

### 1 . Multiple Choice Questions

**(i) Which of the following conservation strategies do not directly involve community participation?**

- (a) Joint forest management
- (b) Beej Bachao Andolan
- (c) Chipko Movement
- (d) Demarcation of Wildlife sanctuaries

**Answer:** (d) Demarcation of Wildlife sanctuaries

### 2. Match the following.

Reserved forests — Forests are regarded as most valuable as far as the conservation of forest and wildlife resources.

Protected forests — Forest lands are protected from any further depletion.

Unclassed forests — Other forests and wastelands belonging to both government and private individuals and communities.

### 3. Answer the following questions in about 30 words.

**(i) What is biodiversity? Why is biodiversity important for human lives?**

Biodiversity refers to the variety of living organisms—plants, animals, and microorganisms—in a particular region. It is important because it maintains ecosystem stability, provides resources (food, medicine, etc.), and supports life by contributing to air, water, and soil quality.

**(ii) How have human activities affected the depletion of flora and fauna?**

**Explain.**

Human activities like deforestation, industrialization, urbanization, overgrazing, and pollution have destroyed natural habitats, caused loss of species, and reduced biodiversity. Excessive exploitation for developmental and commercial purposes has led to rapid depletion of plants and animals.

### 4. Answer the following questions in about 120 words.

**(i) Describe how communities have conserved and protected forests and wildlife in India.**

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Indian communities have played an important role in conserving forests and wildlife. The Bishnoi community in Rajasthan protects animals and trees as part of their religion, even risking their lives. Villagers in the Sariska Tiger Reserve prevent poaching by forming committees and patrolling. In West Bengal, communities manage forests through joint forest management (JFM), sharing responsibilities and benefits with the government. The Chipko Movement in Uttarakhand saw villagers—particularly women—hug trees to prevent illegal cutting. Beej Bachao Andolan promotes saving traditional seeds, which also conserves biodiversity. By respecting local customs, involving indigenous people, and fostering awareness, communities help in conserving natural resources sustainably.

**(ii) Write a note on good practices towards conserving forest and wildlife.**

Good conservation practices include afforestation and reforestation, regulated grazing, and sustainable use of forest resources. Establishment of protected areas like national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and biosphere reserves protects habitats. Involving local communities in Joint Forest Management promotes collective protection. Environmental education and awareness campaigns help curb hunting, poaching, and illegal trade. Restoration of degraded lands, habitat preservation, and controlling pollution further support conservation efforts. Use of traditional knowledge and scientific methods ensures sustainable management, while government policies and laws (like the Wildlife Protection Act) provide legal backing. These combined steps are vital for conserving India's rich forest and wildlife heritage.