

Exercise walk-through

Introduction to Agriculture ■ 5.1

eXercise

You must be able to

- explain how climate and soil shape what can be farmed
- distinguish **intensive** 集约农业 from **extensive agriculture** 粗放农业
- distinguish **subsistence** 自给农业 from **commercial agriculture** 商品农业
- link an example to its type

Method — Physical limits on farming

Climate, soil, water, and landforms decide what crops or animals an area can support — rice needs warmth and water; wheat suits cooler drier plains.

Method — Intensive vs extensive

Intensive agriculture uses much labour or capital on a small area for high output.

Extensive agriculture uses little input over a large area (ranching).

Method — Subsistence vs commercial

Subsistence farming feeds the farmer's family. **Commercial** farming produces crops/animals to sell for profit.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

State the difference between intensive and extensive agriculture.

Solution 2.1

Method: Intensive vs extensive

Worked steps

intensive = high input (labour/capital) on a small area **B1**; extensive = low input over a large area **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Explain how climate limits the crops a region can grow.

Solution 2.2

Method: Physical limits on farming

Worked steps

each crop needs certain temperature/rainfall **B1**; a region can only grow crops suited to its climate **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 1 mark

A family grows just enough food to feed itself on a small plot.

- (a) Is this subsistence or commercial farming?
- (b) Is it more likely intensive or extensive? Explain.

Solution 2.3

Method: Subsistence vs commercial

Worked steps

(a) subsistence **B1**. (b) intensive — much labour on a small plot for maximum food **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

Cattle ranching on huge areas of dry grassland is best described as

- A** intensive subsistence
- B** extensive commercial
- C** intensive commercial
- D** plantation

Solution 3.1

A intensive subsistence

B extensive commercial 

C intensive commercial

D plantation

Worked steps

B. low input over a vast area, for sale = extensive commercial.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

The main physical factor limiting agriculture in a cold, dry region is its

A relative location

B climate

C sex ratio

D toponym

Solution 3.2

A relative location

B climate



C sex ratio

D toponym

Worked steps

B. climate limits what can grow.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

A farmer sells all his produce to a national supermarket chain.

- (a) Name this type of agriculture.
- (b) State one physical factor he must still consider.

Solution 3.3

Worked steps

(a) commercial agriculture **B1**. (b) climate/soil/water suited to his crop **B1**.