

Q.1 Define Environment Science. Describe Scope & importance of Environmental studies.

Environment Science -

Environment science is the study of the environment and the interaction between living organisms (plants, animal, humans) and their surroundings such as air, water and land.

Scope of Environment science

- Study help in understanding total living and non-living content around environment.
- Help in understanding local and geographical distribution and abundance of organisms.  
Eg. Tea, Apple etc.
- Environmental studies are concentrated on temporal change in occurrences, abundance and activities of an organisms.  
Eg. Flemingo birds.
- Environmental studies mean study of organisms under natural condition called ethology  
Eg. Crops, Penguins, African lions.
- Environmental studies take into account interrelation between organisms in population & communities called population energy.

• Environmental science basically study the biological productivity of Nature and it serves mankind called ecosystem ecology.  
e.g oil, coal, gold, food etc.

• Disaster Management - strategies for handling natural disasters like floods, earthquakes and droughts.

• Evolutionary ecology :- Evoluntary Development.

eg. Homosapiens

### Importances

- Help to understand relation between biotic and abiotic components of universe.
- Helps in Maintenance of life and health in self preservation and protection of human race.
- Helps to understand different food chain, food web, ecological niche so that ecological balances can be maintained.
- Helps in Environmental Management.
- Helps to understand beauty of Nature and social values of Nature.
- It helps in solving problems & human attention towards.

- a) Population explosion
- b) Pollution air, water & soil
- c) Exhaustion of Natural sources

Q.2 Describe in short about different layers of Atmosphere.

The Atmosphere is divided into five Main layers based on Temperature & altitude.

### 1. Troposphere

- The lowest layers of the Atmosphere.
- Extends From Earth's surface up to about 8-18 km
- Weather change like rain, cloud, and wind occurs Here.
- Most air and water vapors are present in this layer.

### 2. Stratosphere

- Located above the Troposphere (about 18-50 km)
- Contains the ozone layers, which protects Earth from harmful UV rays.
- Airplanes often fly in this layer because it is more stable.

### 3. Mesosphere

- About 60 km in height, Next to stratosphere is called mesosphere

- upper transitional isothermal layers of this zone is called mesopause.

#### 4. Thermosphere / Ionosphere -

- The rest above the Mesosphere upto the height of about 300 km above earth surface is Ionosphere.
- Temperature is very high here.

#### 5. Exosphere

- The outermost layer of the atmosphere.
- Extends from about 600 km to 10,000 km.
- Air is very thin & mostly contains Hydrogen and Helium.

Q.3 Describe in details Segment of Environment. (Sphere of component of Atmosphere).

The environment is made up of 4 component.

#### 1. Atmosphere

The atmosphere is the gaseous layer surrounding the earth. it is composed mainly of Nitrogen (78%), Oxygen (21%), Carbon dioxide, water vapour & other gases

- Provide oxygen for respiration and Carbon dioxide for photosynthesis.
- Protect the earth from harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun.

- Helps regulate temperature and climate.
- Responsible for weather phenomena such as rain, wind and storms.

### 2. Lithosphere

- The lithosphere is the layer of outer solid layer of the earth, consisting of rocks, minerals & soil.
- It forms the land surface on which plant, animal & humans live.
- Provides soil necessary for plant growth & agriculture.
- source of minerals, fossil, fuels, and Natural resources.
- support terrestrial ecosystems and human settlement.

### 3. Hydrosphere

- The Hydrosphere includes all forms of water on earths.
- It is in the form of rivers, oceans, lakes, ground water.
- essential for the survival of all living organisms.
- Maintain the water cycle and regulates climate.

### 4. Biosphere

- The Biosphere is the zone of life on earth where living organisms exists.
- It includes plant, animals and microorganisms that interact with each other.
- Maintain ecological balances.
- Support food chain and ecosystem.

Q.4 What is mean by Natural resources gives details classification of Natural resources with suitable Examples.

Natural Resource - Natural resources are the Material available in Nature that are useful for human life and development is called Natural resource.

classification of Natural resources.

1) Based on Availability.

A) Renewable resources → Resources that can be replenished naturally in a short time.

Ex., solar energy, Forests, Biomass.

B) Non-renewable resources → Resources that cannot be replenished quickly and take millions of years to form.

Ex., Coal, Natural gas, iron, copper, gold.

2) Based on origin

A) Biotic Resources → These resources are obtained from living organisms.

Ex, Forest, Animals, fish, Fossils.

B) Abiotic Resources - These resources are obtained

From non-living components of Nature

Ex.: Air, Water, Soil, Mineral

3) Based on stages of Development.

A) Potential Resources

Resources that exist in a region but are not yet fully used.

Ex.: Solar energy in deserts, Wind energy in Coastal area

B) Actual Resources

Resources that are surveyed, quantified and currently used.

