

SYLLABUS

Cambridge O Level
Environmental Management
5014

For examination in June and November 2017 and 2018

Changes to syllabus for 2017 and 2018

This syllabus has been updated, but there are no significant changes.

You are advised to read the whole syllabus before planning your teaching programme.

Cambridge International Examinations retains the copyright on all its publications. Registered Centres are permitted to copy material from this booklet for their own internal use. However, we cannot give permission to Centres to photocopy any material that is acknowledged to a third party even for internal use within a Centre.

Contents

1. Introduction.....	2
1.1 Why choose Cambridge?	
1.2 Why choose Cambridge O Level?	
1.3 Why choose Cambridge O Level Environmental Management?	
1.4 How can I find out more?	
2. Teacher support.....	5
2.1 Support materials	
2.2 Endorsed resources	
2.3 Training	
3. Syllabus content at a glance.....	6
4. Assessment at a glance.....	7
5. Syllabus aims and assessment objectives	8
5.1 Syllabus aims	
5.2 Assessment objectives	
6. Syllabus content.....	10
6.1 Themes	
7. Other information.....	21

1. Introduction

1.1 Why choose Cambridge?

Cambridge International Examinations is part of the University of Cambridge. We prepare school students for life, helping them develop an informed curiosity and a lasting passion for learning. Our international qualifications are recognised by the world's best universities and employers, giving students a wide range of options in their education and career. As a not-for-profit organisation, we devote our resources to delivering high-quality educational programmes that can unlock learners' potential.

Our programmes set the global standard for international education. They are created by subject experts, are rooted in academic rigour, and provide a strong platform for progression. Over 10 000 schools in 160 countries work with us to prepare nearly a million learners for their future with an international education from Cambridge.

Cambridge learners

Cambridge programmes and qualifications develop not only subject knowledge but also skills. We encourage Cambridge learners to be:

- **confident** in working with information and ideas – their own and those of others
- **responsible** for themselves, responsive to and respectful of others
- **reflective** as learners, developing their ability to learn
- **innovative** and equipped for new and future challenges
- **engaged** intellectually and socially, ready to make a difference.

Recognition

Cambridge O Level is internationally recognised by schools, universities and employers as equivalent in demand to Cambridge IGCSE® (International General Certificate of Secondary Education). There are over 700 000 entries a year in nearly 70 countries. Learn more at www.cie.org.uk/recognition

Support for teachers

A wide range of materials and resources is available to support teachers and learners in Cambridge schools. Resources suit a variety of teaching methods in different international contexts. Through subject discussion forums and training, teachers can access the expert advice they need for teaching our qualifications. More details can be found in Section 2 of this syllabus and at www.cie.org.uk/teachers

Support for exams officers

Exams officers can trust in reliable, efficient administration of exams entries and excellent personal support from our customer services. Learn more at www.cie.org.uk/examsOfficers

Our systems for managing the provision of international qualifications and education programmes for learners aged 5 to 19 are certified as meeting the internationally recognised standard for quality management, ISO 9001:2008. Learn more at www.cie.org.uk/ISO9001

1.2 Why choose Cambridge O Level?

Cambridge O Levels have been designed for an international audience and are sensitive to the needs of different countries. These qualifications are designed for learners whose first language may not be English and this is acknowledged throughout the examination process. The Cambridge O Level syllabus also allows teaching to be placed in a localised context, making it relevant in varying regions.

Our aim is to balance knowledge, understanding and skills in our programmes and qualifications to enable students to become effective learners and to provide a solid foundation for their continuing educational journey.

Through our professional development courses and our support materials for Cambridge O Levels, we provide the tools to enable teachers to prepare learners to the best of their ability and work with us in the pursuit of excellence in education.

Cambridge O Levels are considered to be an excellent preparation for Cambridge International AS and A Levels, the Cambridge AICE (Advanced International Certificate of Education) Group Award, Cambridge Pre-U, and other education programmes, such as the US Advanced Placement program and the International Baccalaureate Diploma programme. Learn more about Cambridge O Levels at www.cie.org.uk/cambridgesecundary2

Guided learning hours

Cambridge O Level syllabuses are designed on the assumption that learners have about 130 guided learning hours per subject over the duration of the course, but this is for guidance only. The number of hours required to gain the qualification may vary according to local curricular practice and the learners' prior experience of the subject.

