

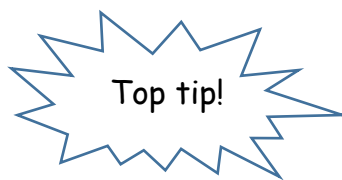
Fact or opinion?

Below are lots of pieces of information. Some are facts; some are opinions. Sort them into the table below. Remember – facts are something known or proven to be true. They are used as proof of an opinion, to support an argument, e.g. In 100 years there will be no rainforests. Opinions are what the writer believes to be true. These are based on feeling, rather than fact. They are used to try and convince someone that they are right, e.g. The world will end in 100 years.

Forests are cleared to raise livestock or to plant other crops that can be sold, such as sugar cane and palm oil.	Rainforests are one of the world's most biodiverse areas.	It took 60 to 100 million years for Rainforests to evolve.	Tropical deforestation is responsible for about 20% of world greenhouse gas emissions.
Forests regulate the water cycle.	In 100 years there will be no rainforests.	There are many positive reasons for cutting down trees.	When the forests are felled, animals suffer.
Deforestation is when forests are destroyed by cutting and not replanted.	Forests help to control temperature.	Rainforests are the world's most precious resource.	Forests play an important part in the water cycle.

Fact	Opinion

For the following facts, write a related opinion that could introduce the fact in a debate. The first one has been done for you.



To help write your opinion, you could:

- find a more emotive synonym by looking in a thesaurus e.g. burning becomes cremating
- think about the effect of the action of humans on the environment e.g. animals being murdered, starved, evicted etc.
- think about the importance of the fact e.g. rainforests are vital to maintaining a balanced environment.

FACT	OPINION
The rainforest is the home of over 30 million species of plants and animals.	<i>An overwhelming amount of animals and plant species are lucky enough to call the rainforest their home and place of safety.</i>
Sometimes, forests are lost because people want to make cities bigger: this means building roads and buildings on the land where the forests are.
Every minute, a forest the size of 20 football pitches is cut down.
Forests provide most of the world's oxygen.
A lot of deforestation is caused by the removal of all the trees from a forest for wood or fuel.

