Fun and interesting facts (About the types of mountains)

1. How can one define a mountain?

Mountains are vertical, huge, and prominent landforms that are slanted in shape abruptly and have a peak at the top. They are about 1000 or more feet above sea level.

2. Do all mountains have the same or different weather patterns?

Each mountain shows different weather patterns. Their weather may be cold, hot, wet, or dry and depends on altitude, topography, latitude, and wind patterns.

3. How many types of mountains are there?

There are four types of mountains: fold mountains, block mountains, volcanic mountains, and residual mountains.

a) **Fold mountains** are created by the collision of **tectonic plates**, which leads to bending of the Earth's surface. This process is not sudden; It requires millions of years to form a folded mountain. The process leads to the formation of long, narrow, and high-range mountains that have anticline and syncline folds. They are composed of sedimentary and metamorphic rock, granite intrusion, and fossils. The **Alps**, the **Aravalli**, and the **Appalachians** are some examples of folding mountains.

b) **Block mountains** are created when large blocks of the Earth's surface are uplifted along a fault line. Tectonic forces are the primary cause of the formation of block mountains. They have a steep front and a relatively level top. The **Harz Mountains** of Germany, the **Vosges** Mountains of France, and the **Sierra Nevada Mountains** of California are some examples of block mountains.

c) **Volcanic mountains** form during volcanic eruptions when materials like molten rock, **magma**, gas, and ash come out through a small, narrow opening. All of these materials are then deposited over time, leading to the formation of volcanic mountains. They are often cone-shaped. Volcanic mountains are classified into Shield volcanoes, Composite volcanoes, and Cinder cones. **Mount Fuji** in Japan, **Mount Kilimanjaro** in Tanzania, and Mauna Loa in Hawaii are some examples of volcanic mountains.

d) **Residual mountains:** when there is erosion of land for many years, soft parts of mountains are removed and only hard rock remains, which leads to the formation of residual mountains. The Aravalli Range, Nilgiri Hills, Parasnath Hills, and Rajmahal Hills of Jharkhand are some examples of the residual mountains.

References

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