1.3 Why choose Cambridge O Level Environmental Management?

Cambridge O Levels are established qualifications that keep pace with educational developments and trends. The Cambridge O Level curriculum places emphasis on broad and balanced study across a wide range of subject areas. The curriculum is structured so that students attain both practical skills and theoretical knowledge.

Cambridge O Level Environmental Management is accepted by universities and employers as proof of knowledge and understanding. Successful Cambridge O Level Environmental Management candidates gain lifelong skills, including:

- an ability to draw upon disciplines such as biology, Earth science, geography, economics and anthropology
- an understanding of the interdependence of the Earth's natural systems, and how people use natural resources
- an understanding of how development impacts on the environment consideration of issues such as environmental pollution and resource depletion
- the ability to explore ways in which we may change the nature of future development to make it more sustainable.

Cambridge O Level Environmental Management is an ideal foundation for further study at Cambridge International A Level and the skills learnt can also be used in other areas of study and in everyday life.

Students may also study for a Cambridge O Level in other subjects such as Agriculture or Food and Nutrition. In addition to Cambridge O Levels, Cambridge also offers Cambridge IGCSE and Cambridge International AS & A Levels for further study in Environmental Management as well as other related subjects. See **www.cie.org.uk** for a full list of the qualifications you can take.

Prior learning

Candidates beginning this course are not expected to have studied Environmental Management previously.

Progression

Cambridge O Levels are general qualifications that enable candidates to progress either directly to employment, or to proceed to further qualifications.

Candidates who are awarded grades C to A in Cambridge O Level Environmental Management are well prepared to follow courses leading to Cambridge International AS Level Environmental Management, or the equivalent.

1.4 How can I find out more?

If you are already a Cambridge school

You can make entries for this qualification through your usual channels. If you have any questions, please contact us at **info@cie.org.uk**

If you are not yet a Cambridge school

Learn about the benefits of becoming a Cambridge school at **www.cie.org.uk/startcambridge**. Email us at **info@cie.org.uk** to find out how your organisation can register to become a Cambridge school.

2. Teacher support

2.1 Support materials

We send Cambridge syllabuses, past question papers and examiner reports to cover the last examination series to all Cambridge schools.

You can also go to our public website at www.cie.org.uk/olevel to download current and future syllabuses together with specimen papers or past question papers and examiner reports from one series.

For teachers at registered Cambridge schools a range of additional support materials for specific syllabuses is available online from Teacher Support, our secure online support for Cambridge teachers. Go to <http://teachers.cie.org.uk> (username and password required).

2.2 Endorsed resources

We work with publishers providing a range of resources for our syllabuses including print and digital materials. Resources endorsed by Cambridge go through a detailed quality assurance process to ensure they provide a high level of support for teachers and learners.

We have resource lists which can be filtered to show all resources, or just those which are endorsed by Cambridge. The resource lists include further suggestions for resources to support teaching.

2.3 Training

We offer a range of support activities for teachers to ensure they have the relevant knowledge and skills to deliver our qualifications. See www.cie.org.uk/events for further information.

3. Syllabus content at a glance

The content of this syllabus is designed to encourage reflection on the limits to growth and sustainable development.

- The content is divided into four broad areas:
 - Lithosphere – rocks, minerals, soils, plate tectonics.
 - Hydrosphere – water cycle, oceans.
 - Atmosphere – air, climate, weather.
 - Biosphere – biomes, ecosystems, populations.
- In each case, these are explored through an analytic process of consideration of:
 - Resources – How does the natural system work?
 - Development – How do people use natural resources?
 - Impact – How does development change the environment?
 - Management – How can the environment be developed sustainably?
- The content is structured as a series of learning outcomes that lay out what candidates should know, understand and be able to analyse and discuss.

4. Assessment at a glance

This syllabus is available for examination in both the June and November series.

All candidates take Papers 1 and 2.

Paper 1	2 hour 15 minutes	Paper 2	1 hour 30 minutes
<p>This will consist of two sections.</p> <p>Section A will consist of four compulsory structured short-answer questions, each based on one of the four spheres (lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere). (40 marks)</p> <p>Section B will consist of a number of compulsory structured questions, involving short-answer and free response, based upon several pieces of related source material concerning environmental issues of global impact. Candidates will be expected to use case studies to illustrate issues of environmental management. (80 marks)</p> <p>120 marks: 60% of total assessment</p>		<p>This paper primarily tests skills in Assessment Objectives B and C. Candidates are given data about an environmental problem which could provide the basis for a project. They will be required to identify issues raised by the data and to indicate ways in which a project could be organised to identify a possible management strategy.</p> <p>60 marks: 40% of total assessment</p>	

Availability

This syllabus is examined in the June and November examination series.

