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Forest and Wildlife Resources — CBSE Class 10 Social Science Chapter Test

FREE CHAPTER TEST · CLASS X · SOCIAL SCIENCE (087) · PATTERN OF THE CBSE SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER 2026-27

TIME ALLOWED	MAXIMUM MARKS	QUESTIONS	NAME / ROLL NO.
1½ hours	40	20 (A 10 · B 4 · C 3 · D 1 · E 2)	

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. This question paper contains 20 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper is divided into five sections: A, B, C, D and E.
3. In Section A, Questions 1 to 8 are multiple choice questions (MCQs) and Questions 9 and 10 are assertion-reason based questions of 1 mark each.
4. In Section B, Q11–14 are very short answer (VSA) type questions, carrying 2 marks each.
5. In Section C, Q15–17 are short answer (SA) type questions, carrying 3 marks each.
6. In Section D, Q18 is a long answer (LA) type question, carrying 5 marks.
7. In Section E, Q19–20 are case study based questions, carrying 4 marks each, with sub-parts of the values of 1, 1 and 2 marks.
8. There is no overall choice. However, an internal choice has been provided in 1 question of Section B, 1 question of Section C, 1 question of Section D and in the 2-mark sub-part of each question of Section E.
9. Answer very short answer questions in about 40 words, short answer questions in about 60 words, long answer questions in about 120 words and case-based questions in about 100 words.
10. This chapter test follows the section structure, question types and marks per question of the CBSE Class X Social Science (087) Sample Question Paper 2026-27, at about half the length of the 80-mark board paper: 40 marks in 1½ hours.
11. The answer key and the marking scheme are at the end of this booklet. Attempt the paper in 1½ hours before you look at them.

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Chapter: Forest and Wildlife Resources (Geography: Contemporary India – II) · **Topics:** Biodiversity in India · IUCN categories of species · Causes of depletion of flora and fauna · Impact on local communities · Conservation and the Wildlife Protection Act · Project Tiger · Types of forests · Community and conservation

SECTION A

This section comprises 10 questions of 1 mark each: 8 multiple choice questions (MCQs) and 2 assertion-reason based questions.

1. Taxol, used to treat some cancers, is extracted from the bark, needles, twigs and roots of a medicinal plant that is now under great pressure. The plant is 1

(A) the neem tree
(B) the Himalayan yew
(C) the sal tree
(D) the mahua tree

2. Which of the following is an endemic species, found only in a particular area? 1

(A) Andaman teal
(B) Blackbuck
(C) Cattle
(D) Asiatic elephant

3. Which species has been declared extinct in India? 1

(A) Lion-tailed macaque
(B) Indian rhino
(C) Gangetic dolphin
(D) Asiatic cheetah

4. Project Tiger, one of the well-publicised wildlife campaigns in the world, was launched in 1

(A) 1952
(B) 1988
(C) 1973
(D) 1992

5. In which State is the Periyar Tiger Reserve located? 1

(A) Kerala
(B) Assam
(C) Uttarakhand
(D) Rajasthan

6. Which State has the largest area under permanent forests, making up 75 per cent of its total forest area? 1

(A) Kerala
(B) Odisha
(C) Rajasthan
(D) Madhya Pradesh

7. Species whose population levels are considered normal for their survival, such as cattle, sal, pine and rodents, are called 1

(A) rare species
(B) normal species
(C) endemic species
(D) extinct species

8. Which of the following is an endangered species? 1

(A) Blue sheep
(B) Himalayan brown bear
(C) Indian wild ass
(D) Nicobar pigeon

9. **Assertion (A):** Large-scale development projects have contributed significantly to the loss of forests. 1
Reason (R): Since 1951, over 5,000 sq km of forest has been cleared for river valley projects alone.

