

# AQA Geography GCSE

## The Malaysian Rainforest

### Case Study Flashcards

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How much of Malaysia's land is covered  
by tropical rainforest?



How much of Malaysia's land is covered by tropical rainforest?

67%.



How much of Malaysia's rainforest has  
been lost to deforestation between  
2000-2013?



How much of Malaysia's rainforest has been lost to deforestation between 2000-2013?

14% of its total forest cover (an area larger than Denmark).



# How has subsistence farming caused deforestation in Malaysia?



## How has subsistence farming caused deforestation in Malaysia?

Forests cleared using slash-and-burn to make room to grow crops or keep livestock. In some places this is happening at an unsustainable rate and the forest is not being left to recover.



How has commercial farming caused widespread deforestation in Malaysia?





How has commercial farming caused widespread deforestation in Malaysia?

Huge areas of land have been cleared for agriculture, especially for palm oil plantations, making Malaysia the world's largest exporter of palm oil.



What has encouraged farmers to go into the palm oil industry in Malaysia?



What has encouraged farmers to go into the palm oil industry in Malaysia?

10 year tax incentives for plantation owners.



How has the logging industry caused deforestation in Malaysia?



## How has the logging industry caused deforestation in Malaysia?

Clear felling has been taking place for decades to obtain tropical hardwood timber, which sells for high prices. Malaysia was the largest exporter of tropical hardwoods in the 1980s.



# How has road building caused deforestation in Malaysia?



## How has road building caused deforestation in Malaysia?

Large areas of land have been cleared and converted into roads to provide access to plantations, mines, power stations etc.



How has mining and mineral extraction caused deforestation in Malaysia?





How has mining and mineral extraction caused deforestation in Malaysia?

Malaysia has reserves in minerals such as bauxite, meaning large areas of land have been deforested for mine construction and mineral extraction.



How has hydroelectric power caused deforestation in Malaysia?



## How has hydroelectric power caused deforestation in Malaysia?

Dam and reservoir construction requires huge areas of land to be flooded, seen in the construction of the Bakun Dam which flooded 700km<sup>2</sup> of land.



How has population growth in Malaysia caused deforestation in its tropical rainforests?



How has population growth in Malaysia caused deforestation in its tropical rainforests?

Transmigration programs were set up to manage overpopulation. From 1956 to the 1980s, over 15,000km<sup>2</sup> of rainforest was converted for settlers.



How does deforestation in Malaysia  
impact the climate?



How does deforestation in Malaysia impact the climate?

Reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions contributes to the enhanced greenhouse effect.

Lack of transpiration leads to a hotter, drier climate.



# How has deforestation caused soil erosion in Malaysia?





How has deforestation caused soil erosion in Malaysia?

When trees are no longer there to protect and hold together soils, heavy rain quickly washes away nutrients.



How has deforestation led to economic development in Malaysia?



How has deforestation led to economic development in Malaysia?

Industries provide jobs and create goods which can be sold for profit.

Companies pay taxes to the government, which helps development.



How has deforestation caused economic losses in Malaysia?



How has deforestation caused economic losses in Malaysia?

Environmental degradation and long-term global warming create expensive issues, such as lower yields, soil erosion, pollution clean up etc.