Ex.: Coal mines in India

C) Stock Resources

Available but Technology is not available to use them fully.

Ex.: Hydrogen in water as a fuel.

D) Reserves

part of stock that can be used with current Technology but saved for future

Ex.: Water stored in dams

4) Based on Distribution

a) Ubiquitous Resources - Resources Found everywhere

Ex., Air, sunlight.

b) Localized Resources - Resources Found only in specific places

Ex., Coal, iron, ore, Petroleum.

Q.5 Write in detail about Need of Forests in today's era and the Causes behind deforestation

Need of Forest in Today's Era  
Forests are the one of all the most important Natural resources on earth. They play a vital role in Maintaining ecological balance, biodiversity and Human welfare.

1) Maintain ecological Balance

Forests Help Maintain the balance between oxygen & Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere through photosynthesis.

2) Climate Regulation

Forest help regulates temperature, rainfall & climate reduces the effects of global warming by absorbing carbon dioxide.

3) Soil Conservation

Tree roots bind the soil & prevent soil erosion.

4) Habitat and Wildlife  
Forests provide shelter and food for various plants, animals, birds & microorganisms. Thus maintain biodiversity.

5) Water cycle Maintenance  
Forests help in maintaining the water cycle by increasing rainfall & protecting water resources.

6) Livelihood Support  
Millions of people, especially tribal & rural communities depend on forests for their livelihood.

### Causes of Deforestation

1) Development Project - Rapid growth of cities, industries & infrastructure lead to cutting of forests.

2) Mining Operation - It reduces forests area  
ex. Mica, coal, lime stone.

3) Raw Material for industries - Wood is an important raw material for various purposes  
ex. Making boxes, furniture & paper.

4) Overgrazing - Large number of animals grazing in forests damages vegetation & prevents new plant growths.

5] Forests Fire - Natural or human Caused Fires destroyed large Forest areas.

Q.6 Write classification of Natural resources along with examples. Explain consequence of deforestation

### Classification of Natural Resources.

I) Based on Availability.

i) Renewable resources

Ex., solar energy, Forest Biomass

ii) Based on origin

i) Biotic resources

Ex., Forest, animal

ii) Abiotic resources

Ex., Water, Air, Soil

III) Based on stages of Development

i) Potential Resources

Ex., solar energy in desert

ii) Actual Resources

Ex., coal mines in india

- iii) stock Resources → Hydrogen in water as a fuel.
- iv) Reserves → water stores in dams.

#### IV) Based on Distribution.

- i) ubiquitous resources → Ex. Air, sunlight.
- ii) localized resources → Ex. Petroleum, coal.

#### Consequences of Deforestation

##### 1) Loss of Biodiversity

Forests are home to many plants, animals & Microorganisms, when forest are destroyed many species lose their habitat.

##### 2) Soil erosion

Trees hold soil firmly with their roots. When trees are cut, the soil becomes loose & easily washed away by wind or water.

##### 3) climate change & Global warming

Forest absorb Carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Deforestation increase carbon dioxide levels which leads to global warming and climate change.

##### 4) Desertification

continuous removal of forest can turn fertile land into dry & barren land.

5] Loss of livelihood  
Many tribal and rural communities depends on Forests for food, fuel & shelter.

Q.7 Explain in brief ecological importance of forest conservations.

1) Conservations of biodiversity.

Forests are home to a large variety of plants, animals, birds & microorganisms. Conservation Forests helps protect these species and prevents their extinction.

2) Maintenance of Ecological balance  
Forest maintain balance between different Component of ecosystems & Help sustain Natural processes.

3) Prevents soil erosion - Trees roots hold soil and reduces land degradation.

4) Regulates climate - Forests absorb  $CO_2$  and helps control global warming.

5) Maintain water cycle - Helps in rainfall & groundwater conservations.

6) Provide habitat for wildlife - Forests give shelter & food to many species.

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- 7) Improves air quality - Trees purify air by absorbing harmful gases.
  - 8) supports Nutrient recycling - Decomposition of leaves enriches soil Nutrients.

1) Define ecosystem and Explain the structure of ecosystem

**Ecosystem** — An ecosystem is a functional units of Nature in which living organisms interact with each other and with the non-living components of their environment, resulting in the stable system

The structure of an ecosystem refers to the Arrangements & organization of biotic & abiotic components.

1) Abiotic components

These are the physical and chemical factors of the environments.

a) physical factor

sunlight, Temperature, Rainfall, Humidity, wind

b) Edaphic factor

soil types & Texture, soil moisture, soil pH, Mineral content.

c) chemical factor

Water ( $H_2O$ ), Oxygen ( $O_2$ ), Carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ ), Nutrients (Nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium)

## 2. Biotic Components

All living Organisms in the ecosystem are included & divided into: -

### a) Producer (Autotrophs) -

- Green plant algae.
- prepared their own Food using photosynthesis
- converts solar energy into chemical energy  
Ex., Grass, Crops, trees.

