

CHAPTER 14

Natural Resources

1. OBJECTIVE QUESTIONS

1. The main reason of pollution in river A could be due to accumulation of
- phosphates of detergents in the river
 - hot water released from industries
 - mercury salts in the river
 - pathogenic micro organisms in the river

Ans : (a) phosphates of detergents in the river
In river A, there is seen a high level of algal bloom. Phosphates of detergents stimulate the algal growth (algal bloom), which is called eutrophication.

2. Regularly breathing air that contains unburnt carbon particles causes health problems such as
- asthma
 - allergies
 - cancer
 - all of these

Ans : (d) all of these
The combustion of fossil fuels increases the amount of suspended particles in air that could be unburnt carbon particles or substances called hydrocarbons. Presence of high levels of all these pollutants cause visibility to be lowered, especially in cold weather when water also condenses out of air. Regularly breathing air that contains any of these substances increases the incidence of allergies, cancer and heart diseases.

3. What happens if a person is exposed too much to ultraviolet rays?
- It affects weather.
 - It causes rickets.
 - It causes cancer.
 - It is a rich source of vitamin D.

Ans : (c) It causes cancer.
Too much exposure to UV rays causes skin cancer. The depleted ozone layer allows ultraviolet radiation from the sun to reach earth's surface which disturb weather patterns through.

4. Topsoil contains
- living organisms only
 - humus and soil particles only
 - dead organisms and living plants
 - humus, living organisms and soil particles.

Ans : (d) humus, living organisms and soil particles.
The topmost layer of the soil that contains humus and living organisms in addition to the soil particles is called the topsoil.

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5. Materials of biological origin which are commonly used to maintain and improve soil fertility are
- green manure
 - biofertilizers
 - bioinsecticides
 - both a and b

Ans : (d) both a and b
Most soils are naturally fertile but to maintain its fertile nature, fertilizers are needed. Green manure and biofertilizers contain range of nutrients in different proportions which are essential for plants.

6. Which of the following phenomenon refers to 'ozone hole'?
- Absorption of carbon-dioxide by plants.
 - Concentration of ozone as a whole.
 - Much larger, seasonal, decrease in stratospheric ozone over polar regions of earth.
 - None of these

Ans : (c) Much larger, seasonal, decrease in stratospheric ozone over polar regions of earth.
Ozone depletion explains two observations. One is the slow, gradual decline of about 4% per decade in the total amount of ozone in earth's stratosphere since 1980. Other is much larger, seasonal decrease in stratospheric ozone over polar regions during the said period. The latter is commonly referred as 'Ozone hole'.

7. Select the incorrect statement(s) regarding soil erosion.
- Soil erosion can be prevented by terrace farming.
 - Overgrazing and terrace farming both promotes soil erosion.
 - Soil erosion decreases the fertility of soil.
- 1 and 2
 - Only 2
 - 2 and 3
 - 1, 2 and 3

Ans : (b) Only 2
Terracing is one of the very good methods of soil conservation. A terrace is levelled section of hilly

cultivated area. Owing to its unique structure it prevents the rapid surface run-off of water.

8. What does MAB stand for?
 (a) Man and biosphere
 (b) Man antibodies and bacterial
 (c) Man and biotic community
 (d) Mayer, Anderson and Bishby

Ans : (a) Man and biosphere
 MAB stands for Man and biosphere.

9. The elemental forms of carbon are
 (a) diamond and graphite
 (b) carbonate and graphite
 (c) hydrogen carbonate and graphite
 (d) carbonate and hydrogen carbonate

Ans : (a) diamond and graphite
 Carbon occurs in the elemental form as diamonds and graphite and in the combined state, as carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, as carbonate and hydrogen carbonate salts in various minerals.

10. Which of the following processes is not a part of the carbon cycle?
 (a) Photosynthesis (b) Transpiration
 (c) Respiration (d) Combustion

Ans : (b) Transpiration
 Transpiration is a part of the water cycle.

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11. In which zone of atmosphere does the cloud formation take place?
 (a) Troposphere (b) Stratosphere
 (c) Thermosphere (d) Ozoneosphere

Ans : (a) Troposphere
 Cloud formation takes place in troposphere.

12. How is ozone formed?
 (a) Three carbon atoms combine to form ozone.
 (b) Three oxygen atoms combine to form ozone.
 (c) One carbon atom and two oxygen atoms split to form ozone.
 (d) One oxygen atom and two hydrogen atoms split to form ozone.

