

Environmental Science

Time Allowed – 1.5 hours

Candidates should answer TWO questions

1. Describe and explain how the Earth's biota affects the chemical composition of the atmosphere.
2. Using examples explain how humans are affecting biodiversity and outline the importance of biodiversity conservation initiatives.
3. Outline the causes and explain the effects of anthropogenic climate change.
4. What is the thermohaline ocean circulation? Explain its role in redistributing energy and regulating climate.
5. What is hydraulic fracturing (fracking)? Outline the arguments for and against fracking as part of the UK's future energy supply.
6. Describe the main components of the global nitrogen cycle and explain the ways in which humans are affecting it.
7. Outline some of the causes, processes and consequences of soil degradation.
8. Describe the main ways in which water quality in rivers is affected by pollution and outline the options for water quality treatment.