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

10. **Assertion (A):** Shifting cultivation is the main cause of depletion of forests in all parts of India. **Reason (R):** Substantial parts of the tribal belts, especially in north-eastern and central India, have been deforested or degraded by shifting cultivation (slash and burn agriculture). 1

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

SECTION B

This section comprises 4 very short answer (VSA) type questions of 2 marks each.

11. (a) Distinguish between endangered and vulnerable species, with one example of each. 2

OR

(b) Distinguish between rare and endemic species, with one example of each.

12. Write two main features of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. 2

13. How have the villagers of Sariska and of Alwar district in Rajasthan helped in conserving forests and wildlife? 2

14. How do sacred groves and nature worship help in conservation? 2

SECTION C

This section comprises 3 short answer (SA) type questions of 3 marks each.

15. (a) Explain any three causes of the depletion of flora and fauna in India. 3

OR

(b) How has the destruction of forests and wildlife affected local communities, especially women?

16. Describe the three types of forests in India classified by the government. 3

17. How have local communities and movements helped in the conservation of forests? Give three examples. 3

SECTION D

This section comprises 1 long answer (LA) type questions of 5 marks each.

18. (a) 'Conservation of forests and wildlife is essential.' Explain why, and describe the steps taken by the government for it. 5

OR

(b) Why was Project Tiger launched? Explain the threats to the tiger population and name the States in which three tiger reserves are located.

SECTION E

This section comprises 2 case study based questions of 4 marks each, with sub-parts of 1, 1 and 2 marks.

19. India is one of the world's richest countries in terms of its vast array of biological diversity, and has nearly 8 per cent of the total number of species in the world (estimated to be 1.6 million). At least 10 per cent of India's recorded wild flora and 20 per cent of its mammals are on the threatened list.

(i) About what percentage of the world's species are found in India? [1]

(ii) What is biodiversity? [1]

(iii) Why is it important to conserve biodiversity? Give two reasons. [2]

OR

(iii) Classify the following according to the IUCN categories: blackbuck, Himalayan brown bear, Nicobar pigeon, pink head duck. [2]

20. In India, much of the forest and wildlife resources are either owned or managed by the government through the Forest Department or other government departments. However, many local communities struggle to conserve habitats along with government officials, recognising that only this will secure their own long-term livelihood.

(i) Which State passed the first resolution for Joint Forest Management, and in which year? [1]

(ii) Name the movement that successfully resisted deforestation in the Himalayas. [1]

(iii) What do the local communities get in return for protecting forests under Joint Forest Management? Give two benefits. [2]

OR

(iii) Why is the participation of local communities important for the success of forest conservation? Give two reasons. [2]

END OF THE QUESTION PAPER

ANSWER KEY — SECTION A

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
(B)	(A)	(D)	(C)	(A)	(D)	(B)	(C)	(A)	(D)

MARKING SCHEME AND WORKED SOLUTIONS

Marks for each step are shown in brackets, as in the CBSE marking scheme. Any correct alternative method earns full marks.

Q1. Answer (B). Taxol comes from the Himalayan yew (Taxus wallachiana), found in parts of Himachal Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh; thousands of yew trees have dried up because of over-exploitation.

Q2. Answer (A). Endemic species are found only in particular areas, usually isolated by natural or geographical barriers — e.g. the Andaman teal, Nicobar pigeon and mithun of Arunachal Pradesh.

Q3. Answer (D). The Asiatic cheetah was declared extinct in India in 1952; the pink head duck is another extinct species.

Q4. Answer (C). Project Tiger was launched in 1973, the year after the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972.

Q5. Answer (A). Periyar is in Kerala; Manas is in Assam, Corbett in Uttarakhand and Sariska in Rajasthan.

Q6. Answer (D). Madhya Pradesh has the largest area under permanent forests, 75 per cent of its total forest area; Jammu and Kashmir, Andhra Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Maharashtra also have large percentages.

Q7. Answer (B). Normal species have population levels considered normal for their survival; rare, endemic and extinct are other IUCN categories.