Ans : (b) Three oxygen atoms combine to form ozone.
 Three oxygen atoms combine to form one ozone molecule.

13. Acid rain can be best defined as
 1. surface run-off from agricultural land containing chemicals like fertilizers.
 2. rain water containing dissolved acids.
 3. the rain of acids formed in the clouds due to lightning.
 (a) 1 and 2 (b) 1 and 3
 (c) Only 2 (d) Only 1

Ans : (c) Only 2
 The fossil fuels like coal and petroleum contain small amounts of nitrogen and sulphur. When these fuels are burnt, nitrogen and sulphur too are burnt and

this produces different oxides of nitrogen and sulphur. They dissolve in rain water to give rise to acid rain.

14. Identify the gas that can result in the formation of acid rain.
 (a) Ozone (b) Carbon monoxide
 (c) Sulphur dioxide (d) Chlorofluorocarbon

Ans : (c) Sulphur dioxide
 Sulphur dioxide result in the formation of acid rain.

15. Which gas associated with the greenhouse effect?
 (a) Carbon-dioxide (b) Oxygen
 (c) Nitrogen dioxide (d) Sulphur dioxide

Ans : (a) Carbon-dioxide
 The gas associated with the greenhouse effect is carbon-dioxide.

16. Which of the following process converts nitrate to nitrous oxide and nitrogen gas?
 (a) Nitrification (b) Denitrification
 (c) Nitrogen-fixation (d) Geological cycle

Ans : (b) Denitrification
 The conversion of nitrate to nitrous oxide and nitrogen gas is called denitrification.

17. Ozone is a molecule containing
 (a) three atoms of nitrogen
 (b) two atoms of oxygen
 (c) three atoms of oxygen
 (d) two atoms of nitrogen

Ans : (c) three atoms of oxygen
 Ozone is an isotope of oxygen. It is a molecule containing three atoms of oxygen (O_3).

18. In the atmosphere, the two forms of oxygen found are
 (a) glucose and ozone
 (b) glucose and oxygen
 (c) ozone and oxygen
 (d) water and carbon dioxide

Ans : (c) ozone and oxygen
 Elemental oxygen is normally found in the form of a diatomic molecule. However, in the upper reaches of the atmosphere, a molecule containing three atoms of oxygen O_3 called ozone is found.

19. ODS stands for
 (a) Ozone developing substances
 (b) Ozone depleting substances
 (c) Ozone developing sources
 (d) Ozone depleted sources

Ans : (b) Ozone depleting substances

20. Find the factors that cause greenhouse effect.
 (a) Ozone layer in the atmosphere
 (b) Infrared light reaching the earth
 (c) Moisture layer in the atmosphere
 (d) CO_2 layer in the atmosphere

Ans : (d) CO_2 layer in the atmosphere
 Presence of CO_2 layer in the atmosphere causes

greenhouse effect.

21. Ozone layer of atmosphere protects the living organisms from
- high temperature
 - harmful radiations of sun
 - hail and snow
 - water pollution

Ans : (b) harmful radiations of sun

Ozone layer is a region of concentration of ozone molecule, O_3 ($O_2 + O$) in the Earth's atmosphere. The ozone layer naturally shields Earth's life from the harmful effect of the Sun's ultraviolet radiations.

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22. What is air composed of?
- Nitrogen, oxygen, methane, carbon-dioxide and noble
 - Nitrogen, oxygen, carbon-dioxide, water vapours and gases
 - Nitrogen, carbon-dioxide, oxygen, carbon monoxide and gases
 - Nitrogen, oxygen, carbon monoxide, water vapours and gases

Ans : (b) Nitrogen, oxygen, carbon-dioxide, water vapours and gases

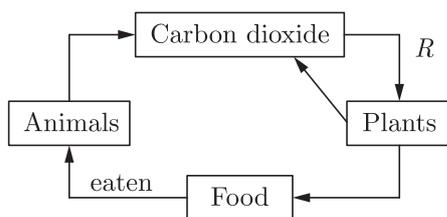
Air is a mixture of nitrogen, oxygen, carbon-dioxide, water vapours and other inert gases.

23. Which one of the following is an inexhaustible resource?
- Fossil fuels
 - Minerals
 - Soil
 - Solar radiation

Ans : (d) Solar radiation

Solar energy is inexhaustible.

