Environment and Sustainable Development

Standard difficulty · 20 questions · 40 marks · Time: 37 minutes

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: ____ / 40

Write full answers in Sections B and C. Answers are on the last page — try every question first!

Section A — Choose the correct answer 8 × 1 = 8 marks

1. Birds, animals, plants and forests are the environment's:
   (a) non-renewable resources **(b)** absorptive capacity
   (c) abiotic elements **(d)** biotic elements

2. "A beautiful lake visited by tourists" shows that the environment:
   (a) sustains life through biodiversity **(b)** assimilates waste
   (c) gives aesthetic services **(d)** supplies resources

3. What is the benefit of LPG in rural kitchens?
   (a) makes electricity from wind without pollution
   (b) lowers air pollution in cities
   (c) replaces firewood and dung cakes with a clean fuel
   (d) turn cattle dung into fuel, leaving slurry as fertiliser

4. What is meant by "global warming"?
   (a) a rise in the earth's average temperature from greenhouse gases
   (b) the ability of the environment to absorb degradation
   (c) a resource that is not exhausted by use
   (d) turning organic waste into compost

5. Which of these is a renewable resource?
   (a) natural gas **(b)** coal **(c)** solar energy **(d)** petroleum

6. A forest has 16,000 trees and regrows 7% of its stock each year. What is the most that can be cut each year without the forest shrinking?
   (a) 1,120 trees **(b)** 1,920 trees **(c)** 14,880 trees **(d)** 2,240 trees

7. Carbon dioxide concentration has risen about 31% since 1750. If it was 2,600 units in 1750, about what is it now?
   (a) 2,631 units **(b)** 806 units **(c)** 3,406 units **(d)** 3,506 units

8. A lake can absorb 3,700 tonnes of waste a year. Each factory on its bank releases 340 tonnes a year. How many factories can it support within its absorptive capacity?
   (a) 10 factories **(b)** 11 factories **(c)** 13 factories **(d)** 340 factories

Section B — Short answer 8 × 2 = 16 marks

9. What is the environment?

10. Explain each term: (a) ozone depletion (b) sustainable development

11. Is each resource renewable or non-renewable? (a) iron ore (b) trees in a forest

12. How does each help sustainable development? (a) wind power (b) CNG in public transport

13. Which came first, and by how many years? (a) the Central Pollution Control Board was set up (1974) (b) the Sustainable Development Goals are to be met (2030)

14. A forest of 193,000 trees regrows 8% a year, but 17,040 trees are cut each year. How many trees does it have after one year, and is this sustainable?

15. A village fits 13 solar panels, each making 5 kWh of electricity a day. How much do they make in 30 days, and why is solar power good for remote villages?

16. Each of 41 families burns 10 kg of firewood a day. If gobar gas replaces it, how much firewood is saved in a 30-day month and in a year of 365 days?

Section C — Longer answers — 4 × 4 = 16 marks

17. Explain the four functions of the environment.

18. Match each with its benefit: (a) biopest control (b) solar photovoltaic cells (c) traditional knowledge. Choose from: uses neem, mixed cropping and natural predators against pests; uses environment-friendly practices, like medicinal plants; turn sunlight into electricity, useful in remote areas.

19. A forest has 12,000 trees and regrows 2% of the starting stock each year. (a) What is the sustainable yearly cut? (b) If 540 trees are cut each year instead, how many are lost each year? (c) After 5 such years, how many trees are left (taking regrowth as fixed)? (d) Which rule of sustainable development is broken?

20. (a) Put these in order, earliest first: the Sustainable Development Goals are to be met (2030); the UN set its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (2015); the Kyoto agreement on greenhouse gases was reached (1997). (b) How many years from the first to the last? (c) Explain why one of these matters for the environment.

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Answer key

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Q	Answer	Working
1	**(d) biotic elements**	—
2	**(c) gives aesthetic services**	—
3	**(c) replaces firewood and dung cakes with a clean fuel**	—
4	**(a) a rise in the earth's average temperature from greenhouse gases**	—
5	**(c) solar energy**	—
6	**(a) 1,120 trees**	7% of 16,000
7	**(c) 3,406 units**	2,600 × 131%
8	**(a) 10 factories**	3,700 ÷ 340, rounded down
9	**The total planetary inheritance: all biotic and abiotic resources and their interactions.**	—
10	**(a) thinning of the ozone layer in the stratosphere (b) meeting present needs without harming future generations' ability to meet theirs**	—
11	**(a) non-renewable (b) renewable**	—
12	**(a) makes electricity from wind without pollution (b) lowers air pollution in cities**	—
13	**The Central Pollution Control Board was set up, by 56 years**	2030 − 1974
14	**191,400 trees; no, extraction is more than regeneration**	193,000 + 15,440 − 17,040
15	**1,950 kWh; it works without grid lines and causes no pollution**	13 × 5 × 30
16	**12,300 kg a month; 149,650 kg a year**	41 × 10 × 30; × 365
17	**It supplies renewable and non-renewable resources, absorbs wastes, sustains life through biodiversity, and offers aesthetic services; overuse of the first two threatens the third.**	—
18	**(a) uses neem, mixed cropping and natural predators against pests (b) turn sunlight into electricity, useful in remote areas (c) uses environment-**	—

Q	Answer	Working
	friendly practices, like medicinal plants	
19	**(a) 240 (b) 300 (c) 10,500 (d) renewable resources must not be extracted faster than they regenerate**	2% of 12,000; 540 − 240; 12,000 − 5 × 300
20	**(a) the Kyoto agreement on greenhouse gases was reached; the UN set its 17 Sustainable Development Goals; the Sustainable Development Goals are to be met (b) 33 years (c) Answers will vary; see the chapter.**	—

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