

Conservation of Plants and Animals

- Q1. What will happen if:
- (a) we go on cutting trees.
 - (b) the habitat of an animal is disturbed.
 - (c) the top layer of soil is exposed.

Ans. a. If we go on cutting trees

If cutting of trees continues, rainfall and the fertility of the soil will decrease. Moreover, there will be increased chances of natural calamities such as floods and droughts. Fewer trees would mean that less carbon dioxide will be used up resulting in increase of its amount in the atmosphere. This will lead to global warming as carbon dioxide traps the heat rays reflected by the earth. Due to the destruction of forests, wildlife is disappearing. Many species have disappeared and many are on the verge of extinction.

b. If the habitat of an animal is disturbed

- i. Cutting trees can result in the loss of habitat for animal species, which can harm ecosystems.
- ii. The removal of trees and other types of vegetation reduces available food, shelter, and breeding habitat.
- iii. Animals that lose their native habitats are forced into new areas in search of shelter and food.

c. If the top layer of soil is exposed

Fewer trees result in more soil erosion. Removal of the top layer of the soil exposes the lower, hard and rocky layers. This soil has less humus and is less fertile. Gradually the fertile land gets converted into deserts.