

Collaborating to Protect Green Spaces and Natural Habitats

Part 1: Dialogue

Emma (Urban Planner): Our city is expanding, but we need to ensure that green spaces and natural habitats are protected. Have you reviewed the proposed **conservation easement** for the parkland?

Liam (Environmental Planner): Yes, the **conservation easement** will legally restrict development in that area, ensuring it remains preserved for future generations.

Emma: That's a step in the right direction. We should also enhance **urban forestry** initiatives to increase tree cover and improve air quality.

Liam: Absolutely. Expanding **urban forestry** will help reduce the heat island effect and support local wildlife populations.

Emma: Another priority is maintaining a **biodiversity corridor** so species can migrate and thrive despite urbanization.

Liam: Good point. If we don't maintain a **biodiversity corridor**, habitat fragmentation will reduce ecological resilience.

Emma: We also need to implement **eco-sensitive zoning** to ensure future developments don't disrupt critical ecosystems.

Liam: Yes, **eco-sensitive zoning** regulations will prevent construction in high-risk or environmentally sensitive areas.

Emma: Finally, protecting **wetlands buffer zones** will be essential for water quality and flood prevention.

Liam: Agreed. A well-maintained **wetlands buffer zone** will filter pollutants and provide a natural defense against flooding.

Part 2: Comprehension Questions

1. What is the purpose of a **conservation easement**?
 - (A) To allow unrestricted development on protected land
 - (B) To increase tax revenue for urban projects
 - (C) To legally protect land from development and preserve its natural state
 - (D) To build new infrastructure on environmentally sensitive areas
 2. How does **urban forestry** benefit cities?
 - (A) It increases heat retention in urban areas
 - (B) It reduces air quality by trapping pollutants
 - (C) It helps combat the heat island effect and improves biodiversity
 - (D) It encourages deforestation in high-density areas
 3. Why is a **biodiversity corridor** important?
 - (A) It promotes better public transportation
 - (B) It ensures animals have connected habitats despite urban growth
 - (C) It limits green spaces to specific zones
 - (D) It removes vegetation to prevent overgrowth
 4. What is a key function of a **wetlands buffer zone**?
 - (A) To provide space for commercial development
 - (B) To redirect water for industrial use
 - (C) To increase soil erosion in flood-prone areas
 - (D) To protect water quality and prevent flooding
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Part 3: Vocabulary with Definitions

- **Conservation easement (保全地役権)** – A legal agreement that limits development on land to protect its natural state.
- **Urban forestry (都市林業)** – The management and care of trees and green spaces in urban areas to improve the environment.

- **Biodiversity corridor (生物多様性回廊)** – A network of green spaces that allows wildlife to move and thrive despite urban development.
 - **Eco-sensitive zoning (環境配慮型ゾーニング)** – Land-use regulations that prevent development in ecologically sensitive areas.
 - **Wetlands buffer zone (湿地緩衝地帯)** – A protected area around wetlands that helps maintain water quality and prevent flooding.
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Part 4: Answer Key

1. **What is the purpose of a conservation easement?**
☒ (C) To legally protect land from development and preserve its natural state
2. **How does urban forestry benefit cities?**
☒ (C) It helps combat the heat island effect and improves biodiversity
3. **Why is a biodiversity corridor important?**
☒ (B) It ensures animals have connected habitats despite urban growth
4. **What is a key function of a wetlands buffer zone?**
☒ (D) To protect water quality and prevent flooding