

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
B.Sc. DEGREE PROGRAMME
BOTANY - LEVEL 05
FINAL EXAMINATION - 2014/2015
PCU3104/PCU2104 - ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES



DURATION: TWO (02) HOURS

DATE: 11th November 2015

TIME: 1.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.

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

1.
 - a. Briefly explain how 'volcanic eruption' takes place.
 - b. How does 'mass movement of soil' occur?
 - c. 'The mass movement of soil gives rise to different landscapes'. Explain.
2.
 - a. Define the term 'community'.
 - b. Explain briefly the main interactions within a community.
 - c. Discuss how community changes over time.
3.
 - a. What is meant by 'atmospheric pollution'?
 - b. Distinguish between primary and secondary air pollutants.
 - c. Explain the effects of Carbon monoxide(CO), Nitrogen oxides(NOx) and Sulfur oxide(SOx) on biota.
4.
 - a. Briefly comment on sources of water pollutants.
 - b. 'Some water pollutants cause health problems and others cause ecosystem disruptions'. With reference to suitable examples, discuss this statement.
5.
 - a. What is meant by 'Environmental Impact Assessment'?
 - b. With the help of a flow chart, illustrate the main steps involved in the Environmental Impact Assessment process adopted in Sri Lanka.
 - c. Explain the process that decides on the need of environmental impact assessment for a development project.
6. Write short notes on **any three(3)** of the following.
 - a. Overgrazing and land degradation
 - b. Integrated waste management
 - c. Liquid biofuels
 - d. Nitrogen Cycle and its significance