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CONSERVATION OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS

TEXTBOOK QUESTIONS AND THEIR ANSWERS

Q.1. What is the purpose of making national parks, wildlife sanctuaries and biosphere reserves?

Ans. The purpose of making national parks, wildlife sanctuaries and biosphere reserves is to protect our flora and fauna (plants and animals) and their habitats.

Q.2. Add more causes of deforestation to your list and classify them into natural and man-made.

Ans. Apart from the causes given in the book of deforestation, other causes are as follows

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|--|--|---------------|
| 1. Cutting plants and trees for medicinal purposes. | | Man-made |
| 2. Flood | | Natural cause |
| 3. Increased mining activity | | Man-made |
| 4. Increased demand of land for road and dams | | Man-made |
| 5. Lowering of water-table, as a result a large number of trees died | | Man-made |

6. Overgrazing by animals

Man-made

Q.3. How does deforestation reduce rainfall on the one hand and lead to floods on the other?

Ans. Increase in the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere due to deforestation leads to global warming, as carbon dioxide traps the heat rays reflected by the earth. The increase in temperature on the earth disturbs the water-cycle and reduces rainfall.

Further, deforestation leads to decrease in the water holding capacity of the soil. So, the movement of water from the soil surface into the ground is reduced. Which brings the flood.

So, deforestation reduce rainfall on the one hand and lead to floods on the other.

Q.4. We have studied in class VII that we get many products from forests. List these products.

- Ans.**
1. Various types of medicinal and herbal plants.
 2. Wood for making furniture, doors, windows, etc.
 3. Wood for constructing houses.
 4. Grasses to construct thatched houses.

5. Gum, oils, spices etc.
6. Fodder for animals.
7. Rubber, resin and lac.

Q.5. Animal life is also affected by deforestation. How?

- Ans.**
1. Trees are the shelters for animals and birds. If deforestation continues, the animals will be compelled to come to towns, cities and villages and disturb the life there.
 2. Wildlife is affected adversely and animals may die because they would not get their food in forest.
 3. Deforestation increases the pollution level, as CO_2 increases on the earth, so it directly affects the health of animals.
 4. Destruction of an animal's habitat may affect the natural living of an animal and lead to endanger their existence.

Q.6. (I) List the factors disturbing the biodiversity of your area. (II) List the human activities which disturb the biodiversity unknowingly. (III) How can these factors be checked?

Ans. (I) Biodiversity refers to the variety of living organisms

(Plants, animals or micro-organisms) in a specific area. It may be defined as, the variety and variability of all animals, plants and micro-organisms found on the earth.

The biodiversity of an area can be disturbed by the following activities :

1. Increase in population.
2. Deforestation and overgrazing.
3. Industrialization and urbanization.
4. Industrial and agricultural waste.
5. Killing or hunting animals for different purposes.
6. Illegal trade of animal skin and elephant tusks.

(II) List of human activities which disturb the biodiversity unknowingly :-

1. Establishment of new houses, crop lands and mining.
2. Deforestation.
3. Acid rain damages forests/grasslands.
4. Dams/reservoirs destroy habitats of wildlife.

(III) Conservation of Biodiversity

Factors, which disturb the biodiversity of your area, can be checked by following steps –

1. Deforestation (cutting of trees on large scale) should be avoided.
2. The ban on the hunting of animals should be strictly enforced.
3. Illegal trade in animal skins and elephants tusks should be checked.
4. By creating more protected areas like national parks, sanctuaries, biosphere reserves etc.
5. Plantation of trees should be undertaken on large scale.
6. Effective system to fight against forest fires should be set up.
7. Laws to conserve biodiversity should be strictly enforced.

Q.7. Try to identify the flora and fauna of your area and list them.

Ans. Flora - Sal, Teak, Jamun, Mango, Pipal, Kadamb, Babool, etc, are some of the flora present in our locality.

Fauna – Chinkara, leopard, wild dog, wolf, deer, cheetal, etc. are some of the fauna present in our locality.

Q.8. I have heard that some of the endemic species may vanish. Is it true?

Ans. Endemic species are those species of plants and animals which are found exclusively in a particular area.

Yes, it is true that some of the endemic species may vanish due to destruction of their habitat, increasing population and introduction of new species or, if, their original area is changed.

Q.9. Find out the endemic plants and animals of the region where you live.

Ans. Endemic plants – Sal, wild mango, jamun and mahua.

Endemic animals – Indian giant squirrel and bison.

Q.10. What is the difference between a 300 and a wildlife sanctuary?

