

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

## Conservation of Plants and Animals

Q1. Discuss the effects of deforestation on the following:

- (a) Wild animals
- (b) Environment
- (c) Villages (Rural areas)
- (d) Cities (Urban areas)
- (e) Earth
- (f) The next generation

**Ans.**

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Ans. a. Effects of deforestation on wild animals - Plant life forms the natural habitat of various animals of the ecosystem. Deforestation can lead to a direct loss of wildlife habitat as well as a general degradation of their habitat. The removal of trees and other types of vegetation reduces available food, shelter, and breeding habitat. Destroying the plant life will ultimately threaten the existence of animals in that particular ecosystem and may lead to their extinction.

b. Effects of deforestation on environment -

- i. Plants need carbon dioxide for photosynthesis. Fewer trees would mean that less carbon dioxide will be used up resulting in its increased amount in the atmosphere. This will lead to global warming as carbon dioxide traps the heat rays reflected by the earth.
- ii. The increase in temperature on the earth disturbs the water cycle and may reduce rainfall. This could cause droughts.
- iii. Deforestation is a major cause which leads to the change in soil properties. Gradually the fertile land gets converted into deserts. It is called desertification.
- iv. Deforestation also leads to a decrease in the water holding capacity of the soil. The movement of water from the soil surface into the ground is reduced. So, there are floods.

c. Effects of deforestation on villages (Rural areas) -

- i. Soil erosion is increased by deforestation activities. Soil loses its fertility and humus. Gradually the fertile land gets converted into deserts. Hence, a fertile land, fit for agriculture and a source of living for farmers turns into a desert.
- ii. Due to deforestation various wild animals run to nearby villages and cause danger to them. Villagers will not get fruits, fuel, wood due to deforestation. Moreover they are devoid of other benefits like fruit, fuel, wood etc. they get from forests.
- iii. Deforestation may leads to frequent floods and droughts.

d. Effects of deforestation on cities (Urban areas)

- i. Deforestation can increase the risk of many natural calamities such as floods and droughts in that area.
- ii. It can lead to global warming due to an increase in the level of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere.

e. Effects of deforestation on Earth

- i. Plants absorb carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and release oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>). If there are fewer trees, less carbon dioxide is absorbed and therefore less oxygen is released. This is a threat to living organisms.
- ii. Deforestation disrupts the plant and animal kingdoms. As birds, insects and other animals help with the pollination of plants and the dispersal of seeds, the loss of bird and animal species as a result of decreasing habitats, results in less pollination and there is therefore less regeneration of the forest.
- iii. Plants need carbon dioxide for photosynthesis. Fewer trees would mean that less carbon dioxide will be used up resulting in its increased amount in the atmosphere. This will lead to global warming as carbon dioxide traps the heat rays reflected by the earth.
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f. Effects of deforestation on the next generation.

Deforestation affects the environment adversely. It causes soil erosion, global warming, desertification, drought, greenhouse effect, floods and many other problems. As a result, the next generations have to face the consequences of deforestation.