

## C. Short Question / answers

1A Forest cover prevents Soil erosion. An area covered with thick Forest vegetation also puts a check on rapid flow of water through it and thus allows the water to percolate deep in the soil and maintain the water table.

2A Forest produce water vapour due to the process of transpiration. This increases the water vapour for the formation of clouds; and enhances the chance of rainfall. That ~~is~~ keep the temperature down of an area.

3A In a forest trees and plants are the only producers which produce food with the help of photosynthesis.

4A Two reasons for the forest fires are due to human activity and through natural activity like lightning and friction.

5A Deforestation and Forest degradation are the biggest threats to forests worldwide.

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## Long Question answers

1A The organisms which depend directly or indirectly on plants are known as consumers. The consumers can be classified into

(a) Herbivores — Animals which obtain their nutrition directly from the plants. Ex - rabbit, deer

(b) Carnivores — Animals which hunt other animals for their food. They indirectly depend on plants for nutrition. Ex - Tiger, Fox,

(c) Omnivores — Animals which consume both plants as well as animals for food. Ex - bears, crows, human beings.

(d) Carrion Feeders or Scavengers.

Animals which help to clean up the environment by feeding on the dead and leftover remains.

2A Plants and animals are interdependent on each other: plants depend on animals for pollination, and they absorb nutrients from decomposed animal bodies to grow. Animals depend on plants for food, shelter, protection, to get oxygen and so on.

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3A In a forest has no waste because dead bodies are consumed and the remains are recycled. Decomposers turn dead animals and plants into humus, thereby maintain nutrient recycling.

4A The two important functions performed by the forests are

(a) Forests are the biggest sink of carbon dioxide as they take in carbon dioxide during the process of photosynthesis and produce oxygen which is required by animals and humans for respiration.

(b) Forest cover prevents soil erosion too. The roots of trees hold soil firmly and prevent it being lost.

5A Sustainable harvesting can help in maintaining the forest cover. It means to plant more trees on fallow areas whenever a forest cover is reduced. Sustainable harvesting uses advanced farming equipment to reduce soil erosion, cross breeding.