24. The given figure shows a part of the carbon cycle.



- Decomposition
- Respiration
- Photosynthesis
- Nutrition

Ans : (c) Photosynthesis

R in the given figure represents photosynthesis.

25. In which part of leguminous plants are nitrogen-fixing bacteria found?
- Root nodules
 - Leaves
 - Stems
 - Flowers

Ans : (a) Root nodules

Nitrogen fixing bacteria are present in the root nodules of leguminous plants.

26. Which of the following is a major cause of air pollution?
- Burning of wood
 - Burning of biogas
 - Burning of cow dung cakes
 - Burning of fossil fuels

Ans : (d) Burning of fossil fuels

Burning of fossil fuels causes major harms. The burning of fossil fuels like coal, natural gas, petroleum in automobiles, industries and thermal plants leads to increase in air pollution.

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27. Find the correct statement.
- Ozone is a pollutant.
 - Ozone is a protector.
 - Both (a) and (b)
 - None of these

Ans : (c) Both (a) and (b)

Ozone is a pollutant as well as a protector.

- Ozone reduces air visibility and causes various health problems (eye wetting, respiratory distress) etc. It lowers the yield of crop, affects tree growth in forests and decline them.
- Ozone layer or ozone shield protects biosphere from harmful radiations of sun (UV radiations). In this way, it acts as an umbrella for the biosphere.
- In stratosphere, its synthesis takes place using O_2 and energy of UV radiation (a photochemical reaction). This process generates enough heat which protects biosphere from excessive cooling effect of outer atmosphere. In this way, here it acts as a blanket that covers the biosphere.

28. Rainfall patterns across a particular area mainly depends on
- the prevailing wind patterns.
 - the pattern of population density in the area.
 - the amount of available groundwater in the area.
- 1 and 3
 - 1 and 2
 - 2 and 3
 - Only 1

Ans : (d) Only 1

Rainfall patterns are decided by the prevailing wind patterns. In large parts of India, rains are mostly brought by the South-West or North-East monsoons.

29. Why is ozone layer important?
- It is used by living organisms for respiration.
 - It increases the temperature of the earth.
 - It reduces the amount of ultraviolet rays reaching the earth.
 - It reflects the heat from the earth back into the atmosphere.

Ans : (c) It reduces the amount of ultraviolet rays reaching the earth.

The ozone layer is important because it reduces the amount of ultraviolet rays reaching the earth.

30. Which of the following does not lead to water pollution?
- The addition of undesirable substances to water-bodies.
 - The removal of desirable substances from water-

bodies.

- (c) A change in pressure of the water bodies.
 (d) A change in temperature of the water bodies.

Ans : (c) A change in pressure of the water bodies.
 We use the term water pollution to cover the following effects:

1. The addition of undesirable substances such as fertilizers and pesticides to water-bodies.
2. The removal of desirable substances like dissolved oxygen from water-bodies.
3. A change in temperature.

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31. Find a poisonous pollutant from the following.

- (a) SO₂ (b) CO
 (c) CO₂ (d) NH₃

Ans : (b) CO

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a toxic air pollutant. Automobiles, cigarettes etc. release carbon monoxide in the form of smoke. Our blood has respiratory pigment, haemoglobin (Hb) in the erythrocytes (RBCs) and it has high affinity for oxygen. As a result of breathing, oxygen combines with haemoglobin in the lungs and is carried by blood to various body tissues in the form of oxyhaemoglobin (OHb). Carbon monoxide (CO), a poisonous gas, has 200 times more affinity for haemoglobin than oxygen. When the polluted air containing large amount of CO is inhaled, the CO then combines with haemoglobin to form a stable poisonous compound called carboxyhaemoglobin (COHb). This drastically reduces the availability of oxygen to the body tissues and leads to suffocation and finally to the death of an individual.

32. Select the correct statement(s) regarding water harvesting.

1. It is the process of collecting water from tube wells.
 2. It is the process of collection of river water for irrigation.
 3. It is the technique of collection of rainwater for use during irrigation.
 4. It is the collection of rainwater in the soil to recharge ground water.
- (a) 1, 3 and 4 (b) Only 1
 (c) 3 and 4 (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans : (c) 3 and 4

Capturing rain water or capturing run-off in an area and taking measures to keep that water clean and use it for other purposes like irrigation, recharging groundwater is called rainwater harvesting.

