

Multiple choice questions

Q1 Choose the right answer from the four alternatives given below

(i) To which one of the following types of vegetation does rubber belong to ?

- (a) Tundra
- (b) Tidal
- (c) Himalayan
- (d) Tropical Evergreen

(ii) Cinchona trees are found in the areas of rainfall more than

- (a) 100 cm
- (b) 50 cm
- (c) 70 cm
- (d) less than 50 cm

(iii) In which of the following state is the Simlipal bio-reserve located?

- (a) Punjab
- (b) Delhi
- (c) Odisha
- (d) West Bengal

(iv) Which one of the following bio-reserves of India is not included in the world network of bioreserve?

- (a) Manas
- (b) Nilgiri
- (c) Gulf of Mannar
- (d) Nanda Devi

Answer.

- (i) (d) Tropical Evergreen**
- (ii) (a) 100 cm**
- (iii) (c) Odisha**
- (iv) (a) Manas**

Q2 Answer the following questions briefly.

(i) Define an ecosystem.

Answer:- Answer:- All the plants and animals in an area are interdependent and interrelated to each other in their physical environment, thus forming an ecosystem. Human beings are also an integral part of the ecosystem. They utilise the vegetation and wild life.

(ii) What factors are responsible for the distribution of plants and animals in India?

Answer:- The factors responsible for the distribution of plants (flora) and animals (fauna) in India are

(a) Relief factors

- Land
- Oil

(b) Climate

- Temperature
- Precipitation
- Photoperiod (sunlight)

(iii) What is a bio-reserve? Give two examples.

Answer:- A bioreserve is an area in which the flora and fauna of the given country is protected and there are certain researches which are done on them. It is an area containing a wildlife preserve bordered by a buffer zone in which more frequent use is permitted to the public, established as a way of integrating habitat conservation with the interests of the local community. Examples are Rajaji in Uttarakhand and Simlipal in Orissa.

(iv) Name two animals having habitat in tropical and montane type of vegetation.

Answer:- Animals found in Tropical forests are lion, tiger, pig, deer and elephant. Animals found in Montane forests are Kashmir stag, spotted deer, wild sheep, jack rabbit, Tibetan antelope, yak, snow leopard, squirrels, shaggy horn wild ibex, bear and rare red panda, sheep and goats with thick hair.

Q3 Distinguish between

(i) Flora and Fauna

Answer. Difference between Flora and Fauna

Flora	Fauna
(a) The term flora is used to denote plants of a particular region or period.	(a) The species of animals are referred to as fauna.
(b) They make their food by photosynthesis	(b) They cannot make their own food and herbivore animals are dependent on flora for food.

(ii) Tropical Evergreen and Deciduous forests

Answer. Tropical Evergreen and Deciduous forests

Tropical Evergreen Forests	Tropical Deciduous Forests
(a) They grow in the areas of heavy rainfall that receives about 200cm and above.	(a) They grow in areas receiving rainfall between 200cm and 70cm.
(b) There is no definite time for trees to shed their leaves.	(b) The trees shed their leaves for about 6 to 8 weeks in the dry summer.
(c) Ebony, mahogany, rosewood rubber and Cinchona are the important trees of these forests.	(c) Teak, Bamboo, Sal, Shisham, Sandalwood, Khair, Peepal and Neem are the important trees of these forests.

Q4 Name different types of Vegetation found in India and describe the vegetation of high altitudes.

Answer. The following major types of vegetation are found in India

Tropical Evergreen Forests

Tropical Deciduous Forests

Tropical Thorn Forests and Scrub

Montane Forests

Mangrove Forests

Vegetation of High Altitude (Montane Forests)

- *In mountainous areas, the decrease in temperature with increasing altitude leads to a corresponding change in natural vegetation.*
- *The wet temperate type of forests are found between a height of 1000 and 2000 metres, where evergreen broad leaf trees such as oaks and chestnuts predominate.*
- *Temperate forests containing coniferous trees like pine, deodar, silver fir, spruce and cedar are found between 1500 and 3000 metres.*
- *These forests cover mostly the southern slopes of the Himalayas, places having high altitudes in southern and north east India.*
- *Temperate grasslands are common at higher elevations.*
- *At high altitudes, generally more than 3,600 metres above sea level, alpine vegetation is found. Silver fir, jumpers, pines and birches are the common trees of these forests.*

Q5 Quite a few species of plants and animals are endangered in India. Why?

Answer.

(i) Many plants and animals in India are endangered because of the greediness of human beings for their commercial value. Humans are hunting animals for their skins, horns and hooves which are in demand and give a lot of profit.

(ii) Deforestation on a wide scale destroys the habitat of animals and also leads to decline of the different species of trees and plants. Ecological balance is disturbed due to deforestation, which is harmful for both flora and fauna.

Q6 Why has India a rich heritage of flora and fauna?

Answer. India has rich heritage of flora and fauna because of the following factors

- *It has a very large geographical area which includes the mountains, the Northern plains, plateaus and also islands.*
- *India has a varied climate from very dry to monsoon type and temperature ranges from very hot to cold and very Cold, which is suitable for different kinds of flora and fauna.*
- *India has different types of soil like alluvial soil, red soil and black soil suitable for different plant types.*
- *India is blessed with perennial rivers which sustain aquatic life apart from supporting different kinds of flora and fauna.*
- *The mountains and plains are capable of supporting and sustaining different kinds of plants and trees and provide an environment and habitat for various Kinds of animal species.*

India is one of the twelve mega biodiversity countries of the world. It has about 47,000 plant species. It stands at the tenth place in the world and fourth in Asia in plant diversity. It has 89,000 species of animals as well as a rich variety of fish. It has about 15,000 flowering plants and ferns. India is blessed with different types of soils, climatic conditions and physical features and thus, it is suitable for supporting different species of flora and fauna making it a biodiversity hot spot.
