

Natural Resources

Chapter 11: Nature's Treasures · Topic 1

Key Concept

Natural resources form the foundation of nearly all human economic activity — agriculture depends on soil and water, industry depends on minerals and energy sources, and even the air we breathe is a shared natural resource essential to survival. As human population and consumption grow, the demand on these resources increases, making it important to understand not just what resources exist, but how they are used and whether they can be replenished.

Quick Revision Notes

- Key natural resources: air, water, soil, minerals, and forests.
- Air and water are essential for survival; soil supports agriculture.
- Minerals and forests provide raw materials for industry and construction.
- Growing human population increases demand on natural resources.

Practice Questions

- 1 List three natural resources found around you.
- 2 Explain how soil, water, and air are all connected to agriculture.
- 3 Why does growing population increase pressure on natural resources?