# ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

**Q.1.What do you mean by environment?**
**Ans.:** The surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal, or plant lives is called environment.

**Q.2. What is environmental studies?**
**Ans.: Environmental studies** are multidisciplinary academic field which systematically *relates* human interaction with the *environment* in the interests of solving major environmental issues. It is a broader field of study that includes the natural *environment*, the built *environment*, and the sets of relationships between them.

**Q.3. What is 'Environmental Science'?**
Ans.: **Environmental science** is an interdisciplinary academic field that integrates physical, biological   and information   sciences (including ecology, biology, physics, chemistry, plant science, zoology, mineralogy, oceanography, limnology, soil     science, geology and physical geography (geodesy),  and atmospheric science) to the study of the environment, and the solution of environmental problems.

**Q.4.Differentiate between 'environmental studies' and 'environmental engineering'?**
Ans.: Environmental studies incorporates more of the social sciences for understanding human relationships, perceptions and policies towards the environment. Environmental engineering focuses on design and technology for improving environmental quality in every aspect.

**Q.5. What do you mean by natural resources? Give some examples.**
Ans.: Natural resources are the components of natural environment that can be utilised by human being to sustain his life and promote his welfare.  For example; air, water, wood, oil, wind  natural gas, minerals, coal, Petroleum are all natural resources .

**Q.6. What do mean by  renewable and non-renewable resources? Give some examples.**
Ans.: Renewable    resources   are   the   resources that are always   being   replenished. They can never  be  depleted. Some examples of renewable resources are sunlight, wind, water, geothermal energy, and biomass energy.
Non Renewable resources
Non-renewable  resources  are those natural  resources that are available  in  limited  quantity. These resources cannot be renewed or replenished in short duration. Therefore they are also known as exhaustible resources. Examples: coal, natural gas, petroleum etc.

Q.7. What is air pollution?

Ans.: **Air pollution** is a type of **environmental pollution** that affects the **air** and is usually caused by smoke or other harmful gases, mainly oxides of carbon, sulphur and nitrogen.

*Q.8.What are the causes of air pollution?*

Ans.: The various causes of air pollution are as follows:

- The burning of fossil fuels. Sulphur dioxide emitted from the combustion of fossil fuels like coal, petroleum and other factory combustibles are one the major cause of air pollution.
- Agricultural activities
- Exhaust from factories and industries
- Mining operations etc.

*Q.9. What is water pollution?*

Ans.: Water pollution is the pollution of water bodies, such as lakes, rivers, seas, as well as groundwater. It occurs when pollutants reach these bodies of water, without treatment. Sewage water from homes, factories and other buildings get into the water bodies and as a result water gets contaminated .

*Q.10. What are the causes of water pollution?*

Ans.: The various causes of water pollution are as follows:

- Industrial waste.

- Sewage and wastewater
- Mining activities
- Marine dumping
- Accidental oil leakage
- Chemical fertilizers and pesticides
- Leakage from sewage pipe lines

*Q.11. Mention any five major environmental issues we are facing?*

Ans.: The five major environmental issues we are facing are:

- Ozone Depletion, Greenhouse Effect and Global Warming: All the three physical phenomena are related to one another to a great extent.
- Desertification
- Deforestation
- Loss of Biodiversity
- Disposal of Wastes

*Q.12. What are the causes of desertification?*

Ans.: Overgrazing is the major cause of desertification worldwide. Other factors that cause desertification include urbanization, climate change, overdrafting of groundwater, deforestation, natural disasters and tillage practices in agriculture that place soils more vulnerable to wind.

*Q.13. What do you mean by noise pollution?*

Ans.: Noise pollution, also known as sound pollution, is the propagation of noise with harmful impact on the activity of human or animal life. High noise levels can contribute to cardiovascular effects in humans and an increased incidence of coronary artery disease. Noise Induced Hearing Loss occurs due to noise pollution.

*Q.14. What are the sources of noise & vibration in the environment*?

Ans.: The sources of potential noise and vibration are construction and landfill operational equipment and vehicles, industrial machinery and processes, which are composed of various noise sources such as rotors, stators, gears, fans, vibrating panels, turbulent fluid flow, impact processes, electrical machines, internal combustion engines etc.

**Q.15. Discuss on the role of an individual in conservation of natural resources?**

Ans.: Environmental conservation is an umbrella term that defines anything we do to protect our planet and conserve its natural resources so that every living thing can have an improved quality of life. ... This can be achieved by paying more attention to what we buy and not using resources unnecessarily.

Q.16. What is 'Land slide'?

Ans.: A **landslide** is defined as the movement or collapse of a mass of rock, debris, or earth down a slope from mountain or cliff under the direct influence of gravity.

Q.17. How will you develop public awareness to mitigate environmental issues?

Q.18. Being a proud Indian citizen what would be your individual role in prevention of pollution?