

Short Answer Questions

Q.1. What are the effects of global warming?

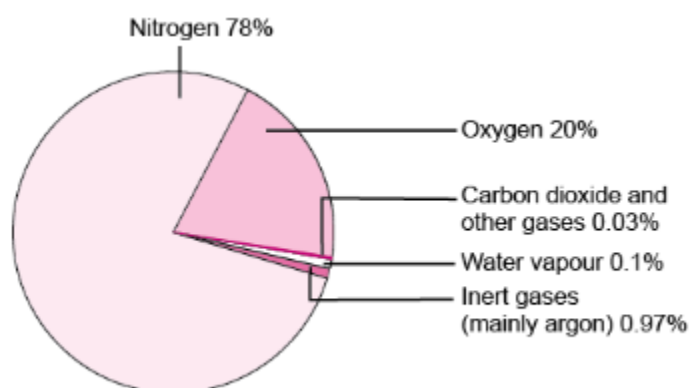
- Ans. (i)** The rise in temperature causes the snow in the coldest parts of the world to melt.
- (ii)** Due to this, sea level rises causing floods in the coastal areas.
- (iii)** There may be drastic changes in the climate of a place leading to extinction of some plants and animals in the long run.

Q.2. How is nitrogen a constituent of the atmosphere?

- Ans. (i)** Nitrogen is the most plentiful gas in the air.
- (ii)** When we inhale, we take some amount of nitrogen into our lungs and exhale it.
- (iii)** But plants need nitrogen for their survival.
- (iv)** They cannot take nitrogen directly from the air.
- (v)** Bacteria, which live in the soil and roots of some plants, take nitrogen from the air and change its form so that plants can use it.

Q.3. Describe the composition of the atmosphere.

- Ans. (i)** Nitrogen and oxygen are two gases which make up the bulk of the atmosphere.
- (ii)** Carbon dioxide, helium, ozone, argon and hydrogen are found in lesser quantities.
- (iii)** Apart from these gases, tiny dust particles are also present in the air. The composition of atmosphere is as follows:



Q.4. How is oxygen a constituent of the atmosphere?

- Ans. (i)** Oxygen is the second most plentiful gas in the air.
- (ii)** Humans and animals take oxygen from the air as they breathe.

- (iii) Green plants produce oxygen during photosynthesis.
- (iv) In this way, oxygen content in the air remains constant.
- (v) If we cut trees, this balance gets disturbed.

Q.5. How does humidity affect us?

- Ans. (i)** When the air is full of water vapour, we call it a humid day.
- (ii)** As the air gets warmer, its capacity to hold the water vapour increases and so it becomes more and more humid.
- (iii)** On a humid day, clothes take longer to dry, and sweat from human body does not evaporate easily, making us feel uncomfortable.

Q.6. How does water vapour lead to precipitation?

- Ans. (i)** When the water vapour rises, it starts cooling.
- (ii)** The water vapour condenses, causing the formation of droplets of water.
- (iii)** When these droplets of water become too heavy to float in air, they come down as precipitation.

Q.7. How did cyclone affect Odisha in October 1999?

- (i)** The cyclone in Odisha in October 1999 affected 13 million people, uprooted trees and damaged the houses.
- (ii)** A large number of livestock were killed. Standing crops of paddy, vegetables and fruits were heavily damaged.
- (iii)** Due to salinisation caused by tidal surge, large tract of agricultural land became infertile.
- (iv)** Large number of mangrove forests vanished.