This syllabus is available to private candidates.

Detailed timetables are available from www.cie.org.uk/examsOfficers

Cambridge O levels are available to Centres in Administrative Zones 3, 4 and 5. Centres in Administrative Zones 1, 2 or 6 wishing to enter candidates for Cambridge O Level examinations should contact Cambridge Customer Services.

Combining this with other syllabuses

Candidates can combine this syllabus in an examination series with any other Cambridge syllabus, except:

- syllabuses with the same title at the same level

Please note that Cambridge O Level, Cambridge IGCSE and Cambridge International Level 1/Level 2 Certificate syllabuses are at the same level.

5. Syllabus aims and assessment objectives

5.1 Syllabus aims

The aims are not listed in order of priority. Aims 7, 8 and 11 are intended as general course outcomes, but are not directly assessed in the examination.

The aims are to enable candidates to acquire:

1. knowledge of the functioning of the natural system which makes life possible on Earth
2. an understanding that humankind is part of this system and depends on it
3. an appreciation of the diverse influences of human activity on the natural system
4. an awareness of the need for management and human responsibility to keep the system in a healthy condition if life as we know it is to continue
5. an understanding of sustainable development and management to meet the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs
6. an understanding of how local environments contribute to the global environment
7. a sensitivity to, and a sense of responsibility and concern for, the welfare of the environment and all other life forms which share this planet
8. an awareness of their own values concerning environmental issues
9. an awareness of the values of others
10. a willingness to review their own attitudes in the light of new knowledge and experiences
11. a sound basis for further study, personal development and participation in local and global environmental concerns.

5.2 Assessment objectives

Assessment objectives are relatively independent sets of skills and activities. In Cambridge O Level Environmental Management, the three Assessment Objectives are skills-oriented rather than content-oriented.

A Knowledge with understanding

Candidates are expected to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

1. the wide range of processes contributing to
 - (a) the functioning of the Earth's natural, geophysical and ecological systems
 - (b) human development within the natural system and the impact of human activity on the total environment
2. the concept of environmental interdependence and should be able to place local environmental questions in an international or global setting
3. the implications of the unequal distribution of resources and of the unequal patterns of human development
4. the concept and practice of sustainable development
5. ways of reducing and repairing environmental damage.

These assessment objectives will mainly be covered in the **Resources and Development** elements of the syllabus.

B Enquiry, presentation and analysis

Candidates are expected to demonstrate the ability to:

6. select and use suitable basic techniques to
 - (a) observe, record and classify relevant primary data
 - (b) extract and classify relevant secondary data from appropriate sources
7. organise and present their findings
 - (a) in a logical and concise manner
 - (b) in a clear and coherent form, using appropriate techniques including graphs, diagrams, maps and tables
8. analyse data to
 - (a) recognise patterns and deduce relationships
 - (b) draw reasoned conclusions.

These assessment objectives will be covered throughout the syllabus.

C Evaluation, judgement and decision making

Candidates should be able to:

9. recognise that cultural, economic, social, and political factors influence the different ways in which people perceive, value, use and make decisions about the environment
10. discuss and evaluate choices available to decision makers and the influences and constraints in which they operate
11. recognise, analyse, discuss and evaluate strategies for sustainable development
12. make reasoned judgements about environmental issues.

These assessment objectives will mainly be covered in the Impact and Management elements of the syllabus.

Assessment specification grid

Paper	Assessment Objective					
	A		B		C	
	Marks	%	Marks	%	Marks	%
1	40	23	44	24	36	20
2	12	7	24	13	24	13
Total	52	30	68	37	60	33

6. Syllabus content

6.1 Themes

This syllabus is centred around the concept of: **sustainable development**. This may be defined as

Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Two concerns are fundamentally tied to the process of sustainable development of the Earth's resources:

- (i) The basic needs of humanity – for food, clothing, shelter and jobs – must be met.
- (ii) The limits to development are not absolute but are imposed by present states of technology and social organisation and by their impacts upon environmental resources and upon the biosphere's ability to absorb the effect of human activities. Technology and social organisation can be both managed and improved to make way for a new era of economic growth.

