

Chapter 18: The environment and us

Q. 1. Fill in the blanks:

- (1) Marshy or low-lying areas are filled to **reclaim** the land.
- (2) Due to pollution, number of living things reduce and some become **extinct**
- (3) In industries and factories, **fuel** is used in great quantities.
- (4) Tremendous quantities **carbon dioxide** of enter the air due to burning of fuels.
- (5) Due to human **intervention** in nature, large scale changes are taking place in the air, water and land.
- (6) We should make all possible efforts for **conservation** of the living world.
- (7) Forest areas reserved for the protection and conservation of a particular animal or a plant is called a **sanctuary**.
- (8) Flamingos from **Siberia** region in Northern Asia migrate to Mayani.
- (9) **Devrais** or **Sharanavanas** can be called the sanctuaries of ancient times.

Q. 2. Write whether the following statements are True or False:

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| (1) Dead plants and animals are abiotic components. | False |
| (2) It is necessary to conserve biodiversity. | True |
| (3) Man is not using up more and more land and water resources. | False |
| (4) Soil becomes fertile, if polluted water seeps into it. | False |
| (5) The temperature of the earth rises when the proportion of carbon dioxide rises. | True |
| (6) People visiting biodiversity park enjoy being close to nature. | True |

Q. 3. Match the columns:

Group 'A'	Group 'B'	Group 'C'
(1) Nannaj	(a) Pune-Ahmednagar highway	(m) Peafowl
(2) Morachi Chincholi	(b) District Solapur	(n) Flamingo
(3) Mayani	(c) District Satara	(o) Great Indian Bustard

Answer:

- (1) Nannaj - (b) District Solapur - (o) Great Indian Bustard
(2) Morachi Chincholi - (a) Pune-Ahmednagar highway - (m) Peafowl
(3) Mayani - (c) District Satara - (n) Flamingo

Q. 4. Classify the following as natural or man-made:

(Soil, horse, stone, water hyacinth, book, sunlight, dolphin, pen, chair, water, cotton wool, table. trees, brick.)

- (1) Natural: Soil, Horse, Stone, Water hyacinth, Sunlight, Dolphin, Water, Cotton, Wool, Trees
(2) Man-made: Book, Pen, Chair, Table, Brick

Q. 5. Answer the following questions:

(1) What is meant by migration?

Answer: Migration is the seasonal movement of animals or birds from one region to another in search of food, favorable weather, or for breeding purposes.

(2) Describe the life cycle of birds.

Answer: The life cycle of birds consists of the following stages:

1. **Egg Stage:** Birds lay eggs in nests, which provide protection.

2. **Hatching Stage:** Baby birds, or chicks, hatch from the eggs after incubation.
3. **Chick Stage:** The chicks grow in the nest, depending on their parents for food and care.
4. **Adult Stage:** The young birds mature, gain the ability to fly, and begin the cycle anew.

(3) Give two causes of air pollution.

Answer: **Burning of fossil fuels:** Emissions from vehicles, factories, and power plants release harmful gases into the air.

Deforestation: Fewer trees lead to reduced carbon dioxide absorption, increasing pollution.

(4) For what purpose do we use the land obtained by clearing forests?

Answer: Land obtained by clearing forests is often used for:

1. Agriculture or farming.
2. Construction of buildings
3. Construction of roads and railways
4. Development of industries.

(5) What should all of us resolve about the environment?

Answer: We should resolve to:

1. Protect and conserve natural resources.
2. Reduce pollution and plant more trees.
3. Use resources sustainably to maintain environmental balance.

Use your brain power! (Textbook page 95)

(6) What would happen if no kites (birds) are left in a particular region?

Which living things would increase in number? Which would decrease?

Answer: If no kites are left, the population of rodents, insects, and pests (which kites prey on) would increase.

The number of smaller birds or prey hunted by kites might decrease due to increased competition for resources.

(7) If forests are cleared on a large scale, will water and food sources for living things grow or dwindle? Why?

Answer: Water and food sources for living things will **dwindle** because:

1. Forests play a crucial role in maintaining water cycles.
2. They provide food and shelter to countless species.
3. Their loss disrupts ecosystems, reducing biodiversity.

What's the solution? (Textbook page 95)

(8) Rivers and lakes are filled with water hyacinth.

Answer: Water hyacinth blocks sunlight and reduces oxygen levels in water bodies, harming aquatic life. To solve this issue:

1. Remove water hyacinth manually or mechanically.
2. Introduce biological control methods, such as using insects that feed on water hyacinth.
3. Prevent nutrient-rich pollution that promotes its growth.

Q. 6. Give reasons:

(1) It is important to conserve the living components of the environment.

Answer: (1) Living things like plants and animals help keep nature balanced.

(2) They give us food, clean air, and water.

(3) If they are lost, it will harm all living things, including humans.

(4) Therefore, it is important to conserve the living components of the environment.

(2) The numbers of wild animals are falling day by day.

Answer: (1) Forests are being cut down, and animals lose their homes.

(2) Many animals are hunted by people.

(3) Pollution and dirty water also make animals sick.

(4) Therefore, the numbers of wild animals are falling day by day.

OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

Use your brain power! (Textbook page 89)

(1) If a dam is built at a particular place, what changes will be seen in the environment?

Answer: (1) Large areas of land and forests may get submerged.

(2) Homes of animals and birds might be destroyed.

(3) Water availability for farming and drinking may improve.

(4) Fish and aquatic life in the river may get affected.

Can you Tell? (Textbook page 89)

(2) What are the different purposes for which fuels such as petrol, diesel, kerosene, natural gas, coal and wood are used?

Answer: (1) **Petrol**: Used in cars, bikes, and small vehicles.

(2) **Diesel**: Used in buses, trucks, and heavy machines.

(3) **Kerosene**: Used for cooking and lighting lamps.

(4) **Natural Gas**: Used for cooking and making electricity.

(5) **Coal**: Used in trains, factories, and to make electricity.

(6) **Wood**: Used for cooking and heating in villages.

(3) What will you do to keep the environmental balance undisturbed in your area?

Answer: (1) Plant more trees and avoid cutting them.

(2) Do not throw garbage in rivers or lakes.

(3) Save water and use it carefully.

(4) Avoid using plastic and recycle waste.