

**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA**  
**B.Sc. DEGREE PROGRAMME**  
**BOTANY - LEVEL 05**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION – 2017/18**  
**BYU5318/PCU3104/PCU2104 - ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES**



**DURATION: TWO (02) HOURS**

DATE: 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

TIME: 9.30a.m. – 11.30a.m.

Answer **any four (04)** questions.

1. a. Explain what clouds are and how they are formed.  
 b. Distinguish between continental shelf and continental slope.  
 c. Write an account on the “Sulphur cycle” indicating the major events and how humans intervene the natural balance of the cycle.
2. a. Define the term “Community”.  
 b. How does species diversity differ from species richness?  
 c. What are the types of interactions found in a community?  
 d. “Communities are never stable and liable for changes with time”. Justify this statement.
3. a. What are minerals?  
 b. With reference to suitable examples, explain the major types of mineral resources found in Sri Lanka.  
 c. Explain concisely the formation of mineral resources and possible environmental impacts due to exploitation of mineral resources.
4. “Acid rain, climate change and greenhouse effect have been considered as the major global atmospheric problems”. Discuss this statement with reference to suitable examples.
5. a. Write a brief note on the impacts of infectious agents and plant nutrients as water pollutants.  
 b. What are the major objectives of conducting an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) before any major project is commenced?  
 c. Illustrate the step involved in an EIA process with the help of a flow diagram. (Your flow diagram should indicate the major processes involved in each step)
6. Write short notes on **any three (3)** of the following.
  - a. Integrated waste management
  - b. Eutrophication in fresh water bodies
  - c. Coral reefs and mangroves as salt water resources
  - d. Liquid biofuel to generate biomass energy