Q8. Answer (C). The Indian wild ass is endangered; the blue sheep is vulnerable, the Himalayan brown bear rare and the Nicobar pigeon endemic.

Q9. Answer (A). Both true, and R explains A (clearing for the Narmada Sagar Project would inundate 40,000 hectares of forest). Answer (A).

Q10. Answer (D). A is false: shifting cultivation is one of several causes and mainly affects some tribal belts; agricultural expansion, development projects, mining and commercial forestry are major causes elsewhere. R is true. Answer (D).

Q11. (2 marks) Answer: (a) endangered vs vulnerable with examples; (b) rare vs endemic with examples.
(a) Endangered species are in danger of extinction; their survival is difficult if the negative factors that have led to a decline in their population continue — e.g. blackbuck, crocodile, Indian wild ass, Indian rhino, lion-tailed macaque, sangai. [1]
Vulnerable species are those whose population has declined to levels from where they are likely to move into the endangered category in the near future — e.g. blue sheep, Asiatic elephant, Gangetic dolphin. [1]
OR (b) Rare species have small populations and may move into the endangered or vulnerable category if the negative factors continue — e.g. Himalayan brown bear, wild Asiatic buffalo, desert fox, hornbill. [1]
Endemic species are found only in particular areas, usually isolated by natural or geographical barriers — e.g. Andaman teal, Nicobar pigeon, Andaman wild pig, mithun in Arunachal Pradesh. [1]

Q12. (2 marks) Answer: Protected species list and hunting ban; trade restricted, habitats protected, parks and sanctuaries.
An all-India list of protected species was published, and hunting was banned to protect the remaining population of certain endangered species. [1]
Trade in wildlife was restricted and wildlife habitats were given legal protection; the Central and many State governments established national parks and wildlife sanctuaries. [1]

Q13. (2 marks) Answer: Sariska villagers stopped mining; Bhairodev Dakav 'Sonchuri' with community rules.
In Sariska Tiger Reserve, villagers fought against mining by citing the Wildlife Protection Act. [1]
The inhabitants of five villages in Alwar district declared 1,200 hectares of forest as the Bhairodev Dakav 'Sonchuri', with their own rules and regulations that do not allow hunting and protect wildlife against outside encroachments. [1]

Q14. (2 marks) Answer: Sacred groves left untouched; worship of particular trees protects them.
Nature worship is an age-old tribal belief that all creations of nature have to be protected; such beliefs have preserved several virgin forests in pristine form, called sacred groves (forests of God and Goddesses), left untouched by local people. [1]
Certain trees are worshipped: the Mundas and the Santhals of Chota Nagpur worship mahua and kadamba, and the tribals of Odisha and Bihar worship tamarind and mango trees during weddings; peepal and banyan are considered sacred. [1]

Q15. (3 marks) Answer: (a) colonial railways, agriculture, forestry, mining; agricultural expansion and development projects; mining, grazing, fuelwood; (b) loss of livelihoods, extra burden on women; droughts and floods; poverty.
(a) During the colonial period, the expansion of railways, agriculture, commercial and scientific forestry and mining activities caused large-scale destruction of forests. [1]
Even after independence, agricultural expansion has been a major cause, and large-scale development projects such as river valley projects have cleared large areas of forest. [1]
Mining is another important factor: the Buxa Tiger Reserve in West Bengal is seriously threatened by ongoing dolomite mining; grazing and fuelwood collection also degrade forests. [1]
OR (b) The loss of forests means the loss of food, drink, medicine, culture and spirituality for many communities; women, who collect fuel, fodder and water, have to walk long distances. [1]
Deforestation causes droughts and floods, which affect the poor the most. [1]
Poverty in these cases is a direct outcome of environmental destruction; the destruction of biodiversity is closely linked to the loss of cultural diversity. [1]

