditions. Apart from this, soils are also made up of decomposed of vegetation and animals remains. This is known as **Humus**. This is very important as it adds to the fertility of the soil. **Clay** and **Sand** are also important constituents.

SOIL FERTILITY

Soil Fertility refers to the strength of the soil which helps the plants to grow. A farmer or even a gardener always adds manure, fertilizers to his crops for a better yield.

CHARACTERISTICS OF FERTILE SOIL

- i. It always contains enough moisture to make it easy for the plants to absorb the nutrients. As soon as there is less moisture, cracks develop which further results in soil erosion.
- ii. It has enough depth making it easy for the plants to grow deep roots to be able to absorb the nutrients.
- iii. Rich in the required basic nutrients like Phosphorus, Nitrogen and Potassium. And then if a crop needs a particular nutrient, the farmer adds that additional manure.
- iv. Plenty of humus is present which improves the soil fertility.

SOIL CLASSIFICATION

Soils are of two types based on their location and all varieties come under them.

Residual/Sedentary / *in situ*.

This means these soils from the beginning have been found where they are formed from their parent rock and they remain there only. **Sedentary lifestyle** is when a person sits in one place only without moving. Best e.g. Is the **Black Soil** from Volcanic Rocks? It covers the area where the Deccan Peninsula volcanic rocks cooled down. The soil formed remains above the parent rock.

