

2017

GEOGRAPHY

( Major )

Paper : 3.1

( Soil and Biogeography )

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks  
for the questions*

1. Answer the following by choosing the most appropriate option given against each question : 1×7=7

(a) Humus is

- (i) a decomposed organic matter
- (ii) a chemical extract in laboratory
- (iii) vegetation
- (iv) a human body organ



( 2 )

- (b) - What is the most important determinant of soil colour?
- (i) Parent material
  - (ii) Amount of humus
  - (iii) Chemical modification
  - (iv) Amount of manure used
- (c) Xerophytes are found in
- (i) rain-forest
  - (ii) water
  - (iii) deserts
  - (iv) tundra region
- (d) The term 'zoogeography' is associated with the
- (i) distribution of plants
  - (ii) distribution of birds
  - (iii) distribution of snakes
  - (iv) distribution of animals
- (e) Ecosystems are the systems which refer to the
- (i) houses and settlements occupied by man
  - (ii) plants in relation to their environments
  - (iii) interdependence of man with social condition
  - (iv) interdependence of organisms with their environments

( 3 )

- (f) The most important characteristic of forest ecology is
- (i) to modify the climate of a region
  - (ii) to beautify the landscape
  - (iii) to provide wood for making packing boxes
  - (iv) to prevent soil erosion
- (g) The conservation of natural resources aims at the
- (i) total ban on the use of resources for a short duration
  - (ii) partial restriction on the use of resources
  - (iii) rational use of natural resources
  - (iv) utilization of natural resources to the maximum capacity

2. Write very short notes on the following :  $2 \times 4 = 8$

- (a) Zonal soil
- (b) Biosphere
- (c) Hot spots
- (d) Translocation of species



3. Write short notes on any *three* of the following : 5×3=15
- (a) Soil profile
  - (b) Food chain
  - (c) Soil texture
  - (d) Biome
  - (e) Ecology
4. (a) Describe in detail the major types of soil and their characteristics. 10
- Or
- (b) Describe the soil forming processes highlighting the role of climate, geology and vegetation.
5. (a) Describe the factors responsible for the global distribution of plants and animals. 10
- Or
- (b) What are the impacts of human activities on environment? Illustrate with some local examples.
6. (a) Describe the meaning, scope and development of biogeography. 10
- Or
- (b) Describe in detail the major conservational issues of the biodiversity in Assam.

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