Q16. (3 marks) Answer: Reserved (over half), protected (about one-third), unclassed.
Reserved forests: more than half of the total forest land; regarded as the most valuable for the conservation of forest and wildlife resources. [1]
Protected forests: almost one-third of the total forest area; protected from any further depletion. [1]
Unclassed forests: other forests and wastelands belonging to both government and private individuals and communities. [1]

Q17. (3 marks) Answer: Chipko; Beej Bachao Andolan and Navdanya; Joint Forest Management.
The Chipko movement in the Himalayas successfully resisted deforestation in several areas and showed that community afforestation with indigenous species can be very successful. [1]
Farmers and citizens' groups such as the Beej Bachao Andolan in Tehri and Navdanya have shown that diversified crop production without synthetic chemicals is possible and economically viable. [1]
Under Joint Forest Management, begun in Odisha in 1988, local communities protect and restore degraded forests and in return get non-timber forest produce and a share in the timber harvested. [1]

Q18. (5 marks) Answer: (a) ecological and genetic diversity; Wildlife Act 1972; parks, sanctuaries, Project Tiger; focus on biodiversity; (b) decline of tigers; threats; trade; Project Tiger 1973; reserves.
(a) Conservation preserves the ecological diversity and our life support systems — water, air and soil. [1]
It preserves the genetic diversity of plants and animals for better growth of species and breeding; for example, in agriculture we still depend on traditional crop varieties, and fisheries depend on aquatic biodiversity. [1]
The Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972 provided an all-India list of protected species, banned hunting, gave legal protection to habitats and restricted trade in wildlife. [1]
The Central and many State governments established national parks and wildlife sanctuaries, and started projects for protecting specific animals, such as Project Tiger in 1973. [1]
Conservation projects now focus on biodiversity rather than a few of its components; even insects are being protected, and several hundred butterflies, moths, beetles and one dragonfly have been added to the list of protected species. [1]
OR (b) Tigers were endangered: there were about 55,000 at the turn of the century and only about 1,827 in 1973. [1]
Major threats were poaching for trade, shrinking habitat, depletion of prey species, and growing human population. [1]
Trade in tiger skins and the use of tiger bones in traditional medicines in Asian countries left the tiger population on the verge of extinction. [1]
Project Tiger, launched in 1973, set up tiger reserves to protect the habitat. [1]
Examples of tiger reserves: Corbett (Uttarakhand), Sunderbans (West Bengal), Bandhavgarh (Madhya Pradesh), Sariska (Rajasthan), Manas (Assam) and Periyar (Kerala). [1]

Q19. (4 marks) Answer: (i) about 8 per cent; (ii) variety of interdependent life; (iii)(a) life support systems, genetic diversity; (b) endangered, rare, endemic, extinct.
(i) Nearly 8 per cent. [1]
(ii) The variety of plant and animal life found in an area, which are interdependent and form a complex web of ecological system. [1]
(iii)(a) It preserves the ecological diversity and life support systems — water, air and soil — on which humans depend. [1]
It preserves genetic diversity for breeding better crops and animals, and supports livelihoods such as fisheries. [1]
OR (iii)(b) Blackbuck: endangered; Himalayan brown bear: rare. [1]
Nicobar pigeon: endemic; pink head duck: extinct. [1]

Q20. (4 marks) Answer: (i) Odisha 1988; (ii) Chipko; (iii)(a) non-timber produce, share in timber; (b) direct interest, local knowledge and watch.
(i) Odisha, in 1988. [1]
(ii) The Chipko movement. [1]
(iii)(a) They are entitled to intermediary benefits such as non-timber forest produce. [1]
They share in the timber harvested by 'successful protection'. [1]
OR (iii)(b) Local people depend on forests for food, fuel and fodder, so they have a direct interest in protecting them. [1]
They know the forests well and can watch over them, as in Sariska and the Bhairodev Dakav 'Sonchuri'; conservation imposed only from outside often fails. [1]

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