Current Affairs · GS - II

Describe the geographical location of the West Bank and explain its strategic significance in the Israel-Palestine conflict.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 19/10/2026	GS - II	Current Affairs

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

West Asia, landlocked territory, Jordan River, Dead Sea, Israel, Jordan, Mediterranean region, central highlands, Jerusalem, strategic location, water resources, agricultural land, Israeli settlements, territorial disputes, Palestinian rights, regional security, peace negotiations.

Model Answer

Introduction

The West Bank is a landlocked territory in the Middle East that forms a major part of the Palestinian territories. It lies west of the Jordan River and east of Israel.

Main Body

Geographical features:

1. Location: It is situated between Israel to the west and north, and Jordan across the Jordan River to the east.
2. Eastern boundary: The Jordan River Valley and the Dead Sea form important geographical features along its eastern side.
3. Relief: The region includes hills, valleys and agricultural areas.
4. Nearby region: The Gaza Strip is a separate Palestinian territory on the Mediterranean coast, southwest of Israel.

Strategic significance:

1. Its elevated central highlands have military and security importance.
2. Water resources and fertile agricultural land are important to local communities.
3. Its proximity to Jerusalem makes it significant for religious, political and diplomatic reasons.
4. Israeli settlements, movement restrictions and competing territorial claims remain major issues in peace negotiations.

Conclusion

The West Bank's location, terrain, water resources and proximity to Jerusalem make it strategically important. A lasting settlement requires addressing territorial claims, security concerns and Palestinian rights.

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