

Name _____

Forests Falling Silent Answer Key

1. B - The process of cutting down forests for human use.
2. C - Building roads and farms.
3. D - More carbon dioxide stays in the air.
4. Tree roots hold soil in place, preventing it from washing away during heavy rain.
5. People plant new trees and buy recycled or sustainable products, which helps forests grow back and protects the environment.

Teacher's Guide

- Before reading, ask students what they already know about forests and how humans use them.
- Introduce key vocabulary (e.g., *deforestation, erosion, sustainable, carbon dioxide*).
- After reading, guide students to identify cause-effect pairs in each paragraph (e.g., "fewer trees → more carbon dioxide").

Differentiation Strategies:

- **Grades 3-4:** Read aloud as a class and discuss effects verbally before writing.
- **Grades 5-7:** Encourage complete-sentence answers with evidence from the text.
- **Grades 8-10:** Add a follow-up writing task—"How can your community prevent deforestation?"
- **Grades 11-12:** Connect the passage to global environmental policy or economic discussions.

Engagement & Extension Idea: Have students write a "Letter from the Forest" as if they were a tree explaining what they need to survive.