Ans. Wildlife sanctuaries provide protection and suitable living conditions to wild animals. It is the place where killing or capturing of animals is strictly prohibited.

Zoos are also places where animals receive protection. But the difference between a zoo and a wildlife sanctuary are :

- (I) In wildlife sanctuaries, the animals get their, natural habitat and food, while in zoo, these animals are provided artificial habitat.
- (II) In spite of being given a lot of artificial facilities, the animals in zoo do not remain hale and hearty, whereas in their natural habitat they are free, hale and hearty.

Q.11. Are tigers still found in the forest? I hope that I can see a tiger!

Ans. Yes, tigers are still found in the forest, but, their number are declining day by day due to poaching (stealing) for its skin and teeth.

So, the tigers are now declared as endangered species.

Q.12. Are only big animals facing the extinction?

Ans. No, not at all. Small animals are much more in danger of becoming extinct than the bigger animals.

Q.13. I wonder if there is any record of the endangered species!

Ans. Yes, Red Data Book is the source book which keeps a record of all the endangered animals and plants.

Q.14. What would happen if we had no wood? Is there any alternative available for wood? I know that paper is one of the important products we get from forests. I wonder whether there are any alternatives available for paper!

Ans. If we had no wood, we would not have got paper, furniture, herbal medicines, door and window, which all are made from wood. Though there are so many alternative for wood as plastics, metal, etc. But for making paper, wood is the only option.

Paper is manufactured by using pulp of the tree (bark and roots). The pulp is bleached and rolled into paper. Paper can be recycled five to seven times for use, thus, there are alternatives available for paper. So, we should reuse used the paper and recycle it.

Q.15. Is there any permanent solution to the problem of deforestation?

Ans. Yes, reforestation is a permanent solution for the problem of deforestation. Reforestation is restocking of the destroyed forests by planting new trees. Plantation of more trees is the only option to remove the problem of deforestation.

Q.16. Fill in the blanks:

- (a) A place where animals are protected in their natural habitat is called _____.
- (b) Species found only in a particular area is known as _____.
- (c) Migratory birds to far away places because of _____ changes.

Ans. (a) Wildlife sanctuary, (b) Endemic species, (c) climatic

Q.17. Differentiate between the following:

- (a) Wildlife sanctuary and biosphere reserve
- (b) Zoo and wildlife sanctuary
- (c) Endangered and extinct species

(d) Flora and fauna**Ans. (a) Wildlife sanctuary and biosphere reserve :**

Wildlife Sanctuary	Biosphere reserve
<p>1. It is a place where wild animals are protected and preserved.</p> <p>2. In sanctuary, harvesting of timber, collection of minor forest products are permitted, until they would not interfere the betterment of animals.</p> <p>3. It is strictly reserved for protection of animals.</p> <p>4. There are 492 sanctuaries in our country.</p>	<p>Biosphere reserves are the protecting areas meant for conservation of biodiversity.</p> <p>It conserves biodiversity and integrity of plants, animals and micro organisms.</p> <p>It also helps to maintain the culture of that area.</p> <p>There are 14 Biosphere reserves in our country.</p>

(b) Zoo and Wildlife Sanctuary

Zoo	Wildlife Sanctuary
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Zoos are smaller places having some animals protected for the public view. 2. Animals in zoo spread in very small area. 3. In zoo, animals are provided artificial habitat. 4. It provides protection only. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wildlife sanctuaries are larger places having wild animals in their natural habitat. 2. Animals in sanctuary are spread in large areas. 3. In sanctuary, the animals get their natural habitat. 4. It provides protection and suitable living condition to wild animals.

(c) Endangered and Extinct Species

Endangered Species	Extinct Species
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The species which are at the verge of extinction and required to be protected and conserved. 2. These species are represented by fewer individuals because of 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The species, which exist no more on the earth. 2. The species of plant and animals which have

<p>unfavourable factors, if that factor continue, these species would become extinct soon.</p> <p>3. The examples of endangered species are – Indian rhinoceros, Asiatic lion, Blue whale.</p>	<p>already been lost are called extinct speices.</p> <p>3. The examples of extinct species are – Dodo, two horned rhinoceros, Golden langur.</p>
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(d) Flora and Fauna

Flora	Fauna
<p>1. Flora is the term used for wide variety of plants.</p> <p>2. Sal, teak, mango, jamun, ferns, etc. are the examples of flora.</p>	<p>1. Fauna is the term used for all the variety of animals.</p> <p>2. Chinkara, cheetal, leopard, wolf are the examples of fauna.</p>

Q.18. 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. (a) Wild animals : When forests are cut, they leave many wild animals unsheltered. Their habitat is snatched away from them. So either they will extinct or react at the verge of extinction or they will migrate to another forest. In course of their migration they might be killed by humans.

