The Atmosphere

These notes are your ultimate revision weapon to revise The Atmosphere. We've distilled years of previous exam questions (PYQs) into one powerful, concise resource. Everything you need to know, nothing you don't.

- **PYQs, Decoded:** All key concepts from past exams, organized and simplified.
- **Revise in Record Time:** Short, precise, and designed for last-minute review.
- **Focus on What Matters:** Master high-probability topics and boost your confidence.

Overview of the Atmosphere

The atmosphere is a mixture of gases surrounding the Earth. Its composition and structure change with altitude.

1. Composition near Earth's Surface

- The atmosphere is a mixture of gases.
- The primary gases are **Nitrogen** and **Oxygen**.

2. Vertical Structure of the Atmosphere

The atmosphere is divided into layers based on temperature characteristics. The correct sequence from the Earth's surface upwards is:

1. Troposphere
2. Stratosphere
3. Mesosphere
4. Ionosphere
5. Exosphere

Characteristics of Each Atmospheric Layer

Layer Name	Location (Relative Position)	Key Characteristics
Troposphere	The lowest layer, starting from the Earth's surface.	- The layer where most weather activity occurs.
Stratosphere	Located directly above the Troposphere.	- Contains the Ozone Layer. - Ideal for jet aircraft due to the absence of clouds and weather phenomena.
Mesosphere	Located between the Stratosphere and the Ionosphere.	[Note: Specific characteristics for the Mesosphere were not provided in the original text beyond its location.]
Ionosphere	Located above the Mesosphere.	- Responsible for the deflection (reflection) of radio waves back to Earth. - The layer where the Aurora Borealis (Aurorae) occurs.
Exosphere	The outermost layer of the atmosphere.	- The layer where communication satellites are located.

Summary of Atmospheric Phenomena

Phenomenon	Description	Location
Aurora Borealis (Aurorae)	A natural light display in the sky.	Occurs in the Ionosphere. Note: Scientifically, aurorae primarily occur in the Thermosphere, which is a part of the Ionosphere.

Know More About The Atmosphere:

- The Atmosphere – Old Year Questions
- The Atmosphere One Liner Questions & Answers