

8.4 Human Impacts on Wetlands and Mangroves

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 11 marks

KEY WORDS wetlands 湿地 • mangroves 红树林

Objective

Build the skills to answer exam questions on **human impacts on wetlands and mangroves**.

You must be able to:

- state the **ecosystem services** of **wetlands** 湿地 and **mangroves** 红树林
- describe how human activity destroys them
- explain the consequences of their loss

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a question type used later — follow the steps and you can do the Practice and Exam-style questions yourself.

■ Why they matter

Wetlands and **mangroves** provide crucial services:

- Water filtration** (removing pollutants).
- Flood control** (absorbing storm surge and runoff).
- Nurseries** for fish and wildlife (high biodiversity).
- Carbon storage**.

■ How they are destroyed

Draining for farmland, **filling** for development, **pollution**, and clearing mangroves for **shrimp farms** or coastal building.

■ Consequences of loss

Losing them means **more flooding**, **worse water quality**, **lost fisheries**, and released carbon — plus greater storm damage to coasts.

■ A worked link

Clearing a mangrove for a shrimp farm removes the natural storm barrier, so the coast floods more badly during storms.

2 Practice

Now apply the methods above.

2.1 State two services provided by wetlands. [2]

2.2 Name one human activity that destroys mangroves. [1]

2.3 State one consequence of losing a wetland. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Mangroves protect coastlines mainly by [1]

A	B
C	D

A increasing storm surge

B absorbing storm surge and reducing flooding

C adding pollution

D blocking sunlight

3.2 A coastal mangrove forest is cleared for development.

(a) State two ecosystem services that are lost. [2]

(b) Explain how this increases storm damage to the coast. [2]

3.3 Explain why draining a wetland can worsen local water pollution. [2]
