

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Human Environment Interactions - The Tropical and the Subtropical Region

Q1. Why rainforests are depleting?

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_  
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Q2. What kind of natural vegetation is found in the Amazon basin?

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_  
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Q3. What do people of the Amazon rainforest do?

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Human Environment Interactions - The Tropical and the Subtropical Region

Q1. Why rainforests are depleting?

Ans. The developmental activities are leading to the gradual destruction of the biologically diverse rainforests. It is estimated that a large area of the rainforest has been disappearing annually in the Amazon basin. As a result of this destruction, the topsoil is washed away as the rains fall and the lush forest turns into a barren landscape.

Q2. What kind of natural vegetation is found in the Amazon basin?

Ans. As it rains heavily in this region, thick forests grow. The forests are in fact so thick that the dense "roof" created by leaves and branches does not allow the sunlight to reach the ground. The ground remains dark and damp. Only shade tolerant vegetation may grow here. Orchids, bromeliads grow as plant parasites.

Q3. What do people of the Amazon rainforest do?

Ans. People grow most of their food in small areas after clearing some trees in the forest. While men hunt and fish along the rivers, women take care of the crops. They mainly grow tapioca, pineapple and sweet potato. As hunting and fishing are uncertain it is the women who keep their families alive by feeding them the vegetables they grow. They practice "slash and burn agriculture".