



CLASS 9 SOCIAL SCIENCE · 2026-27

Economics: Palampur and people as resource

Economics

22

QUESTIONS

25

MINUTES

3

EXERCISES

This belongs to _____

Date _____

WHAT YOU'LL GET GOOD AT

- Names the four factors of production with an example of each
- Distinguishes multiple cropping from modern farming methods
- Uses the terms for unemployment precisely
- Explains why investment in people is called human capital

Take your time, and have a go at every one. If you get stuck, look at the orange box — Ollie has already done one for you.

Economics: Palampur and people as resource

Economics · 22 questions · tick each box as you finish

Exercise 1 of 3 · 8 questions Name the factor of production, and give an example from Palampur.

☐

WRITE THE ANSWER

HERE'S ONE DONE FOR YOU

The distinction between fixed and working capital is the one children reliably blur. Fixed capital lasts across many cycles - a tractor, a shed. Working capital is used up in one - seeds, fertiliser, cash for wages. If it survives the harvest it is fixed; if it is consumed by it, it is working. Questions about this pair appear every year.

1) The natural resource that is fixed in quantity

2) The tools, machines and buildings used in production

3) The money needed to buy seeds, fertiliser and to pay wages

4) The people who do the work

5) The person who organises the other factors and takes the risk

6) Why is land called a fixed factor of production?

7) Why is human capital different from the other factors?

8) What happens to output when only one factor is increased and the others are not?

Exercise 2 of 3 · 7 questions Explain in two or three sentences.

WRITE THE ANSWER

HERE'S ONE DONE FOR YOU

The fertiliser question is the one that shows whether the chapter was read as economics or as agriculture. The point is not chemical - it is that a method which increases output now can reduce the productive capacity of the resource later. That idea returns throughout the Class 10 syllabus, which is one more reason not to leave this book until February.

1) What is multiple cropping, and why did Palampur need it?

2) What made the green revolution possible in Palampur?

3) Why did the use of chemical fertilisers create problems over time?

4) Why are wages for farm labour in Palampur often below the minimum wage?

5) What is the difference between multiple cropping and modern farming methods?

6) Why does a small farmer often borrow from a moneylender rather than a bank?

7) What is meant by non-farm activity, and why does a village need it?

Exercise 3 of 3 · 7 questions Define precisely, and give an example.

WRITE THE ANSWER

HERE'S ONE DONE FOR YOU

Disguised unemployment is the term most often defined loosely, and the definition has to include the key test: output would not fall if some of the workers left. Without that clause the answer describes overcrowding rather than disguised unemployment. Class 9 Economics is unusually strict about vocabulary, and this is exactly why - the terms carry precise meanings that the paper checks.

1) Disguised unemployment

2) Seasonal unemployment

3) Human capital

4) The difference between a large population and a large workforce

5) Working capital

6) Fixed capital

7) Yield per hectare



All done? How did that feel?

Colour in a star. Three stars means you could teach it to someone else.



Tricky · Getting there · Easy now



Answer key

For grown-ups

Economics: Palampur and people as resource · keep this page back until your child has finished.

1. Name the factor of production, and give an example from Palampur.

- 1) Land - fixed in Palampur, which is why raising output required growing more than one crop a year rather than farming more land.
- 2) Fixed capital - tools, machines, generators and buildings, which last over many production cycles.
- 3) Working capital - raw materials and money in hand, which are used up in a single production cycle.
- 4) Labour - in Palampur, both the farmers working their own land and the landless labourers hired to work others'.
- 5) The entrepreneur, or in the village context the farmer or business owner who brings land, labour and capital together.
- 6) Because its quantity cannot be increased. More can be irrigated or better used, but no more of it can be made, which is why pressure on land grows as population does.
- 7) Because it is the only factor that can improve itself. Education, training and health raise what the same person can produce, and unlike a machine that ability does not simply wear out.
- 8) Output rises at first and then rises more slowly, because the added factor has less and less of the others to work with. Adding more workers to the same small field is the standard example.

2. Explain in two or three sentences.

- 1) Growing more than one crop on the same piece of land in a year. Palampur's cultivated land was fixed, so the only way to raise production was to use the same land more often, which well-developed irrigation made possible.
- 2) Electricity, which allowed tubewells to replace the older Persian wheels and made irrigation reliable, together with high-yielding variety seeds, chemical fertilisers and pesticides. Together these raised yields substantially.
- 3) Because they gradually damaged soil fertility, so more fertiliser was needed for the same output, and the chemicals also affected groundwater. What raised production in the short term reduced the land's natural productivity over time.
- 4) Because there are far more people seeking work than there is work available. Competition among labourers for a limited number of jobs pushes wages down, and a worker who refuses can be replaced immediately.
- 5) Multiple cropping means growing more than one crop on the same land in a year, which needs irrigation. Modern methods mean higher-yielding seeds, fertilisers and machinery - both raise output, but one raises it by using the land more often and the other by raising the yield each time.
- 6) Because a bank asks for papers, collateral and a formal application that a small farmer may not have. The moneylender lends quickly and without those, and charges a far higher rate for it.
- 7) Work in a village that is not cultivation - dairying, shopkeeping, transport, small manufacturing. It matters because farmland cannot absorb a growing population, so without it people are left underemployed or must migrate.

3. Define precisely, and give an example.

- 1) A situation where more people are engaged in work than are actually required, so removing some would not reduce output. A family farm worked by eight members when five would suffice is the standard example.
- 2) Unemployment during particular parts of the year, when there is no work available in that occupation. Agricultural labour between sowing and harvesting is the usual example.
- 3) The stock of skill, knowledge and good health embodied in a population, built up by investment in education, training and healthcare. It is called capital because it raises future productive capacity, exactly as a machine does.
- 4) A large population is only a number of people. It becomes a workforce - an asset rather than a burden - when it is educated, healthy and trained, which is what investment in human capital produces.
- 5) The money and materials used up in one round of production - seeds, fertiliser, wages. Example: the money a farmer spends on seed before the sowing season.
- 6) Tools, machines and buildings that are used over many years without being used up. Example: a tractor or a threshing machine.
- 7) The quantity of a crop produced on one hectare of land. Example: wheat yields in Punjab rose sharply after the green revolution, from the same area of land.

WHILE YOUR CHILD WORKS

- Start this book early. It is the shortest, the most self-contained, and the most often left until February.
- The vocabulary is precise. Disguised unemployment has a specific test - would output fall if some workers left?
- Palampur is a model, not a story. Ask what each detail illustrates rather than what happened.

**Spotted a gap while marking?**

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