# Issues in Canadian Geography, Grade 9, Academic

Module 1: Environmental Justice

**Forestry in Canada**

Would you believe that Canada has over 400 million hectares of forest? That’s equivalent to about 900 million football fields. Forests cover about 42% - almost half – of the country’s total land area! Only one country in the world, Russia, has more forest regions than Canada.

The forestry industry is important to Canada’s economy, both from a revenue and an employment point of view. Here are some **quick facts** about the forestry industry in Canada:

* Total sales of forestry products: $81 billion
* % of Canada’s total exports that are forestry products: 12%
* Number of direct and indirect employees: 860 000
* Amount of exported forestry products: $48 billion

1. Use the chart to compare **commercial** and **non-commercial** forests in Canada: (pg. 310-311)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Definition** | **Climate** | **Proximity to markets** |
| **Commercial forests** |  |  |  |
| **Non-commercial forests** |  |  |  |

1. Use the chart to compare various **harvest methods** of Canada’s forests: (pg. 314-315)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Harvesting Process** | **Ease of Logging** | **Cost** | **Ecological Protection** |
| **Clear-cutting** |  |  |  |
| **Shelterwood logging** |  |  |  |
| **Selective cutting** |  |  |  |

1. Using the *Natural Vegetation, Forest* map on **page 20 of your atlas**, answer the questions below:

a) Examine the different colours in the legend of the map in your atlas (pg.20). What do you think is meant by the term ‘**vegetation**’? I think vegetation means:

b) **Toronto** is located in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **vegetation region**. List the types of trees that grow in our area:

1. Examine the **legend** of the map. What does it mean when an area is **striped** 🗉?
2. Why do you think that southern Ontario does **NOT** have a high area of commercial forestry?
3. Look at the **three territories** in the north of Canada. Describe the **natural vegetation** in this area.
4. In your own words, describe **the importance of** **forestry** to communities in the following places:

a) In **Saskatchewan**, foresty is:🞎 Not Important 🞎 Somewhat Important 🞎 Very Important

Explain your answer (referring to the vegetation, climate and proximity to markets):

b) In **British Columbia,** foresty is:🞎 Not Important 🞎 Somewhat Important 🞎 Very Important

Explain your answer (referring to the vegetation, climate and proximity to markets):

c) Inthe **Yukon territory,** foresty is:🞎 Not Important 🞎 Somewhat Important 🞎 Very Important

Explain your answer (referring to the vegetation, climate and proximity to markets):

1. A **pulp mill** is a manufacturing facility that converts wood chips or other plant fibre source into a thick fibre board. A **paper mill** is a factory devoted to making paper from vegetable fibres such as wood pulp.

A **board mill**  is a factory which specializes in the cutting of 1-inch and 2-inch lumber.

Why do you think there is such a **high concentration** of mills on the **Quebec-Ontario border**?

(hint: look at the water body close to this area!)