Underlying questions

Whatever particular issue is being studied, candidates should consider the following central questions:

- Can the resources involved – whether they are non-living, living or human – be defined as renewable or non-renewable in relation to the pace, scale and character of development?
- To what extent, and why, do people use and value the same natural resource in different ways?
- What dilemmas face individuals, communities and countries in their use and management of natural resources?
- How compatible and how viable are different economic approaches in tackling an environmental issue?
- What are the relative costs, advantages and disadvantages of different strategies for managing the environment?
- What are the factors influencing dispute and co-operation over the use of natural resources?
- What are the current and potential roles of the following:
 - international organisations
 - national and local governments
 - environmental organisations
 - aid agencies
 - industry and commerce
 - community groups
 - individuals?

These questions should be presented in an open-ended way. This syllabus does not prescribe solutions as to how environments should be managed. The relationship between environment and development is dynamic. Strategies have to be altered, adjusted and changed as new problems arise. The same solutions may not be applicable in all regions or cases. Candidates should be encouraged to look for and evaluate alternative solutions, rather than to expect or reproduce the 'right answer'. Candidates need to understand the role played by value judgements and be able to accept that other people in their own society and elsewhere may hold values different from their own.

Candidates should be able to show a basic knowledge and understanding of the processes listed under Resources and Development and give examples to illustrate their understanding. In discussing Impact and Management, they should be able to analyse, discuss and draw conclusions based on reasoned evidence. Teaching methods should encourage enquiry and discussion as much as possible and this should be based as far as possible on case studies, at an appropriate level. The emphasis should be on applying knowledge and understanding to international, national and local environmental problems to enable candidates to become involved in both current and future environmental management issues.

The syllabus matrix

The Environmental Management syllabus is organised as a matrix (see the diagram on the following page).

The syllabus is designed to emphasise that

- (a) life on Earth as we know it is an integrated and interdependent whole
- (b) its future is endangered by the impact of human development on natural resources
- (c) its survival for future generations will depend on concerted action to conserve and manage the environment as a self-sustaining resource base.

For each of the four spheres of the Earth's environment (lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere and biosphere), the following aspects are considered.

1. **Resources:** How does the natural system work?
2. **Development:** How do people use natural resources?
3. **Impact:** How does development change the environment?
4. **Management:** How can the environment be developed sustainably?

The divisions between the four spheres should not be seen as rigid or exclusive. Many environmental issues, e.g. water pollution, soils/agriculture, etc., involve more than one sphere. Teachers should be aware of the links between different parts of the matrix and by using suitable cross references they should emphasise environmental interdependence. The syllabus does not prescribe a particular sequence of study.

About 35% of the teaching time should be devoted to the curriculum objectives on resources and development. These can be dealt with in a largely descriptive way to give students a basic knowledge and understanding of processes. This will provide the foundation for the analysis and discussion of impact and management, to which the remaining 65% of teaching time should be allocated.

In this syllabus we give examples (in *italics*) to illustrate many of the objectives. These are not intended to be definitive or prescriptive; a range of factors influence any topic and we encourage teachers to adopt a similar range of teaching strategies.

The curriculum objectives should be covered by investigating specific examples and case studies from both the 'Developed' and the 'Developing World'.

The syllabus matrix

	Resources	Development	Impact	Management
Lithosphere	The lithosphere: structure and processes Elements of soil	Human activity and the lithosphere	Lithosphere in crisis	Action on the lithosphere
Hydrosphere	The water cycle The oceans	Human intervention in the water cycle Exploitation of the oceans	Water hazards The oceans at risk	Clean, safe, water strategies Managing the oceans
Atmosphere	The atmospheric system	Human activity and the atmosphere	Atmosphere in crisis Agriculture development consequences	Action on the atmosphere Managing agriculture
Biosphere	Biomes Types of vegetation	The changing role of people in the environment Human population Modification of vegetation and soils	Ecosystems at risk People in crisis Land at risk	Conservation of the ecosystem Population management Managing the land

RESOURCES



DEVELOPMENT

HOW DOES THE NATURAL SYSTEM WORK?

