
Chapter – 1 Geography

Environment

- The nature, place, people, things, etc. that surrounding the living organisms make the environment.
 - It has three components: Natural, human and human-made.
 - It is a combination of both natural as well as man-made phenomena.
 - Natural environment comprises biotic and abiotic-conditions, whereas the man-made phenomena comprises the activities and interactions among human beings.
 - **Natural Environment:**
 - (i) Land, water, air, plants and animals comprises the natural environment.
 - (ii) Lithosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere are the four domains of the natural environment.
 - (iii) Lithosphere is the solid crust or the hard top layer of the earth. It contains landforms like mountains, plateaus, plains and valleys.
 - (iv) Hydrosphere is the domain of water. It comprises water bodies like rivers, lakes, seas, oceans, etc.
 - (v) The atmosphere is the thin layer of earth that surrounds the earth. It protects us from the harmful rays and scorching heat of the sun.
 - (vi) Biosphere is a narrow zone of the earth where land, water and air interact with each other to support life.
 - **What is Ecosystem?**
 - (i) The relation between the living organisms as well as the relation between the organisms and their surrounding form the ecosystem.
 - (ii) There could be an ecosystem of large rainforest, grassland, desert, mountains, lake, river, ocean and even a small pond.
 - **Human Environment:**
 - (i) Human beings interact with the environment and modify it according to their needs.
 - (ii) Early humans adapted themselves to their natural surroundings.
 - (iii) With time, humans learnt to grow new things, domesticate animals and lead a settled life.
 - (iv) Industrial revolution, transportation and information revolution and information made communication easier and speedy across the world.
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