2.5 Tropical Rainforests: Causes and Impacts of Deforestation: Test Pack

AQA 8035 · Calculators not allowed · about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. Show all your working.

1 State where the Amazon tropical rainforest is located, naming the country and the continent.

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

2 Give one example of a tropical hardwood species that has been commercially logged in the Amazon.

(Total for Question 2 is 1 mark)

3 Explain how large-scale deforestation in the Amazon reduces the amount of carbon dioxide absorbed from the atmosphere.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

4 Describe the difference between selective logging and clear-felling as causes of deforestation in Amazonian forests.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

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5 Give two economic benefits of deforestation in the Amazon and one economic limitation for local communities or the national economy.

(Total for Question 5 is 3 marks)

6 Describe how mineral extraction operations contribute to deforestation in the Amazon, naming one typical mineral or resource.

(Total for Question 6 is 2 marks)

7 Give two reasons why the loss of Amazon biodiversity through deforestation could have economic consequences beyond the region itself.

(Total for Question 7 is 2 marks)

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Mark scheme · 2.5 Tropical Rainforests: Causes and Impacts of Deforestation: Test Pack

Question 1

Brazil, South America, oe **B1**

Answer: The Amazon rainforest is located mainly in Brazil, in South America.

Question 2

mahogany / big-leaf mahogany (also accept another named tropical hardwood species commercially logged in the Amazon), oe **B1**

Answer: Mahogany / big-leaf mahogany.

Question 3

growing trees absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through photosynthesis, storing carbon in trunks, roots and soil, oe **B1**

when large areas are cleared, fewer trees remain to absorb carbon dioxide, so less is taken out of the atmosphere, oe **B1**

Answer: Growing trees absorb carbon dioxide through photosynthesis and store carbon in their trunks, roots and soil. When large areas are cleared, fewer trees remain to absorb carbon dioxide, so less is taken out of the atmosphere.

Question 4

selective logging removes only certain valuable trees, leaving much forest standing, oe **B1**

clear-felling removes all trees from an area, causing complete loss of forest cover, oe **B1**

Answer: Selective logging removes certain valuable trees while leaving much forest, whereas clear-felling removes all trees from an area, causing complete loss of forest cover.

Question 5

benefit 1, e.g. income from timber sales or export earnings, oe **B1**

benefit 2, e.g. jobs created in agriculture, ranching, mining or construction, oe **B1**

limitation, e.g. short-term gains can harm long-term sustainability, e.g. soil degradation reduces future agricultural productivity, oe **B1**

Answer: Benefits include income from timber sales and export earnings, and jobs created in agriculture, ranching, mining and construction. A limitation is that these gains can be short term, because soil degradation and loss of forest services reduce future agricultural productivity and sustainability.

Question 6

forest is cleared for mines, access roads and worker camps, oe **B1**

example linked detail, e.g. gold mining or bauxite extraction causes local and downstream environmental damage, oe **B1**

Answer: Forest is cleared for mines, access roads and worker camps; for example gold mining or bauxite extraction causes local forest loss and downstream environmental damage.

Question 7

many rainforest plants and organisms have not yet been studied and could contain compounds valuable for new medicines, so their loss removes a potential future resource, oe **B1**

loss of genetic diversity reduces the pool of wild plant varieties that could be used in future to breed hardier or more productive food crops, oe **B1**

Answer: Many rainforest species have not yet been studied and could contain compounds valuable for new medicines, so their loss removes a potential future resource. Loss of genetic diversity also reduces the pool of wild plant varieties that could be used to breed hardier or more productive food crops in future.

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