

Deforestation



The rainforests of Earth have quietly ticked away for millions of years, helping the planet to maintain a stable environment and providing homes for thousands of species of plants and animals. However, since the Industrial Revolution, humans have been removing them at an alarming rate. This is called deforestation.

Most of the damage has been done in the last 50 years or so.

Roughly 17% of the Amazonian rainforest has been destroyed in the last half a century, and the figures continue to get worse. Over a billion acres of forest across the world has been destroyed since 1990.

In 2020, the amount of Amazon rainforest removed rose by an area the size of Israel. Bear in mind, this isn't how much was destroyed, but how much extra was destroyed compared to the year before.

The Paris Climate Agreement set targets for countries around the world to do their bit to help reduce carbon emissions. It has been estimated that stopping rainforest deforestation could achieve almost 25% of those aims. Unfortunately, many countries are still doing very little to stop it.



FOCUS ON - WORD

1 Circle the prefixes in the words below.

deforestation

remove

miscalled

arose

2 Insert the determiner a or an into the missing spaces.

Rainforests have helped provide _____ environment for thousands of species of plants and animals to thrive.

Approximately _____ acre of Amazon rainforest is destroyed every ten seconds.

_____ monumental number of plants and animals call the rainforest home.

3 Identify which suffixes can be added onto the root words.

Tick **one** box in each row.

| root word | + ise | + al | + ence |
|-----------|-------|------|--------|
| stable | | | |
| maintain | | | |
| continue | | | |

4 Write the present tense verbs for each of the past tense verbs below.

rose → _____

done → _____

set → _____

was → _____

FOCUS ON - SENTENCE

1 Tick the sentences that contain a fronted adverbial.

- Since the Industrial Revolution, humans have been removing rainforests at an alarming rate.
- In 2020, the amount of Amazon rainforest removed rose by an area the size of Israel.
- The Paris Climate Agreement set targets for countries around the world to do their bit to help reduce carbon emissions.
- Unfortunately, many countries are still doing very little to stop rainforest deforestation.

2 Tick the three boxes that point to an adverb.



Unfortunately, many countries are still doing very little to stop rainforest deforestation.

3 Insert a coordinating conjunction into the sentence below.

The Paris Climate Agreement set targets for countries around the world to help reduce carbon emissions by preventing rainforest deforestation, _____ many countries are still doing very little to stop it.

| | | | |
|-----|----|-----|----|
| nor | or | yet | so |
|-----|----|-----|----|

CHALLENGE

4 Rewrite the passive sentence into an active sentence.

Rainforests are being destroyed at an alarming rate by humans.

FOCUS ON - TEXT

- 1** Identify the different adverbial underlined in the sentences below.
Tick **one** box in each row.

| sentence | time | place | reason |
|---|------|-------|--------|
| Over a billion acres of forest <u>across the world</u> has been destroyed since 1990. | | | |
| Over a billion acres of forest across the world has been destroyed <u>since 1990</u> . | | | |
| Unfortunately, many countries <u>around the globe</u> are still doing very little to stop it. | | | |
| Unfortunately, many countries around the globe are still doing very little <u>in order to stop it</u> . | | | |

- 2** What or who is the underlined pronoun referring to?

The Paris Climate Agreement set targets for countries around the world to do their bit to help reduce carbon emissions.

- 3** Which sentence contains the present perfect tense?
Tick **one**.

- Figures continue to get worse.
- Most of the damage has been done in the last 50 years.
- This is called deforestation.
- In 2020, the amount of Amazon rainforest removed rose by an area the size of Israel.

FOCUS ON - PUNCTUATION

1 Insert a pair of brackets into the sentence below.

Roughly 17% of the Amazonian rainforest South America has been destroyed in the last half a century.

2 Which type of apostrophe is indicated by the arrow?



Over a billion acres of the world's rainforest has been destroyed since 1990.

3 Which sentence shows the dash being used appropriately.

- Humans — have been removing rainforests at an alarming rate deforestation.
- Humans have been removing rainforests — at an alarming rate deforestation.
- Humans have been removing — rainforests at an alarming rate deforestation.
- Humans have been removing rainforests at an alarming rate —deforestation.

CHALLENGE

4 Insert a semi-colon into the sentence below.

The Paris Climate Agreement set targets for countries around the world to reduce carbon emissions many are still doing very little to achieve these.