33. Heat reflected from earth's surface is trapped in the atmosphere. What is the phenomenon called as?

- (a) Global warming (b) Ozone depletion
 (c) The greenhouse effect (d) Thermal pollution

Ans : (c) The greenhouse effect

Greenhouse effect is the rise in temperature that the earth experiences because of certain gases in the atmosphere. Water vapour, CO₂, NO, methane etc. trap energy from the sun. Without these gases

heat may escape back into space and earth's average temperature may be about 60°F colder. It is because of these greenhouse gases the world is at warmth.

34. What if there is a sudden temperature change in both the rivers?

- (a) Amount of dissolved oxygen will decrease.
 (b) Amount of disease causing organisms will increase.
 (c) Adversely affect the process of breeding of aquatic lives in both the rivers.
 (d) Help in reducing the rate of pollution as most micro organisms and algae are susceptible to heat.

Ans : (c) Adversely affect the process of breeding of aquatic lives in both the rivers.

A change in temperature adversely affect aquatic organisms as they are used to a certain range of temperature in the water-body where they live, and a sudden marked change in this temperature would be dangerous for them or affect their breeding. The eggs and larvae of various animals are particularly susceptible to temperature changes.

35. What is meant by conserving the environment?

- (a) Not destroying natural resources
 (b) Not lowering the quality of the environment
 (c) Changing natural resources from its original state
 (d) Preserving the condition of the nature that has been destroyed

Ans : (a) Not destroying natural resources
 Conserving the environment means not destroying natural resources.

36. maintain the organic matter of the soil.

- (a) Fungi and semi-parasites
 (b) Cyanobacteria and parasitic animals
 (c) Protozoans and slime moulds
 (d) Bacteria and fungi

Ans : (d) Bacteria and fungi

Bacteria and fungi carry out the decomposition of plant residues, breaking them down and holding the nutrients in their bodies, this prevents the nutrients leaching out into the soil. They hold the nutrients until the nutrients are consumed by protozoa, nematodes and then release the remaining nutrients in plants in the available form.

37. What do you mean by 'environment'?

- (a) Lithosphere (b) Biosphere
 (c) Hydrosphere (d) Atmosphere

Ans : (b) Biosphere

Environment is also called as biosphere. It includes - lithosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere. Biosphere is life supporting zone of earth where all of these three interact and make the life possible.

38. Ecosystem comprises both abiotic and biotic components. Biotic component of an ecosystem consist of

- (a) producers (b) consumers

- (c) decomposers (d) all of these

Ans : (d) all of these

Biotic component of an ecosystem are the living part like plants, animals, bacteria, etc. Producers (plants), consumers (animals) and decomposers (bacteria, fungi) all are living or biotic component of an ecosystem.

39. Select the term that means 'cycling of elements in an ecosystem'.

- (a) Chemical cycle (b) Geochemical cycle
(c) Bio-geochemical cycle (d) Geological cycle

Ans : (c) Bio-geochemical cycle

The term 'Bio-geochemical cycle' means cycling of elements in an ecosystem.

40. Select the process(es) which is/are part of both carbon cycle and oxygen cycle.

- (a) Photosynthesis (b) Respiration
(c) Transpiration (d) Both a and b

Ans : (d) Both a and b

Both carbon and oxygen are circulated (in the form of carbon dioxide) in the atmosphere by the processes called photosynthesis and respiration.

2. FILL IN THE BLANK

1. is 75% of the total surface of the Earth that is covered by water.

Ans : Hydrosphere

2. Carbon present in the abiotic environment is fixed by the plants in the form of atmospheric CO₂ and dissolved CO₂ in water through a photochemical process known as

Ans : Photosynthesis

3. Pattern of the rainfall depends on the pattern of

Ans : Wind

4. One of the main aim of management of forests and wildlife is to conserve the which we have inherited.

Ans : Biodiversity

5. An consists of two components and biotic.

Ans : Ecosystem, abiotic

6. Glaciers are a sources of

Ans : Water

7. Nitrogen fixation is conversion of nitrogen into nitrates.

Ans : Atmospheric

8. Uneven heating of air over the land and water-bodies causes

Ans : Winds

9. Forests and wildlife are examples of renewable resources.

Ans : Living

10. Evaporation of water from water-bodies and subsequent condensation gives us

Ans : Rain

3. TRUE/FALSE

1. Presence of oxygen increases nitrogen fixation in Rhizobium.

Ans : False

Nitrogen gases in air help in nitrogen fixation.

2. 75% of Earth's surface is covered with water.