(b) **Environment :** Environment is adversely affected by deforestation as ecological balance is disturbed. Carbon dioxide is not absorbed by plants and it gets accumulated to cause global warming. Which increases the temperature of the earth, water-cycle will get disturbed and the reduced rainfall will cause drought.

(c) **Villages (Rural areas) :** Villagers are depended upon forests to large extent. They are closely related to forests. Some adjoining villages have to face the wrath (anger) of wild animals as unhabitated animals run to nearby villages and cause dangor to them. More ever villagers are devoid of other benefits like fruits, fuel, wood etc. they get from

forests. Food grains will either not available or they will be costlier.

(d) **Cities (Urban areas)** : Cities are not directly affected by the cutting of forests because they are away from forests. But changes in climate affect cities. Calamities like flood and droughts do not spare cities. The people will also not get wood for making furniture and buildings.

(e) **Earth** : Deforestation is a major cause which leads to change in the earth. Deforestation is responsible for the floods and fast moving winds. The floods will remove the top layer of soil. The remaining soil will have less humus and less fertile. Gradually the land will get converted into desert.

On the other hand, snow of the mountains will melt due to global warming, and many cities will be flooded causing disastour.

(f) **The Next generation** : The next generation will not be able to see many beautiful and attractive flora and fauna. They will not get a clean and cool environment. They will have to breathe poisonous gases and have to live in jungles of concrete.

Q.19. What will happen if :

- (a) we go on cutting trees.**
- (b) the habitat of an animals is disturbed.**
- (c) the top layer of soil is exposed.**

Ans. (a) We go on cutting trees : (1) If we go on cutting trees, the earth will lose its top fertile soil and get converted to desert. (2) The ecological balance will get disturbed and floods and droughts will become more frequent. (3) Many animals will lose their shelter and there will be a scarcity of things like fruits, paper, woods, etc. we get from forests.

(b) The habitat of an animal is disturbed : Due to industrialisation, deforestation construction of dams a large number of habitats of animals have been destroyed. In this situation either they will become extinct or reach at the verge of extinction or they will migrate to another forest or cities.

(c) The top layer of soil is exposed : When the top layer of the soil is exposed, the humus is lost and fertile soil gets

converted into dry sand particles. It is called desertification.

Q.20. Answer in brief :

- (a) Why should we conserve biodiversity?**
- (b) Protected forests are also not completely safe for wild animals. Why?**
- (c) Some tribes depend on the jungle. How?**
- (d) What are the causes and consequences of deforestation?**
- (e) What is Red Data Book?**
- (f) What do you understand by the term migration?**

Ans. (a) We should conserve biodiversity to save it from becoming extinct.

(b) Protected forests are also not completely safe for wild animals because the poachers have found access in these areas and still kill the wild animals inside these protected areas.

(c) Some tribes are totally dependent on forests for their food, shelter, clothes, wood and other requirements.

- (d) Causes of deforestation are growing urbanization and industrialization. Consequences are the desertification and natural calamities. It has also rendered many species of plants and animals unprotected and unconserved.
- (e) Red Data Book is the record book and source book of all the endangered animals and plants. Different record books are maintained for endangered animals and endangered plants.
- (f) The seasonal movement of animals from one habitat to another is called migration. Animals migrate between their wintering and breeding habitats. Common migrating creatures are whales, fish, butterflies, turtles and bird.

Q.21. In order to meet the ever-increasing demand in factories and for shelter, trees are being continuously cut. Is it justified to cut trees for such projects? Discuss this in your class and prepare a brief report.

Ans. It is not justified to cut forests for any project. We not only cut forests, but also we snatch away shelters from many animals and birds. It also disturbs the ecological balances and cause many natural calamities. So, we should preserve and protect our forests.

Q.22. How can you contribute to the maintenance of ‘green-wealth of your locality’? Make a list of actions to be taken by you.

- Ans.** (1) We can grow new plants in our locality.
- (2) Take turns to water them and take care of them.
- (3) The existing plants should be properly nourished.
- (4) All the residents should be taught about the coming dangers due to deforestation like global warming etc.
- (5) They should be encouraged to help in the maintenance of green-wealth of our locality.

Q.23. Explain how deforestation leads to reduced rainfall.

Ans. Deforestation leads to reduced rainfall because plants are the main agents to maintain the water-cycle in the environment. Plants will not absorb water from the soil and will not evaporate water from their leaves to form clouds. If clouds will not be formed then we can not expect rainfall.