All candidates should have knowledge and understanding of:

1. Lithosphere: structure and processes

1.1 the structure of the Earth

core, mantle, crust

1.2 the types of rock

igneous, sedimentary, metamorphic

1.3 the distribution, types and reserves of major minerals

metal ores and fossil fuels (oil, gas, coal)

1.4 the formation of fossil fuels

1.5 the crust/tectonic cycle

plate tectonics, earth movements (folding, faulting, mountain building), earthquake zones, vulcanicity

2. Elements of soil

2.1 the formation and composition of soils

mineral and organic content, air, water, role of soil organisms, particle size (clay, silt, sand), soil texture

2.2 soil as a medium for growth and land use potential

nutrients, pH, pore space, aeration, drainage

HOW DO PEOPLE USE NATURAL RESOURCES?

All candidates should have knowledge and understanding of:

3. Human activity and the lithosphere

3.1 the methods of search and extraction of rocks, minerals and fossil fuels

3.2 the uses of rocks and minerals in industrial processes

3.3 types of energy production from fossil and nuclear fuels

3.4 the location of the main centres of mining and energy production in relation to major centres of population and industry

3.5 main supply and demand constraints in exploiting mineral resources

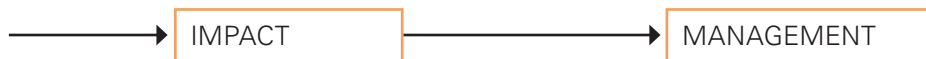
geological factors, depletion rates, climatic factors, transport, fluctuations of prices

3.6 the economic aspects and limitations of earthquake and volcanic zones

3.7 the implications of the patterns of global trade in minerals and energy

3.8 how industrial development is used to achieve social and economic goals

Lithosphere



HOW DOES DEVELOPMENT CHANGE THE ENVIRONMENT?	HOW CAN THE ENVIRONMENT BE DEVELOPED SUSTAINABLY?
<p><i>All candidates should be able to analyse and discuss:</i></p>	<p><i>All candidates should be able to analyse and discuss:</i></p>
<p>4. Lithosphere in crisis</p>	<p>5. Action on the lithosphere</p>
<p>4.1 the impact of mineral exploitation on the environment and on human activity and health</p>	<p>5.1 conservation schemes for damaged environments <i>landscaping, restoration, reclamation, filtration, waste management</i></p>
<p>4.2 the global economic consequences of the over-exploitation and depletion of mineral and fossil fuel reserves</p>	<p>5.2 technologies and viability of alternative energy sources</p>
<p>4.3 the implications in social, economic and environmental terms of different types of energy production <i>fossil fuels compared with nuclear</i></p>	<p><i>solar, wind, wave, geothermal, hydro-electric, biomass</i></p>
<p>4.4 the impact of earthquakes, volcanic eruptions on human communities <i>damage, loss of life, danger to health in aftermath, economic dislocation</i></p>	<p>5.3 strategies for conservation and management of mineral and fossil fuel resources <i>increased efficiency in use, insulation, recycling, power from waste, new technology</i></p>
<p>4.5 the impact of industrial development on the environment and on human activity and health</p>	<p>5.4 strategies for managing the impacts of earthquakes and volcanic activity <i>planning site of settlement (land use zoning) and structure of buildings, disaster relief</i></p>
<p>4.6 causes and consequences of land pollution <i>salination, toxic waste, nuclear waste, domestic waste, harmful effects of pesticides and fertilisers; groundwater contamination, health risks.</i></p>	<p>5.5 industrial materials, technologies, and approaches which can contribute to solving environmental problems <i>monitoring, remedial action, recycling (processing wastes and industrial products at end of life), low waste technology (developing cleaner processes and products, conservation and efficiency)</i></p>

RESOURCES



DEVELOPMENT

HOW DOES THE NATURAL SYSTEM WORK?

All candidates should have knowledge and understanding of:

6. The water cycle

- 6.1 how the water cycle operates
- 6.2 how the natural availability of water varies from place to place
- 6.3 the role of the water cycle within ecosystems

links between rainfall, vegetation and soils (interception, infiltration, surface run-off)

7. The oceans

- 7.1 the role of the ocean as an environment for interdependent ecosystems
- 7.2 the resource potential of the oceans
- 7.3 the distribution of ocean currents and their effects
on climate and on fisheries
- 7.4 reversal of ocean currents, e.g. El Niño and its effects

HOW DO PEOPLE USE NATURAL RESOURCES?

