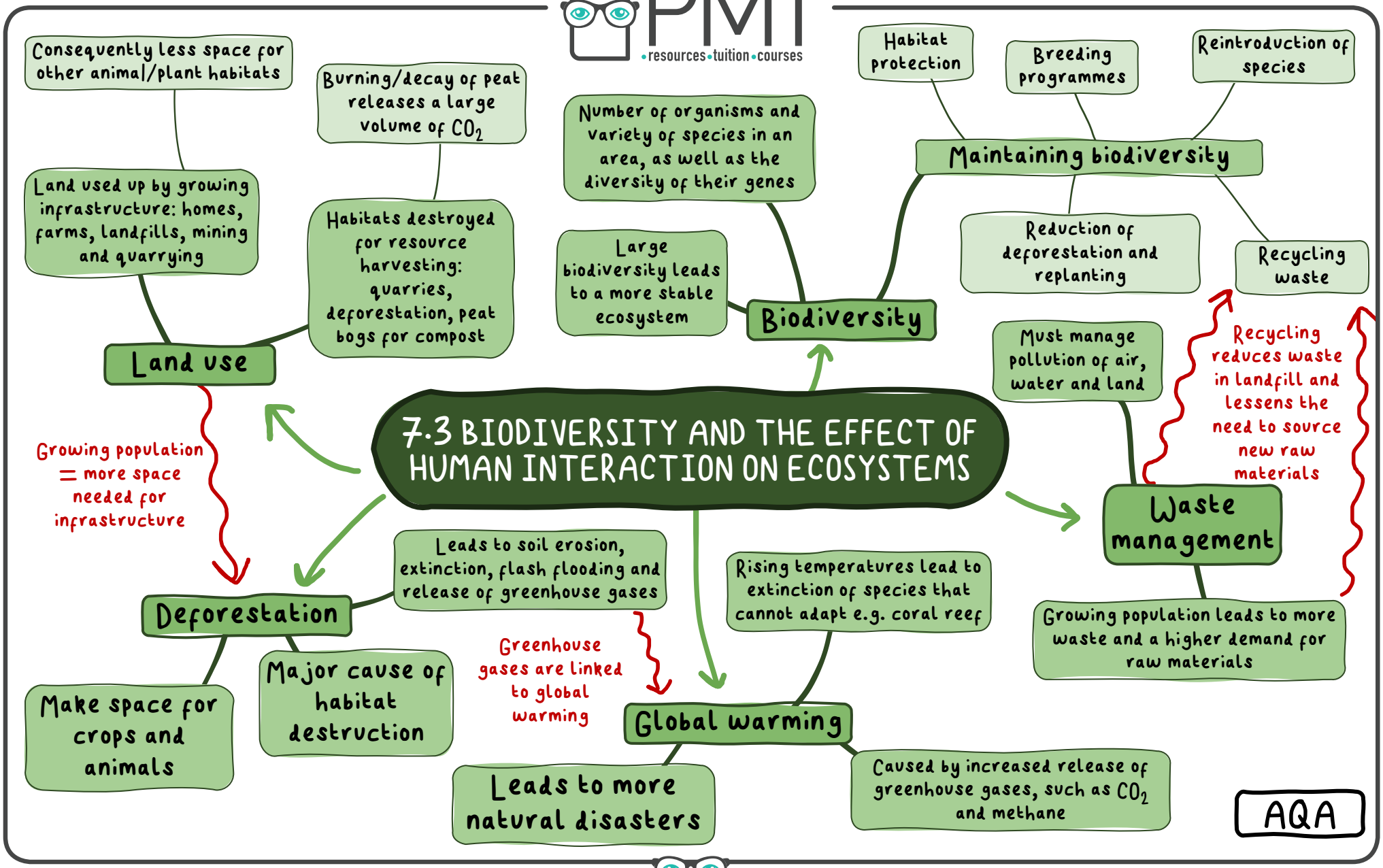
PMT
resources tuition courses
7.3 BIODIVERSITY AND THE EFFECT OF HUMAN INTERACTION ON ECOSYSTEMS
Land use
Consequently less space for other animal/plant habitats
Land used up by growing infrastructure: homes, farms, landfills, mining and quarrying
Burning/decay of peat releases a large volume of CO_2
Habitats destroyed for resource harvesting: quarries, deforestation, peat bogs for compost
Growing population = more space needed for infrastructure
Deforestation
Make space for crops and animals
Major cause of habitat destruction
Leads to soil erosion, extinction, flash flooding and release of greenhouse gases
Biodiversity
Number of organisms and variety of species in an area, as well as the diversity of their genes
Large biodiversity leads to a more stable ecosystem
Maintaining biodiversity
Habitat protection
Breeding programmes
Reintroduction of species
Reduction of deforestation and replanting
Recycling waste
Waste management
Must manage pollution of air, water and land
Recycling reduces waste in landfill and lessens the need to source new raw materials
Growing population leads to more waste and a higher demand for raw materials
Global warming
Greenhouse gases are linked to global warming
Rising temperatures lead to extinction of species that cannot adapt e.g. coral reef
Caused by increased release of greenhouse gases, such as CO_2 and methane
Leads to more natural disasters
AQA