Ans : True

3. Biosphere forms living mantle of Earth.

Ans : True

4. Ozonosphere is located in troposphere of atmosphere.

Ans : False

Ozonosphere is located in stratosphere.

5. Carbon monoxide and carbon-dioxide of air produce acid rain.

Ans : False

SO₂ and NO produces acid rain.

6. Topsoil is the uppermost fertile layer of soil that is rich in mineral nutrients.

Ans : True

7. Winds develop due to uneven heating of Earth.

Ans : True

8. Air forms a protective blanket around the earth and does not allow all the solar radiations to reach the Earth.

Ans : False

Atmosphere forms a protective blanket around the earth.

9. Various nutrients are used again and again in a cyclic fashion

Ans : True

10. Pollution of air, water and soil affect the quality of life and harm the biodiversity.

Ans : True

4. MATCHING QUESTIONS

DIRECTION : Each question contains statements given in two columns which have to be matched. Statements (A, B, C, D) in column-I have to be matched with statements (p, q, r, s) in column II.

1.

| Column I | | Column II | |
|----------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| (A) | Green house gas | (p) | CO ₂ |
| (B) | Nitrogen fixation | (q) | O ₃ |
| (C) | Ozone | (r) | Rhizobium |
| (D) | Carbon cycle | (s) | Bio-geochemical |

| | A | B | C | D |
|-----|---|---|---|---|
| (a) | q | p | r | s |
| (b) | q | s | r | p |
| (c) | p | r | q | s |
| (d) | r | q | p | s |

Ans : (c) A-p, B-r, C-q, D-s

2.

| Column I | | Column II (Incubation Period) | |
|----------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (A) | Carbon-dioxide | (p) | Bacteria |
| (B) | Nitrogen fixation | (q) | ODS (Ozone Depletion Substance) |
| (C) | CFCs (Chlorofluorocarbons) | (r) | Green house gas |
| (D) | Decomposers | (s) | Acid rain |
| (E) | Oxides of nitrogen and sulphur | (s) | Mineralization |

| | A | B | C | D | E |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|
| (a) | r | p | q | t | s |
| (b) | q | p | r | s | t |
| (c) | p | q | r | s | t |
| (d) | t | s | q | r | p |

Ans : (a) A-r, B-p, C-q, D-t, E-s

3.

| Column I | | Column II | |
|----------|-----------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| (A) | Abiotic components | (p) | Air, solar energy |
| (B) | Edaphic factors | (q) | Inorganic, organic & climatic factors |
| (C) | Biotic components | (r) | Topography, soil texture |
| (D) | Continuous re-sources | (s) | Grasses, locusts, bacteria |
| (E) | Recyclable resource | (s) | Fossil fuel |
| (F) | Non-recyclable | (s) | Metallic ores |

| | A | B | C | D | E | F |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (a) | p | q | s | r | u | t |
| (b) | q | r | s | p | u | t |
| (c) | u | t | s | p | q | r |
| (d) | p | r | s | q | t | u |

Ans : (b) A-q, B-r, C-s, D-p, E-u, F-t

4.

| Column I | | Column II | |
|----------|----------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| (A) | Water cycle | (p) | Basis of high energy compound ATP |
| (B) | Carbon cycle | (q) | Self perpetuating |
| (C) | Nitrogen cycle | (r) | Hydrological cycle |
| (D) | Oxygen cycle | (s) | Lightening in nature |
| (E) | Phosphorous | (s) | Basis of photosynthesis |

| | A | B | C | D | E |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|
| (a) | p | q | s | r | t |
| (b) | q | r | s | p | t |
| (c) | t | s | r | q | p |
| (d) | r | t | s | q | p |

Ans : (d) A-r, B-t, C-s, D-q, E-p

5.

| Column I | | Column II | |
|----------|----------------------|-----------|--|
| (A) | Deforestation | (p) | Human interference is minimum |
| (B) | Natural ecosystem | (q) | Physicochemical atmosphere |
| (C) | Artificial ecosystem | (r) | Destroying natural beauty |
| (D) | Water | (s) | Increase soil fertility |
| (E) | Humus | (t) | Expressed with reference to mean sea level |
| (F) | Water table | (u) | Universal solvent |

| | A | B | C | D | E | F |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (a) | p | q | r | s | u | t |
| (b) | q | r | s | p | u | t |
| (c) | r | p | q | u | s | t |
| (d) | p | r | s | q | u | t |

Ans : (c) A-r, B-p, C-q, D-u, E-s, F-t

5. ASSERTION AND REASON

DIRECTION : In each of the following questions, a statement of Assertion is given and a corresponding statement of Reason is given just below it. Of the statements, given below, mark the correct answer as:

- (a) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.
 (b) Both assertion and reason are true but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion.
 (c) Assertion is true but reason is false.
 (d) Both Assertion and Reason are false.

