

**Section A: Climate Reasoning**

1. Because the sun's rays hit the equator almost directly, while they hit the poles at a much shallower angle, spreading the energy over a larger area
2. The Earth's tilt means different parts of the world receive more or less direct sunlight at different times of year as it orbits the sun
3. A tropical rainforest is hot and wet year-round with huge biodiversity; a tundra biome is cold, dry, and has very few species able to survive
4. Moist air is forced to rise and cool on one side of a mountain, causing rain, while the other side stays much drier as a result
5. Different regions may be warming, drying, or experiencing more extreme weather at different rates depending on their location and ecosystem

Section B: Biomes & Global Impact

1. Rainforests help regulate the global climate and absorb carbon dioxide, so their loss affects weather and air quality far beyond their own region
2. Accept a reasoned evaluation covering deforestation, pollution, or climate change affecting at least two different biomes
3. Melting Arctic ice can raise sea levels and disrupt ocean currents, affecting weather and ecosystems in completely different biomes elsewhere
4. By monitoring changes in biomes over time, scientists can track how the climate is shifting and predict future impacts
5. Climate zones determine the temperature and rainfall of a region, which in turn shapes which plants and animals (the biome) can survive there