

Chapter- 1 (GEOGRAPHY)

ENVIRONMENT**STUDY NOTES**

1. Plants, animals and human beings depend on their immediate surroundings and are also interdependent for their survival. Example:- The environment that consists of all objects created by nature is called natural environment. It includes land, air, water, plants and animals. In essence, it includes both the **biotic and abiotic** conditions existing on earth.
2. Environment have two components.. Biotic and Abiotic. Example:- living organism(biotic) non- living organism (Abiotic).
3. Geography is considered as study of Earth's surface but it also study the Earth's environment and its Physical and human-made dimensions.
4. **Environment is consisting** of the **natural environment** and the **human –made environment**.
5. **Natural Environment:-** which consists of two major domains **physical environment** and **biological environment**.

Major Domains of Natural Environment

Physical environment:- :- The physical environment includes land, air, water, plants and animals, buildings and other infrastructure, and all of the natural resources that provide our basic needs and opportunities for social and economic .development.

Lithosphere- The lithosphere is the solid, outer part of the Earth. The lithosphere includes the brittle upper portion of the mantle and the crust, the outermost layers of Earth's structure.

Need of Humans for lithosphere

- It provides living organisms a base to live on. It holds water in it's place and provides suitable environment to living organisms. It enables to create different habitats for organisms to survive.
- It also fulfil the requirements of human beings like settlements.
- Soil for agriculture.
- Industries get raw materials like minerals.

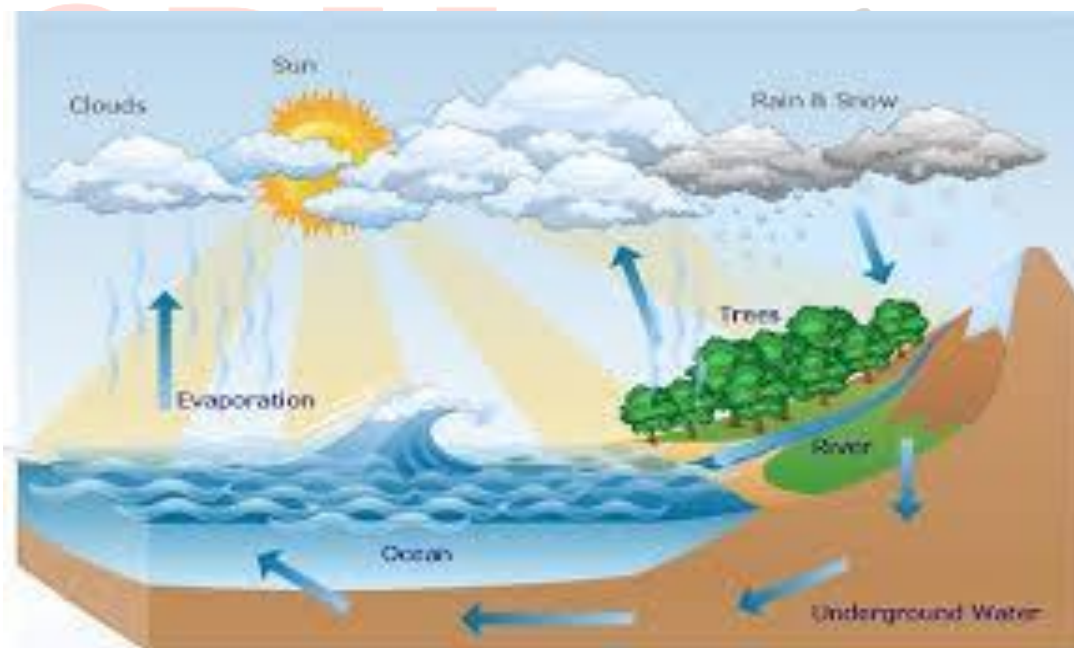
Atmosphere:- An atmosphere (from Ancient Greek (atmos), meaning 'vapour', and (sphaira), meaning 'ball' or 'sphere. A layer or a set of layers of gases surrounding a planet or other material body, that is held in place by the gravity of that body. An atmosphere is more

likely to be retained if the gravity it is subject to is high and the temperature of the atmosphere is low.

The atmosphere is useful to human's different ways.

- It provides the life giving gas oxygen.
- It act as a blankets Keep the Earth warm by trapping the heat that radiates from the earth.
- It protects us from harmful UV rays which come from sun.

Hydrosphere:- The hydrosphere (from Greek hydōr, "water" and sphaira, "sphere" the combined mass of water found on, under, and above the surface of a planet earth,



Human needs Hydrosphere

- Humans use water in many ways. Drinking water is the most obvious use, but it is also used for domestic purpose like washing and cleaning, and in industries. Water is also utilized in generating electricity through hydropower.
- Water moves through the hydrosphere in a cycle (water cycle) in involves three process evaporation, condensation and precipitation. Water collects in clouds, by process of condensation and then falls to Earth in the form of rain or snow by process of precipitation. This water collects in rivers, lakes and oceans. Then it

evaporates into the atmosphere to start the cycle all over again. This is called the **water cycle**.

The Biological Environment:

- **Biosphere:** - The biosphere is made up of living organisms and the physical environment. The physical environment comprises the non-living components such as the rocky substance of the Earth's crust, water, light, and atmospheric gas. Examples of Biosphere tundra, deserts, prairies, ocean, vegetation.
- **Everything in biosphere is interconnected and inter depended:-**
- **For Example:-** Forest provide products like timber , furits , nuts etc.
- They also provide a natural habitat for various plant and animals.
- Forest help moderate the atmospheric temperature by absorbing CO2 and adding moisture to the air.
- Many animals depend on forests and grassland for their food.
- **Ecosystem:** The system formed by the interaction of all living organisms with each other and with the physical and chemical factors of the environment in which they live, all linked by the transfer of energy and material is called an ecosystem.
- The system formed by the interaction of all living organisms with each other and with the physical and chemical factors of the environment in which they live, all linked by the transfer of energy and material is called an **ecosystem**.

E Human Made Environment

- **Built Environment** includes building, railway , tracks and bridges.
- **Socio-Cultural Environment:-** includes family , school and college , community, country , religion, music and dance.

Human being adapt to the natural environment by making modification in their shelter, food and clothing. They also modify the social, biological, economic and cultural needs. For Example:- People who live in hot, wet coastal area like Kerala or odisha traditionally eat rice and fish. But in comparison with ladakha the food habits and other habits of those region varies according to their climatic condition and their adaptation to their natural environment.

Environmental Degradation:- The over exploitation of natural environment to satisfy the needs of humans leads to environmental degradation.

➤ **Factors leading Environment issues.**

→ Deforestation

- Poaching
- Overpopulation
- Air Pollution, Water Pollution, Land pollution, and noise pollution.
- Poverty(malnutrition, hunger and starvation)

Conservation steps for Environmental issues.

- Government should create and implement stricter policies and laws related to conservation of biodiversity.
- Stop habitat destruction and encourage its restoration.
- Practice sustainable living.
- Reduce invasive species.
- Research innovative ways to preserve biodiversity and educate the populace about it.
- There are many people who are fighting to save environment. They are **Environmentalists**. A person who deals with the issues of environment is an **environmentalist**.

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