1. **Assertion :** Extensive use of CFCs increases the chances of skin cancer.

Reason : CFCs deplete the ozone layer in stratosphere.

Ans : (a) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.

CFCs depletes the ozone layer, which absorbs harmful (ultraviolet) UV rays from Sun. UV rays penetrating the surface of Earth leads to various disorders like skin cancer.

2. **Assertion :** Like Earth, Moon and Venus also have atmosphere.

Reason : The atmosphere on Moon and Venus mainly comprises of carbon dioxide.

Ans : (d) Both Assertion and Reason are false.

Moon has no atmosphere. Atmosphere on Venus and Mars have high percentage (approx 95%) of CO₂ while atmosphere of our Earth consists of various gases like nitrogen (78%), oxygen (21%), carbon dioxide (0.03%) and argon (0.91%).

3. **Assertion :** Carbon monoxide is less dangerous than carbon dioxide.

Reason : Carbon monoxide is a non-poisonous gas.

Ans : (d) Both Assertion and Reason are false.

Carbon monoxide is more dangerous than carbon dioxide. It is a poisonous gas which leads to respiratory problems. It also causes giddiness, headache and cardiovascular malfunctioning.

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4. **Assertion :** Nodules are found only in the roots of leguminous plants.

Reason : Rhizobium is a symbiotic bacteria that live in the roots of legumes.

Ans : (b) Both assertion and reason are true but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion.

Root nodules are special structures present only in the roots of leguminous plants, which provide shelter to nitrogen-fixing bacteria (i.e., Rhizobium). Therefore, it is found only in roots of the leguminous plants.

5. **Assertion :** Evaporation and transpiration maintain the water level on the Earth.

Reason : Evaporation is loss of water from water bodies whereas transpiration is absorption of water from roots of a plant.

Ans : (c) Assertion is true but reason is false.

Evaporation is loss of water in vapour form from the water bodies whereas transpiration is also water loss but from the leaves of a plant. Both contribute in

the process of water cycle. Water cycle is known to maintain the water level on the Earth.

6. **Assertion :** We will not be able to survive on the Earth, if all plants become extinct.

Reason : Plants are the only source of oxygen in the atmosphere.

Ans : (a) Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.

We will not be able to survive on Earth, if all plants become extinct because plants are the only source of oxygen in the atmosphere. Only plants are able to release oxygen during photosynthesis.

7. **Assertion :** Carbon dioxide maintains the heat balance on the Earth.

Reason : Carbon dioxide has led to ozone depletion.

Ans : (c) Assertion is true but reason is false.

Carbon dioxide maintains the heat balance on the Earth. It traps solar energy entering the Earth's surface and prevent the escape of heat from the Earth. Whereas ozone depletion is due to incorporation of harmful non-biodegradable substances into the atmosphere called CFCs (Chlorofluorocarbons).

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8. **Assertion :** Substances are transported from one part of the body to the other in a dissolved form.

Reason : Water is a good solvent.

Ans : (b) Both assertion and reason are true but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion.

All cellular processes take place in a water medium. All the reactions that take place within our body and within the cells occur between substances that are dissolved in water. Water acts as a medium for transportation of substances from one part of the body to the other.

9. **Assertion :** Lichens are indicators of pollution.

Reason : Lichens grow mainly in polluted areas.

Ans : (c) Assertion is true but reason is false.

Lichens are bio indicators of air pollution. They are sensitive to sulphur dioxide (SO₂) pollution in air that comes from automobiles and other sources. So, they cannot grow in polluted areas.

10. **Assertion :** Oxygen cannot get eliminated from the atmosphere.

Reason : Oxygen is a most abundant element on our Earth.

Ans : (c) Assertion is true but reason is false.

Oxygen is maintained in the atmosphere by oxygen cycle. Oxygen from the atmosphere is used up in three processes, namely combustion, respiration and in the formation of oxides of nitrogen. Oxygen is returned to the atmosphere in only one major process, that is, photosynthesis.

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