

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
