

Class Notes for B.A. Part -

Paper - 01 - Physical Geography.

Unit 04 - Koepfen's classification of climate - Part - 02.

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Koepfen's climatic classification (Part - 02)

Koepfen recognised five major climatic groups. Four of them are based on temperatures and one on precipitation.

The capital letters A, C, D and E delineate humid climates and B dry climates.

- The climatic groups are subdivided into types designated by small letters based on seasonality of precipitation and temperature characteristics.

The seasons of dryness are indicated by the small letters: (f), (m), (w), and (s) where (f) corresponds to no dry season, (m) - monsoon climate, (w) - winter dry season and (s) - summer dry season. The small letters a, b, c and d refer to the degree of severity of temperature. The B, dry climates are subdivided using the capital letters (S) for steppe or semi-arid and (W) desert.

Table 12.2 : Climatic Types According to Koeppen

Group	Type	Letter Code	Characteristics
A-Tropical Humid Climate	Tropical wet	Af	No dry season
	Tropical monsoon	Am	Monsoonal, short dry season
	Tropical wet and dry	Aw	Winter dry season
B-Dry Climate	Subtropical steppe	BSh	Low-latitude semi arid or dry
	Subtropical desert	BWh	Low-latitude arid or dry
	Mid-latitude steppe	BSk	Mid-latitude semi arid or dry
	Mid-latitude desert	BWk	Mid-latitude arid or dry
C-Warm temperate (Mid-latitude) Climates	Humid subtropical	Cfa	No dry season, warm summer
	Mediferranean	Cs	Dry hot summer, winter rain
	Marine west coast	Cfb	No dry season, warm and cool summer
D-Cold Snow-forest Climates	Humid continental	Df	No dry season, severe winter
	Subarctic	Dw	Winter dry and very severe
E-Cold Climates	Tundra	ET	No true summer
	Polar ice cap	EF	Perennial ice
H-Highland	Highland	H	Highland with snow cover