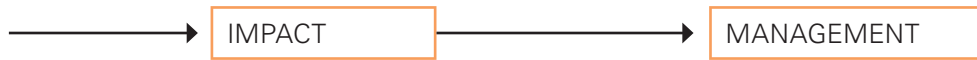
All candidates should have knowledge and understanding of:

8. Human intervention in the water cycle

- 8.1 collection and control of water for a variety of uses
water supply (storage, transfer, dams, reservoirs); industry and domestic use; waste disposal; power; agriculture (irrigation)
- 8.2 competing demands for water
- 8.3 mismatch between water supply and demand
- 8.4 the ways in which processes operating within the water cycle affect development
causes and effects of flooding and drought

9. Exploitation of the oceans

- 9.1 the environmental and human factors in the distribution and exploitation of the world's ocean fisheries
- 9.2 factors that limit full exploitation of the ocean's potential resources



HOW DOES DEVELOPMENT CHANGE THE ENVIRONMENT?	HOW CAN THE ENVIRONMENT BE DEVELOPED SUSTAINABLY?
<p><i>All candidates should be able to analyse and discuss:</i></p> <p>10. Water hazards</p> <p>10.1 the causes and consequences of water pollution <i>impact on natural ecosystems, the physical environment, human activity and health</i></p> <p>10.2 contrasts in availability of water in terms of quality, quantity and access <i>between urban and rural communities; between countries</i></p> <p>10.3 the cycle of water-related diseases, and their impact on human activities and development <i>water-based (bilharzia); water-borne (typhoid, cholera); water-bred (malaria)</i></p> <p>11. The oceans at risk</p> <p>11.1 the implications of uncontrolled exploitation of marine resources <i>fishing, continental shelf and deep-sea mineral resources</i></p> <p>11.2 causes of marine pollution and its impact on the marine ecosystem and on coastal zones <i>raw sewage, heavy metals, oil and plastics</i></p>	<p><i>All candidates should be able to analyse and discuss:</i></p> <p>12. Clean, safe water strategies</p> <p>12.1 ways of improving water quantity, quality and access <i>pollution control, improved sanitation, distribution for more efficient water use, desalination</i></p> <p>12.2 strategies to control and eradicate water-related diseases <i>drugs, vector control and eradication, improved sanitation, clean water supply, chlorination</i></p> <p>13. Managing the oceans</p> <p>13.1 strategies for the sustainable harvesting of ocean fisheries <i>net types and sizes, quotas, conservation laws, territoriality</i></p> <p>13.2 marine pollution controls and remedial action <i>international co-operation and legislation, dealing with oil spills, managing raw sewage</i></p>

RESOURCES



DEVELOPMENT

HOW DOES THE NATURAL SYSTEM WORK?

All candidates should have knowledge and understanding of:

14. The atmospheric system

- 14.1 the Sun as an energy source; varying rates of surface insolation
- 14.2 the factors which contribute to solar heat balance of earth and atmosphere
radiation, absorption, reflection
- 14.3 the structure and composition of the atmosphere
importance of the ozone layer, oxygen, carbon dioxide and water vapour in the air
- 14.4 the balances which maintain the Earth's atmosphere as a mixture of gases
oxygen, carbon dioxide and nitrogen
- 14.5 how the elements of weather are measured, recorded, and interpreted
temperature, precipitation, atmospheric pressure, wind, sun
- 14.6 location of major climatic types and their main characteristics through interpretation of climatic graphs and maps
tropical – equatorial, savanna
dry – desert
temperate – cool interior
cold – tundra
- 14.7 'climatic hazards' (extremes of weather): causes and occurrence
cyclone, flood, drought

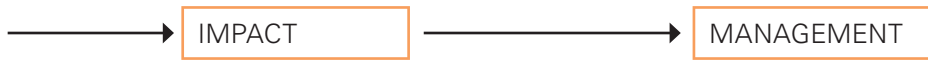
HOW DO PEOPLE USE NATURAL RESOURCES?

