

## Very Short Answer Questions

**Q. 1. What is the unique feature of the biodiversity found in Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve? [NCERT Exemplar]**

**Ans.** The biodiversity found in Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve is similar to that found in upper Himalayan peaks and lower Western Ghats.

**Q. 2. Mention the aim of Forest (Conservation) Act. [NCERT Exemplar]**

**Ans.** Conservation of natural forests and meeting the basic needs of the people living in or near the forests.

**Q. 3. What is biosphere?**

**Ans.** The part of earth in which living organisms exist.

**Q. 4. Name any two biosphere reserves of India.**

**Ans.** Kaziranga biosphere reserve (Assam) and Kanha biosphere reserve.

## Short Answer Questions

**Q. 1. Why are wildlife sanctuaries important for conservation of plants and animals?**

**[NCERT Exemplar]**

**Ans.** Wildlife sanctuaries are protected areas where human activities like plantation, cultivation, grazing, falling of trees, hunting and poaching are prohibited completely.

**Q. 2. Why are endemic organisms in greater danger of becoming extinct?**

**[NCERT Exemplar]**

**Ans.** Endemic organisms are confined to a limited geographical area. They cannot adapt or live outside their natural habitat. Any disturbance to their habitat will adversely affect them.

**Q. 3. Does soil erosion affect the fertility of soil? How? [NCERT Exemplar]**

**Ans.** Yes, soil erosion removes the fertile top layer of the soil thereby, exposing the hard rocky lower layers which are less fertile.

**Q. 4. Is deforestation associated with global warming? Explain. [NCERT Exemplar]**

**Ans.** Yes. Plants absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere for photosynthesis. Deforestation results in decreased number of trees leading to accumulation of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere traps heat rays reflected by the earth which results in global warming.

**Q. 5. How does deforestation lead to frequent floods and droughts? [NCERT Exemplar]**

**Ans.** Deforestation results in decreased water holding capacity of soil. This reduces the infiltration of water into the ground which causes floods. On the other hand, deforestation leads to higher level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere which causes global warming. Scarcity of trees disturbs the water cycle and may reduce rainfall leading to droughts.

## Long Answer Questions

**Q. 1. Why should we save paper? [NCERT Exemplar]**

**Ans.** We should save paper to:

- a.** Prevent deforestation as deforestation leads to global warming. It disturbs the natural water cycle.
- b.** Save energy and water needed for manufacturing the paper.
- c.** Reduce pollution as chemicals used to manufacture the paper also cause pollution.

## Hots (Higher Order Thinking Skills)

### Q. 1. Why do animals become extinct?

**Ans. a.** Several species become extinct due to natural causes like change in climate of a particular region.

**b.** The plants or animals on which the species lived could have died out because of the change in the weather.

**c.** Human activities such as hunting or the destruction of the places where animals live.

### Q. 2. Explain methods of conservation of biodiversity.

**Ans.** Some of the methods for conservation of biodiversity are:

- a. **Reforestation:** This is the planting of trees on large scale.
- b. Protection of forests from forest fires.
- c. Protection of trees and plants from pests and insects.
- d. Minimum use of wood/timber as a firewood; alternatives of these should be used.
- e. Excessive grazing in and near forests should be stopped. The government should make strict rules and laws for protection of forests. We all have a role to play in conservation of forests.
- f. To protect the flora and fauna, protected areas like biosphere reserves, national parks, sanctuaries have been earmarked.
- g. Conserve paper and avoid usage of materials made from skins and furs of animals.
- h. Strict rules and regulations have been made by the Government banning the hunting of endangered species.

### Q. 3. Explain consequences of deforestation.

**Ans.** Large scale deforestation has resulted in many problems for mankind.

Increase in carbon dioxide, temperature and pollution levels on the earth, resulting in global warming.

Decrease in the oxygen level.

Cutting down of trees on large scale has resulted in depletion of water vapour in the atmosphere which has in turn affected cloud formation, thus, resulting in less rainfall. This can even cause droughts.

The decrease in rainfall is leading to desertification, as trees and plants die. Fewer trees result in more soil erosion. The top fertile soil is carried away, exposing the lower, hard and rocky layers which is less fertile. Over a period of time, fertile land gets converted into deserts, this is called desertification.

Deforestation decreases the water holding capacity of soil and decreases the infiltration rate of water into the ground.

Animals become homeless.