



**OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
MSc IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
ACADEMIC YEAR 2008/2009**

**COURSE TITLE-UNDERSTANDING THE ENVIRONMENT
COURSE CODE-NEP1205/NEP 1301
FINAL EXAMINATION**

DATE:26.02.2010

TIME:9.30a.m-12.30p.m

ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS. ILLUSTRATE YOUR ANSWERS WITH SUITABLE DIAGRAMS WHERE APPROPRIATE.

1. Describe energy flow in ecosystems.
2. Outline the types of major biomes of the earth and describe their distribution and the factors that contributed to them.
3. What are biogeochemical cycles? Critically comment on the impact of humans on biogeochemical cycles.
4. List the types of community interactions and briefly describe each type of interaction giving examples.
5. Explain with suitable examples how some of the physical properties of water have become biologically important.
6. Describe the four (4) major steps which led to the origin of species.

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