Q.24. Why should paper be saved? Prepare a list of ways by which you can save paper.

Ans. Paper is manufactured by using pulps of tree. The pulp is bleached and rolled into paper. If we will keep on cutting forest indiscriminately, then from where we will get the paper. So, we should save paper to protect our trees.

As paper can be recycled to make new paper, we should not throw paper here and there. Newspapers, old books, notebooks and other papers should be collected and sold to kabadiwala, so that they can further supply it for recycling.

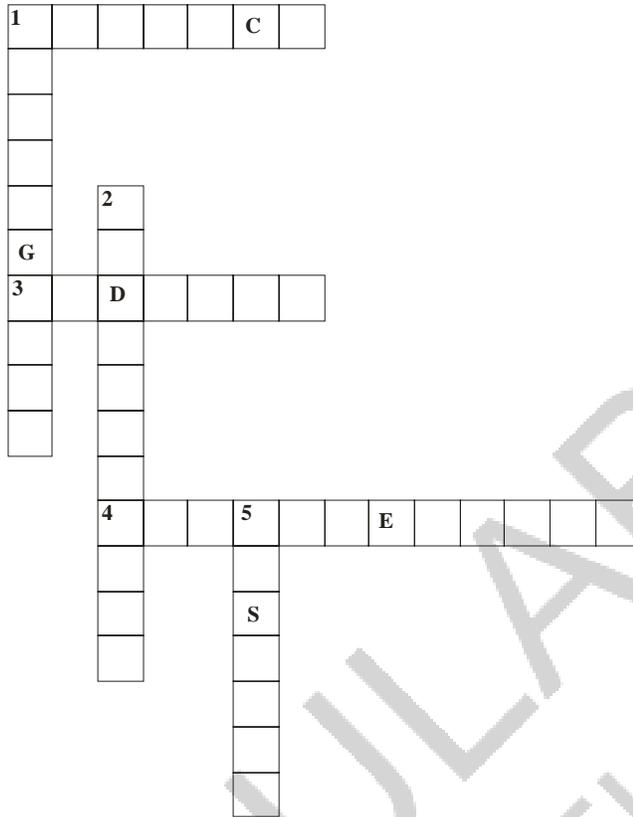
Q.25. Complete the word puzzle :

Down words

1. Species on the verge of extinction.
2. A book carrying information about endangered species.
5. A consequence of deforestation.

Across

1. Species which have vanished.
3. Species found only in a particular habitat.
4. Variety of plants, animals and micro-organisms found in an area.



Ans. 1. Endangered

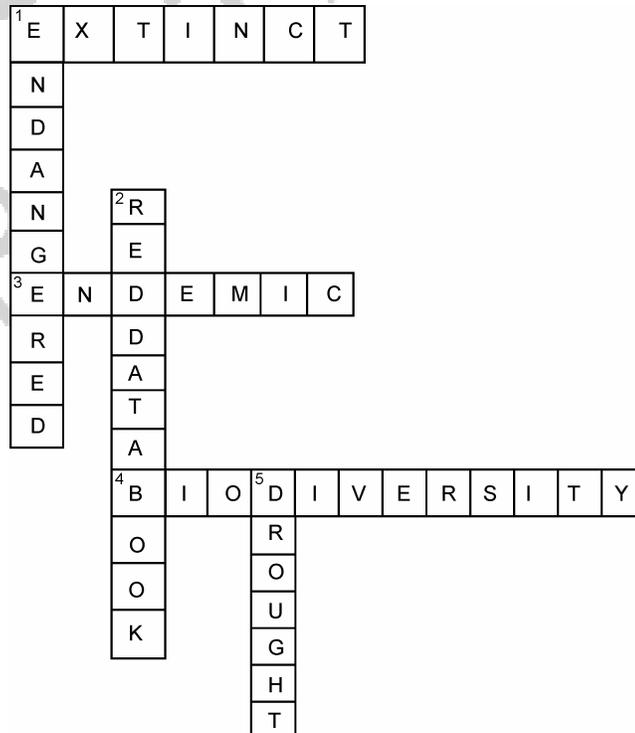
2. Red data book

3. Endemic

4. Biodiversity

5. Drought

6. Extinct



Q.26. Is it justified to prevent tribals from staying in the core area of the forest?

Ans. It is not justifiable in my opinion to prevent tribals from the core area of a forest. It is their natural habitat. They are totally depended upon forests for their food, shelter, clothes, wood and many other requirements. So, their life is centred around plants and animals. They don't destroy forest or kill animals unnecessarily. Forest for them is as important as for other animals and plants.