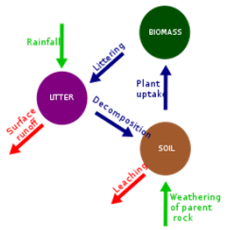
# Paper 1 Section B – The Living World: Theory and Tropical Rainforests

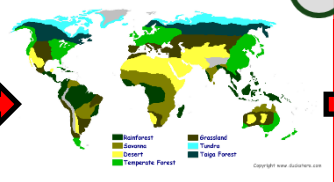
**Specification:**
An example of a small scale UK ecosystem to illustrate the concept of interrelationships within a natural system, an understanding of producers, consumers, decomposers.

**1. What is an ecosystem?**




**Specification:**
Food chain, food web and nutrient cycling (in the small-scale UK ecosystem). The balance between components. The impact on the ecosystem of changing one component.

**2. What are the interrelationships between components of ecosystems?**




**Specification:**
An overview of the distribution and characteristics of large scale natural global ecosystems.

**3. What are the world biomes?**

**Specification:**
The physical characteristics of a tropical rainforest.
The interdependence of climate, water, soils, plants, animals and people.

**4. What are Tropical Rainforests Like?**

**Specification:**
How plants and animals adapt to the physical conditions.
Issues related to biodiversity.

**5. How have plants and animals adapted to life in the TRF?**

**Specification:**
Changing rates of deforestation.
A case study of a tropical rainforest to illustrate causes of deforestation – subsistence and commercial farming, logging, road building, mineral extraction, energy development, settlement, population growth.

**6. Why is deforestation happening in the TRF?**


**Specification:**
A case study of a tropical rainforest to illustrate impacts of deforestation – economic development, soil erosion, contribution to climate change.

**7. What are the impacts of deforestation?**

**Specification:**
Value of tropical rainforests to people and the environment.
Strategies used to manage the rainforest sustainably – selective logging and replanting, conservation and education, ecotourism and international agreements about the use of tropical hardwoods, debt reduction.

**8. What can be done to save the tropical rainforests?**

**End of Unit Assessment**