### b) Consumers (Heterotrophs)

- Depend on other Organisms for Food.
- primary consumers (Herbivores)  
Eat plants Ex., Cow, goat, deer.
- Secondary consumers → Ex. Frog, small fish.
- Tertiary consumers → lion, eagle.

### c) Decomposers

- Bacteria & Fungi
- Break down dead Organic Matter.
- Recycle Nutrient back to the environment.

## 3. Tropic level

Organism are arranged in different levels.

producer → Consumer → decompose.

#### 4. Energy flow

- Energy enters through sunlight
- Moves from producer to consumer
- flow in one-way.

#### 5. Nutrient cycling

- Nutrients move between living & non-living components.
- Include cycles like Nitrogen & Carbon cycle.
- Maintains ecosystem balances.

Q.2 Define ecosystem. & Mention in brief about its function -

Ecosystem - The structural and functional system of communities with their environment is called ecosystem.

#### Function of ecosystem -

##### 1) Production

- plant produced organic matter by photosynthesis
- Oxygen is released during the process.
- It is the rate of production of organic Matter by organisms.

##### 2) Consumption

- Transfer of Material & Transformation of energy from one Tropic level to Another through process of eating.

- Food is used for growth, movements & reproductions.

3) Decomposition  
Dead plants and animals are broken down by micro-organisms.

- Nutrients are returned to the soil for plants uses.

### 1) Energy Flow

Energy flow in one direction from the sun  $\rightarrow$  producers  $\rightarrow$  consumer  $\rightarrow$  decomposer.

Ex- $\rightarrow$  A lake ecosystem where algae (producers) are eaten by small fish (primary consumer) which are consumed by bigger fish (secondary consumer) & finally, decomposers break down dead fish.

### 2) Nutrient Recycling

- Circulations of Nutrients between biotic & abiotic components.

Ex- $\rightarrow$  Carbon cycle - plants take  $CO_2$  & animal release it.

### 3) Ecological Regulations

- Controls populations size and species interaction
- Maintain balances in ecosystem.
- prevent over-exploitations of resources.

Ex... Removal of predators increase rate.   
 which Damage crops.

Q.3. What is ecosystem & Give the classifications of ecosystems. and Explain in brief the pond ecosystems.

The structural & functional system of community with their environment is called as ecosystem

EX. grassland, Forest, Pond lake, River & Ocean.

\* classification of ecosystem

A] Natural Ecosystem

Formed Naturally without human interferences

i) Terrestrial ecosystem (Land)

ex. forest, desert, grassland.

ii) Aquatic ecosystem (Water)

occurs in water bodies.

a) Fresh water ecosystem

Ex., pond, lake, rivers.

b) Marine ecosystem

Ex., sea, ocean

B] Artificial ecosystem

Man made & maintain by humans.

Ex., Agricultural field, garden.

## Pond Ecosystem -

A pond ecosystem is a freshwater ecosystem that is small, shallow & self-sustaining where living organisms interact with non-living components & maintain a natural balance.

### Components →

#### a) Abiotic components

- Water
- Sunlight (Energy source)
- Dissolved oxygen & CO<sub>2</sub>
- Nutrients like Nitrogen & Phosphorus

#### b) Biotic components (living)

i) Producer - Autotrophs that prepared food by photosynthesis.

Ex. Algae, Aquatic plants.

ii) Consumer - Depend on producer for food.

Ex., zooplankton, fish, bird

iii) Decomposer - Bacteria & Fungi

Food chain in pond  
phytoplankton → zooplankton → fish → bird

Functions - supports variety of organisms.  
Helps in Nutrients cycling.  
Maintain ecological Balances.

Q.4 Explain in brief grassland ecosystems

A Terrestrial ecosystems dominated by grasses with few scattered trees.

characteristics →

- Moderate rainfall (25-75 cm / year).
- Soil rich in Nutrients, supporting large herbivores.

Types of grasslands :-

1. Tropical grassland (Savannas)  
Found in Africa, warm climate, seasonal droughts  
Ex., Serengeti (Africa)

2. Temperate grassland (Prairies, Steppes)  
cooler climate, few trees, Fertile soil.

Ex., Green plains (USA), Pampas (Argentina)  
Animal - Elephant, zebras, Bison, kangaroos.  
Importants - Supporting grazing animals, agriculture and carbon sequestrations.

5 Define Biodiversity. Give its classifications & explain in details about conservation of Biodiversity

Biodiversity =

and Variability Biodiversity refers to the Variety among all groups of living Organisms and the ecosystems Complexes in which they Occurs.

### Classifications

1) Genetic diversity.

ex. Different Varieties of mango, rice, wheat

2) species diversity.

ex. Forest ecosystem with Trees, birds, insects.

