


Unit 4 Writing quiz

A Read the list of arguments for and against logging* in rainforests. Add any other examples you can think of.

The pros and cons of logging	
FOR LOGGING	AGAINST LOGGING
<input type="checkbox"/> Logging provides much needed jobs in some countries.	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism may provide more sustainable jobs.
<input type="checkbox"/> Cleared land can be used for other purposes, such as agriculture.	<input type="checkbox"/> Rainforests keep the environment in balance.
<input type="checkbox"/> People need wood for fuel and to build homes.	<input type="checkbox"/> Species of plants and animals may disappear.
<input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
<input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____



*logging cutting down trees for wood

B Write a short persuasive essay either for or against logging in rainforests. Use ideas from Part A and / or your own ideas

Make sure that you:

- state your opinion clearly in the introduction and conclusion.
- give details that support your opinion.
- use academic prepositions (e.g. *upon*, *in terms of*) and *one* to mean “people in general.”
- avoid errors with *upon*.

Sample Answer

Logging in rainforests is a topic that has gained much attention within the last few years. It is an issue that people will probably never agree upon. Although logging can have some harmful effects, one can argue that it is beneficial, even necessary.

In terms of the benefits of logging, people’s need for wood is without question. Wood is used to build homes, make furniture, and as a source of fuel, among other things. In addition, many people throughout the world rely upon jobs in the logging industry in order to make a living. Moreover, people benefit from the land that is cleared. They can grow crops to feed their families or use the land to raise livestock, which they can then sell. One could also point out that rainforests are frequently destroyed by natural forces, such as fires or flooding. Therefore, people should use the trees rather than let them go to waste.

As outside observers, it is easy for us to say that people should not cut down the rainforest. However, when one’s livelihood depends upon such logging, the issue is not so simple. In my view, we must count the needs of people above any other consideration. Therefore, we need to continue logging in rainforests until we develop alternate means of providing the resources they offer us.