

**PENANG SANGAM HIGH SCHOOL
P.O.BOX 44, RAKIRAKI
LESSON NOTES**

Worksheet 7

School: PENANG SANGAM HIGH SCHOOL

Year/Level: 11

Subject: GEOGRAPHY

WEEK 19

Strand	Vegetation
Sub Strand	Vegetation – case study – New Zealand
Content Learning Outcome	Students should be able identify the location of the coniferous forest / Tundra and its characteristics.

- iii. **Coniferous Forest**
- Location: Canadian Shield,

Characteristics:

- ❖ This vegetation grows in areas with long cold winters, cool summers with a short growing season, limited precipitation and podzolic soil.
- ❖ The trees are evergreen because of thorny leaves (needle like leaves) as it disallows much transpiration rate.
- ❖ The trees are softwood.
- ❖ These trees mostly get water from melting snow.
- ❖ The conical shape of the tree and downward slope of branches allow the winter snow to slide without breaking the branches.
- ❖ The cone shape also allows the trees to stand although if it meets the strong winds.
- ❖ There is usually one layer of vegetation in the coniferous forest.
- ❖ The amount of ground cover is less due to lack of sun's heat reaching the forest floor in deep acidic layer of non- decomposed needles.
- ❖ Plants which can survive on the forest floor include mosses and lichens.
- ❖ The cold climate and soil discourage earthworm and bacteria, therefore, needles decomposed very slowly.
- ❖ Few animals are found because of lack of food.

Short Answers

1. Identify some the characteristics of coniferous forest?

2. Where are coniferous forest found?

iv. **Tundra**

- Location: Canada, Russia and Greenland.
- The ground in summer still remains permanently frozen.

Characteristics

- ❖ Low organic productivity.
- ❖ Water is unavailable for most of the year since it is stored as ice or snow.
- ❖ Climate is extreme and moisture deficient.
- ❖ Plants are very slow and low growing, compact and rounded to gain protection against the wind and moist.
- ❖ There is no Stratification of vegetation by height.
- ❖ The dominant plants are lichens, mosses, grass, cushion plants and low shrubs.
- ❖ The vegetation has small leaves to lessen transpiration and avoid permafrost.
- ❖ Lichens are pioneer plants.

Short Answers

1. Identify some the characteristics of **tundra**?

2. Where are **tundra** forest found?
