

2018

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) Which one of the following soils is not zonal type?
- (i) Grumusols
  - (ii) Prairie soils
  - (iii) Lithosols
  - (iv) Ferral soils
- (b) 'Podzolization' or 'cheluviation' is a process that is widespread in soils that are
- (i) neutral
  - (ii) on the acidic side of the neutral
  - (iii) strongly alkaline
  - (iv) on the alkaline side of neutral

- (c) Hygrophytes are
- (i) plants living in plenty of moisture
  - (ii) plants transpiring very little water
  - (iii) plants living in extremely arid condition
  - (iv) Both (i) and (ii)
- (d) A 'Mesophyte' needs
- (i) a very high precipitation
  - (ii) scanty precipitation
  - (iii) moderate precipitation
  - (iv) no precipitation
- (e) The most stable environment found on the earth is
- (i) deserts
  - (ii) deep seafloor
  - (iii) high mountains
  - (iv) plains
- (f) Which one of the following is not a part of the same food chain?
- (i) Frog
  - (ii) Snake
  - (iii) Insect
  - (iv) Goat

(g) Ecosystem refers to which one of the following?

- (i) Things of non-living environment
- (ii) Things of living environment
- (iii) It is the subject matter of ecology
- (iv) It refers to both living and non-living things in the environment

2. Write very short notes on any *four* of the following : 2×4=8

- (a) Podsol
- (b) In situ conservation
- (c) Wildlife corridor
- (d) Habitat
- (e) Desert ecosystem
- (f) Afforestation

3. Write short notes on any *three* of the following : 5×3=15

- (a) Endangered species
- (b) Food chain
- (c) Equatorial forest region
- (d) Conservation of natural resources
- (e) Niche

4. (a) Describe the nature and scope of soil geography. 10

Or

- (b) Describe the physical properties of soil and classify soil according to texture. 10

5. (a) Give a brief description of the biogeographic regions of the world. 10

Or

- (b) Describe the physical and biotic factors that affect the geographic dispersal of plants and animals. 10

6. (a) Define ecology and ecosystem. Highlight the place of man in the ecosystem. 2+8=10

Or

- (b) Discuss the nature of growing man-wildlife conflicts in Assam and suggest remedial measures for the same. 7+3=10

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