

Chapter 6

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STUDY GUIDE

● Land Use and Soil Loss

Match the items in Column I with the terms in Column II. Write the letter of the correct term in the blank at the left.

Column I

- _____ 1. Practice of leaving plant stalks in the field
- _____ 2. Mechanical turning and loosening of the soil
- _____ 3. Trees and plants in tropical regions
- _____ 4. Desert formation
- _____ 5. Practice of alternating crops that cover the ground with crops that leave the land exposed

Column II

- a. plowing
- b. rain forest
- c. strip cropping
- d. desertification
- e. no-till farming

Decide whether each of the following statements is true or false. Write the word "true" or "false" in the blank. If the statement is false, rewrite it so that it is true.

- _____ 6. Soil loss is particularly severe in the tropics.

- _____ 7. Plants are important to soil, because without them, soil evolution stops and no new soil develops. _____

- _____ 8. Desertification is a slow process that affects very little land each year.

- _____ 9. In dry areas, farmers minimize soil erosion by plowing under the natural vegetation. _____

- _____ 10. Soil can easily recover the nutrients that crops use up.

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REINFORCEMENT

● Land Use and Soil Loss

In the following statements, words have been scrambled. Unscramble the words and write them on the lines provided.

- _____ 1. Poor farming practices can lead to **liso slos**.
- _____ 2. Soil erosion can be caused by **gonpliw**.
- _____ 3. Soil blown away by wind created dust storms in the **tuds wolb**.
- _____ 4. Sheep and cattle grazing in dry areas can cause **fatisodertineic**.
- _____ 5. Different crops are grown in the same areas each year in **prist cnogippr**.
- _____ 6. Soil is destroyed by the clearing of hundreds of square kilometers of **ianr setrof**.

Answer the following questions on the lines provided.

7. Why is it important that soil development continue? _____

8. What effect does overgrazing have on topsoil? _____

9. Why shouldn't more land be cleared for farming and grazing as old land is worn out?

10. Why do people need soil? _____

11. What can farmers do to reduce or stop soil erosion? _____