3) Ecosystem diversity.

EX: Forest, grassland, deserts, pond.

### Conservation of Biodiversity -

The act or process of conserving. The protection, preservation, Managements, or restoration of wildlifes & of Natural resources such as Forests, soils and water.

- Biodiversity conservations is the scientific Maagements at its optimum level & derive sustainables benefits for both the present & the futures.

### Approaches of Biodiversity Conservations

### A) In situ Conservation

This is achieved by protection of wild flora & fauna in Nature itself.

eg. Biosphere Reserves, National Parks, Sanctuaries, Reserve Forests etc.

Merits → 1) Very cheap & convenient Methods  
2) Adjusted to Natural disaster like drought, Floods, Forests, Fires etc.

Limitation → 1) large surface area is required for preservation.  
2) Maintenance is not proper due to shortages of staff & pollution.  
3) Animal cannot survive in Natural environments.  
4) Adopted only for few selected species.

Q.6 Define Biodiversity. Describe in detail about biogeographical zones of India.

Biodiversity refers to the variety & variability among all groups of living organisms & the ecosystem complexes in which they occur.

### Biogeographical Zones -

Major zones representing distinctive units of similar ecology, biome, representation of community & species.

eg. Himalya Gangaic plain.

## Biogeographic Zones

1) Trans - Himalaya - Biotic province - Ladakh & Lahaul  
Spiti (Himachal)

i) Biome - Tundra valley lakes & marshes  
Wildlife - chirya, Black Necked Crane, Himalayan  
pit viper.

2) Himalaya - Biotic province - North western Himalaya  
(2a), western Himalaya (2b) central Himalaya  
(2c), Eastern Himalaya (2d)

Biome - all alpine, temperate conifer, Temperate  
broadleaf, subtropical.

Wildlife - red panda.

3) Indian desert - Biotic province :-

Kutchh (3a) Thar (3b)

Biome - saltflats, desert grasslands.

Wildlife - blackbuck, flamingo.

4) Semi arid - Biotic province - Punjab & Gujrat -  
Rajwara (4)

Biome - scrublands, Bhabar forests, hill & thorn  
Forest.

Wildlife - Tiger, Asian lion.

5) Western Ghats - Biotic province - Western Ghats  
Wildlife - Lion-tailed macaque, draco.

6) Deccan peninsula - B.P - southern plateau (6a),  
Central plateau (6b) Eastern P (6c), Chhota - Nagpur  
(6d) Central Highlands - (6e)

Biome :- Dry deciduous, subtropicals.  
Wildlife - Swamp deer, Muger.

7) Gangetic plains - B.P - lower & upper Gangetic  
plains.

Biome - Alluvial plains, rivers.  
Wildlife - Rhino, otter, Terrapin.

8) Northeast India - B.P - Assam plains (8a), Shillong  
plateau (8b)

Biome - All plain grasslands, Bhabar Terai  
Subtropical Temperate

Wildlife pygmy hog, Serow.

9) Islands - B.P - Andaman & Nicobar (9a)  
Lakshadweep (9b)

Biome - Evergreen, moist deciduous.

Wildlife - Dolphin, Nicobar Hornbill.

10) Coasts - B.P - West coast (10a), East coast  
(10b)

Biome - Mangrove, sandy or rocky littoral  
Wildlife dugong, sand skink.

Q.7 Write short Note on

1) food chain

• The sequence of eating & being eaten in an ecosystem is known as food chain.

• Producers (1<sup>st</sup> trophic level) Green plants prepared their own food by photosynthesis.

• Primary Consumer (2<sup>nd</sup> trophic level)  
Herbivores (plant-eating animal)

• Secondary Consumer - (3<sup>rd</sup> trophic level)  
Carnivores that eat Herbivores.

• Tertiary Consumers (4<sup>th</sup> trophic level) - Top.  
Carnivores feeding on other carnivores.

EX - Grass → Grasshopper → Frog → Snake → Hawk

Types of food chain

1) Grazing food chain

• Found in grassland, pond ecosystem

• start with green plants.

• EX Grass → Rabbit → Fox

2) Detritus food chain

• starts with dead organic matters (detritus).

- Involves decomposers like bacteria & fungi.
- Common in forest ecosystems.

## ii) Food Web

The interlocking pattern of various food chains in an ecosystem is known as a food web.

In a food web, many food chains are interconnected.

Different types of organisms are connected at different trophic levels. There are numerous opportunities of eating & being eaten at each trophic level.

- The complexity of any food web depends upon the diversity of organisms in that ecosystem.
- More complex & stable than a single food chain.
- Depend on biodiversity of the ecosystem.
- Shows multiple pathways of energy flow.

Ex., Grass is eaten by insects, rats & deer. These animals are eaten by carnivores like snakes or tigers.

All these connections together form a food web.