Tutorial work N 02

**Deforestation impact on biodiversity**

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Forests are home to a diverse range of flora and fauna, and deforestation can have a significant impact on the **biodiversity** of an **ecosystem**. [According to the **Royal Society**, forests contain some of the richest concentrations of biodiversity on the planet](https://royalsociety.org/topics-policy/projects/biodiversity/deforestation-and-biodiversity/). [The loss of forest cover can lead to the extinction of many species of plants and animals, as well as the loss of their habitats](https://royalsociety.org/topics-policy/projects/biodiversity/deforestation-and-biodiversity/). [Deforestation can also cause fragmentation of ecosystems, altered microclimates, loss of species, increased vulnerability to invasive species, and disruption of essential ecosystem services](https://eco.gov.capital/how-does-deforestation-impact-forest-biodiversity/).

[Between 1990 and 2020, around 420 million hectares of mainly tropical forest has been lost, and a further 10 million hectares, an area the size of Scotland and Wales combined, is being lost each year](https://royalsociety.org/topics-policy/projects/biodiversity/deforestation-and-biodiversity/). [Logging for timber and the clearing of tropical and subtropical forests to make way for agriculture and grazing are the two main causes of destruction to forest habitats](https://royalsociety.org/topics-policy/projects/biodiversity/deforestation-and-biodiversity/). [Fire is also a major threat to forests, and in rainforests such as the Amazon, fire is usually used to clear land for farming](https://royalsociety.org/topics-policy/projects/biodiversity/deforestation-and-biodiversity/). Despite the huge annual losses caused by deforestation, there have been some improvements in keeping some parts safe. [Some tropical rainforests, subtropical dry forests, and temperate oceanic forests are now located within protected areas, including indigenous reserves, with studies showing these are often capable of slowing deforestation](https://royalsociety.org/topics-policy/projects/biodiversity/deforestation-and-biodiversity/).

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QUESTION N 1

Give the meaning of the underlined words.

**Flora:** the collective plant species present in a specific area.

**Fauna:** the collective animal species present in a specific area

**Deforestation**: the process of clearing or removing a large area of forest or trees,

**Loss**: refers to the act of losing something (the state of not having something that was possessed).

**Extinction**: the complete and permanent disappearance of a species from Earth

**Species**: The concept of a species is used to categorize and identify organisms based on shared characteristics and the ability to interbreed and produce fertile offspring.

**Habitats**: the natural environment or type of ecosystem in which a particular species of organism lives.

**Fragmentation**: refers to the breaking up or division of something into smaller parts or pieces.

**Microclimate**: refers to the climate conditions within a small, specific area that may differ from the surrounding larger climate.

**Vulnerability**: refers to the degree of susceptibility or exposure to harm, risk, or adverse conditions.

**Invasive**: refers to something that intrudes or spreads aggressively into an area where it is not native or not naturally found.

**Disruption**: disturbance or interruption in the normal course of events.

**Combined**: the action of uniting or joining things together to form a whole (mixture- blend- unified- joint).

**Logging**: refers to the activity of cutting down, processing, and transporting trees for various purposes,

**Timber**: refers to wood that has been prepared for use in construction, carpentry, or other purposes.

**Grazing**:refers to the act of animals, typically herbivores, feeding on vegetation in a specific area.

**Destruction**: Refers to the harm or degradation of natural environments, ecosystems, or habitats.

**Threat**: refers to a danger or risk to the well-being of the environment.

**Rainforest**: is a dense forest characterized by high levels of annual precipitation, high humidity, and a high diversity of plant and animal species

**Improvement**: making something better or enhancing its quality, value, or condition.

**Keeping**: preserving or maintaining something in its existing state

**Temperate:** refers to a moderate or mild climate characterized by moderatetemperatures.

**Indigenous**: refers to the original inhabitants of a region or country.

**Indigenous Reserves**:refer to designated areas of land for the use and habitation of indigenous or tribal communities. The purpose of creating indigenous reserves is to safeguard the well-being and autonomy of these communities, allowing them to maintain their cultural heritage.

**Slowing**: refers to the act of reducing speed.