

Social Studies Blog worksheet- Year 4

Q1. Define the following terms:

- 1. Open-cast mining**
- 2. Environmental degradation**
- 3. Excavation**
- 4. Soil erosion:**

Q2. Name the two machines used for excavation during the mining process?

Q3. Name the two toxic chemicals used during the mining process?

Q4. Mention the effects of mining on the environment?

Answer Key:

Q1. Define the following terms:

5. **Open-cast mining:** Mining in which large strips of land are excavated in order to extract materials. It may result in short-and long-term environmental damage.
6. **Environmental degradation:** Environmental degradation is the disintegration of the earth or deterioration of the environment through consumption of assets, for example, air, water and soil; the destruction of environments and the eradication of wildlife. It occurs when earth's natural resources are depleted and environment is compromised in the form of extinction of species, pollution in air, water and soil, and rapid growth in population.
7. **Excavation** is the act or process of digging, especially when something specific is being removed from the ground. Mining for coal, gold, or diamonds all require excavation.
8. **Soil erosion:** Soil erosion is a naturally occurring process that affects all landforms. Soil erosion refers to the wearing away of a field's topsoil by the natural physical forces.

Q2. Name the two machines used for excavation during the mining process?

- a) Excavators
- b) Bulldozers

Q3. Name the two toxic chemicals used during the mining process?

- a) Mercury
- b) Cyanide

Q4. Mention the effects of mining on the environment?

- a) Soil pollution.
- b) Air pollution.
- c) Water pollution.
- d) Habitat destruction.
- e) Pollution caused by toxic chemicals used in mining process causes contamination of the living organisms and humans.