

Land, Soil, Water, Natural Vegetation and Wildlife Resources

Q1. Answer the following questions.

(i) Which are the two main climatic factors responsible for soil formation?

Answer: Temperature and rainfall are the two main climatic factors for soil formation.

(ii) Write any two reasons for land degradation today.

Answer: Deforestation and indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers in agricultural land are two factors contributing to land degradation.

(iii) Why is land considered an important resource?

Answer: Land is considered an important resource as it provides habitat to a wide variety of flora and fauna. Used by humans for various purposes like agriculture, forestry, mining, construction of houses and roads and setting up of industries.

(iv) Name any two steps that the government has taken to conserve plants and animals.

Answer: Two major steps taken by the government to protect and preserve plants, animals and natural vegetation are:

- a. National parks, wildlife sanctuaries and biosphere reserves have been set up to protect the natural flora and wildlife. For example, Kaziranga national Park in Asam.
- b. Awareness programs like social forestry and tree plantation- Vanamotsav is organized to conserve the forest a valuable natural resource.

(v) Suggest three ways to conserve water.

Answer: two ways for water conservation are: Growing forest and other vegetation cover to slow surface runoff and replenish ground water and Rainwater harvesting is another way Surface runoff and water conservation.

Q2. Tick the correct answer.

(i) Which one of the following is NOT a factor of soil formation?

- (a) time
- (b) soil texture
- (c) organic matter

Answer: b. Soil Texture

(ii) Which one of the following methods is most appropriate to check soil erosion on steep slopes?

- (a) shelterbelts
- (b) mulching
- (c) terrace cultivation

Answer: c Terrace cultivation

(iii) Which one of the following is NOT in favour of the conservation of nature?

- (a) Switch off the bulb when not in use
- (b) Close the tap immediately after using
- (c) Dispose of polypacks after shopping

Answer: c Dispose of polypacks after shopping

Q3. Match the following

Column A	Column B
Land use	prevent soil erosion
Humus	The narrow zone of contact between the lithosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere
Rock Dams	Productive use of land
Biosphere	organic matter deposited on topsoil
	contour ploughing

Answer:

Column A	Column B
Land use	productive use of land
Humus	organic matter deposited on topsoil
Rock Dams	prevent soil erosion
Biosphere	The narrow zone of contact between the lithosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere

Q4. State whether the given statement is true or false. If true, give the reasons.

(i). Ganga–Brahmaputra plain of India is an overpopulated region.

True: river valley and plains offer suitable land for agriculture hence, they are densely populated.

(ii) Water availability per person in India is declining.

True: Increasing population, increasing urbanisation, rising standards of living and rising demands for food and cash crops, are leading to shortages in the supply of fresh water either due to drying up of water sources or water pollution.

(iii) Rows of trees planted in the coastal areas to check the wind movement are called intercropping.

False: Rows of trees are planted to check the wind movement to protect soil cover is called shelterbelts

(iv). Human interference and changes in climate can maintain the ecosystem.

False: Changes in climate and human interferences can cause the loss of natural habitats, hence destroy the ecosystem.