

AQA Geography GCSE

Tropical Rainforests

Flashcards

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Biodiversity













Biodiversity

A large variety of animal and plant life living in the same ecosystem.











Buttress roots













Buttress roots

Large, thick tree roots that grow above the ground in tropical rainforests.









Camouflage













Camouflage

An animal adaptation where animals purposefully look like their surroundings to hide from predators.











Canopy











Canopy

The layer of a tropical rainforest where the tops of trees touch, forming a dense area of vegetation.









Carbon sink













Carbon sink

Something that absorbs more carbon dioxide than it emits, causing a net loss of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.











Cattle ranching













Cattle ranching

The rearing of cows on large areas of land, usually to produce meat to sell for a profit.













Clear felling











Clear felling

A form of logging where all trees in an area are cut down.









Commercial farming













Commercial farming

Agriculture that is intended to create surplus produce to sell for a profit.











Debt-for-nature swaps











Debt-for-nature swaps

Agreements where one country reduces the amount of debt owed by another country in return for the owing country putting efforts into environmental conservation.









Decomposers













Decomposers

Organisms that break down organic material and release the nutrients back into the ecosystem.











Deforestation













Deforestation

The permanent (and usually large-scale) removal of trees.









Drip-tip













Drip-tip

An adaptation of a leaf where the end of the leaf is tapered, allowing rainwater to drip off.











Ecotourism













Ecotourism

Tourism that aims to have reduced environmental impact and supports conservation efforts, making it sustainable











Epiphytes











Epiphytes

Plants that live on the surface of other plants, receiving nutrients from these plants.











Hydroelectric power













Hydroelectric power

Energy harnessed from the movement of water.







Interdependence













Interdependence

The concept of multiple things depending on each other for survival.









Latosol











Latosol

An iron-rich, infertile soil found in tropical rainforests.









Leaching











Leaching

A process in soils where minerals are washed away by water (usually rainfall).









Lianas











Lianas

Woody vines found in tropical rainforests; their roots grow on the forest floor, but the vines stretch high into the canopy.











Logging











Logging

The process of cutting down trees for wood.











Nutrient Cycling













Nutrient Cycling

The movement of nutrients between organic and inorganic components of an ecosystem.











Plantations













Plantations

Farms where crops are grown in large amounts with the intention to sell for a profit.









Selective logging













Selective logging

A form of logging where only certain trees are cut down to reduce the environmental effects of logging.











Subsistence farming











Subsistence farming

Agriculture that is intended to produce only enough food for the farmer and their family to eat.











Transmigration













Transmigration

A government scheme that aims to move people from overpopulated urban areas to underpopulated rural areas.











Tropical rainforest













Tropical rainforest

A warm, wet, biodiverse ecosystem located within the Tropics.







Understory













Understory

The layer of a tropical rainforest that lies beneath the canopy but above the forest floor







