

Forest Facts: Deforestation and Reforestation

Environmental Science · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. Which of these is the PRIMARY reason for large-scale deforestation globally?

- A) Building new schools and hospitals
- B) Creating land for agriculture and livestock grazing**
- C) Mining for precious metals
- D) Developing new hiking trails

2. When trees are removed from a forest, what is a significant negative impact on the atmosphere?

- A) More oxygen is released into the air
- B) Carbon dioxide levels decrease
- C) More carbon dioxide is released into the air**
- D) Nitrogen gas increases

3. Reforestation is the process of planting trees on land that was previously a forest. What is one crucial benefit of successful reforestation?

- A) It increases the risk of floods
- B) It helps to reduce soil erosion**
- C) It leads to drier soil conditions
- D) It releases more greenhouse gases

4. Which type of tree is often planted in reforestation projects because it grows quickly and provides habitat for wildlife?

- A) Bonsai trees
- B) Native species**
- C) Genetically modified trees
- D) Exotic ornamental trees

5. Deforestation can lead to a loss of biodiversity. What does biodiversity refer to?

- A) The amount of water in a river
- B) The variety of plants and animals in an ecosystem**
- C) The number of buildings in a city
- D) The temperature of the air

6. When large areas of forest are cleared, what often happens to the soil?

- A) It becomes richer and more fertile
- B) It becomes more resistant to wind and rain
- C) It can be washed away by rain, causing erosion**
- D) It becomes harder and more compact

7. Which of the following is a common product made from trees that contributes to deforestation when not managed sustainably?

- A) Plastic toys
- B) Cotton fabric
- C) Paper and cardboard**
- D) Metal tools

8. In reforestation, planting trees in a way that mimics a natural forest structure, with different layers of vegetation, is called:

- A) Monoculture planting
- B) Stratified planting**
- C) Terraced planting
- D) Industrial planting

9. What is the role of trees in the water cycle?

- A) They absorb water from the air and release it as vapour**
- B) They prevent rain from falling
- C) They only absorb water from underground
- D) They release less water vapour than they absorb

10. Which international agreement aims to protect forests and promote sustainable forest management?

- A) The Paris Agreement (on climate change)
- B) The Montreal Protocol (on ozone depletion)
- C) The Convention on Biological Diversity
- D) The REDD+ mechanism (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation)**

11. When a forest is cleared, the ground beneath the trees often dries out. This is because trees help to:

- A) Increase humidity by absorbing sunlight
- B) Create shade and release water through transpiration**
- C) Prevent evaporation by blocking wind
- D) Cool the ground by reflecting water

12. What is a 'carbon sink' in the context of forests?

- A) A place where carbon is released
- B) A natural reservoir that absorbs and stores carbon**
- C) A tool used to measure carbon emissions
- D) An area with high levels of carbon pollution

13. Which continent has experienced the most significant deforestation in recent decades, largely due to expanding agricultural land?

- A) Europe
- B) North America
- C) South America**
- D) Asia

14. In sustainable forestry, what does 'selective logging' involve?

- A) Cutting down all trees in an area
- B) Removing only mature or specific trees, leaving others to grow**
- C) Planting trees in straight rows
- D) Clearing land for plantations

15. What is a positive outcome of restoring forest ecosystems for Indigenous communities?

- A) Loss of traditional hunting grounds
- B) Access to fewer natural resources
- C) Preservation of cultural heritage and traditional practices**
- D) Increased displacement from ancestral lands

16. What does the term 'afforestation' mean in contrast to reforestation?

- A) Planting trees on land that has always been a forest
- B) Planting trees on land that has never been a forest**
- C) Cutting down existing forests
- D) Allowing forests to grow back naturally

17. Which natural phenomenon is often exacerbated by deforestation due to reduced tree cover holding soil in place?

- A) Earthquakes
- B) Volcanic eruptions
- C) Landslides**
- D) Tsunamis

18. What is a common method used by scientists and conservationists to monitor forest cover and changes over time?

- A) Ground-based surveys with hand tools
- B) Using satellite imagery and aerial photography**
- C) Asking local villagers for reports
- D) Observing animal migration patterns