All candidates should have knowledge and understanding of:

15. Human activity and the atmosphere

- 15.1 water, solar and wind as power resources
- 15.2 use of the atmosphere as a dispersal medium for waste gases
smoke particles and exhaust fumes
- 15.3 the interaction between climate and human activity
shelter; farming affected by climate
- 15.4 the different types and systems of farming
croplands/grazing lands, intensive/extensive, subsistence/commercial
- 15.5 the environmental, technological, economic and social factors which influence the distribution of different types and systems of farming
- 15.6 new agricultural techniques which increase yields
irrigation, biological controls, the benefits of chemicals (fertilisers and pesticides), mechanisation, capital subsidies
- 15.7 the factors which influence the patterns of agricultural output and trade
North-South trade in commodities, cash crops vs. food crops

Atmosphere



HOW DOES DEVELOPMENT CHANGE THE ENVIRONMENT?	HOW CAN THE ENVIRONMENT BE DEVELOPED SUSTAINABLY?
<p><i>All candidates should be able to analyse and discuss:</i></p> <p>16. Atmosphere in crisis</p> <p>16.1 human activities which alter the composition of the atmosphere and climate <i>deforestation, burning of fossil fuels, industrial and vehicle emissions, use of CFCs</i></p> <p>16.2 causes of atmospheric pollution <i>carbon dioxide, CFCs, methane, sulfur and nitrogen oxides, lead</i></p> <p>16.3 damage to the ozone layer and links to atmospheric pollution</p> <p>16.4 the effects of pollution on atmospheric conditions <i>acid rain, the greenhouse effect, temperature inversion</i></p> <p>16.5 the implications of changes in the atmosphere and climate <i>effects on health, food production, water supply, ecosystems</i></p> <p>16.6 the impact of climatic hazards on human communities <i>damage, loss of life, danger to health in aftermath, loss of production</i></p> <p>17. Agriculture: consequences of development</p> <p>17.1 the impact of indiscriminate agricultural practices <i>overuse of pesticides and inorganic fertilisers, crops requiring irrigation, traditional crop varieties disappearing, overproduction and waste in developed countries, concentration of land in hands of fewer owners, environmental damage (pollution, soil erosion)</i></p> <p>17.2 the advantages and disadvantages of the 'green revolution'</p>	<p><i>All candidates should be able to analyse and discuss:</i></p> <p>18. Action on the atmosphere</p> <p>18.1 strategies to reduce atmospheric pollution and climatic change <i>CFC replacement, reduction of pollutant emissions, reforestation</i></p> <p>18.2 the need for international action and changing attitudes to deal with the causes and consequences of the damage to the atmosphere</p> <p>18.3 strategies to reduce the negative impact of climatic hazards <i>improved forecasting, appropriate settlement patterns and buildings, disaster relief</i></p> <p>19. Managing agriculture</p> <p>19.1 strategies for sustainable agriculture <i>plant breeding, integrated pest control, mixed cropping, gene banks, new crop strains, trickle drip irrigation, organic alternatives to inorganic fertilisers</i></p> <p>19.2 harvesting energy from living resources to provide power <i>biomass, biogas (methane), fuel from organic waste</i></p>

RESOURCES

DEVELOPMENT

HOW DOES THE NATURAL SYSTEM WORK?

All candidates should have knowledge and understanding of:

20. Biomes

- 20.1 the concept of an ecosystem
- 20.2 organisation within an ecosystem
population, community, habitat, niche
- 20.3 physical factors
temperature, humidity, water, salinity, light, pH, soils, nutrients, wind
- 20.4 relationships of living organisms
producers, consumers, food chains and webs, competition, predation, pollination, dispersal, vegetational succession
- 20.5 energy flow
photosynthesis, respiration, food chains, food webs
- 20.6 nutrient cycling
carbon and nitrogen cycle
- 20.7 resource potential
biodiversity as a genetic resource, and as a food base

21. Types of vegetation

- 21.1 the distribution and main characteristics of natural vegetation zones (biomes) and relationship to climatic zones
- forest – tropical rainforest, monsoon forest, taiga*
- grassland – savanna*
- desert – desert, tundra*

HOW DO PEOPLE USE NATURAL RESOURCES?

All candidates should have knowledge and understanding of:

22. The changing role of people in the environment

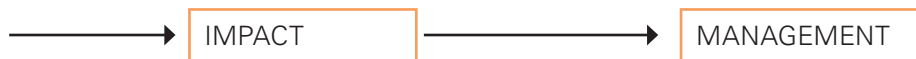
- 22.1 how different types of human society use and value their natural environment
hunter-gatherer, nomadic pastoralist, farming, industrial, tourism
- 22.2 the increasing ability of humankind to create artificial environments as a result of economic and technological development and social and cultural change
e.g. in agriculture: domestication of plants and animals, modern agricultural methods, genetic engineering

23. Human population

- 23.1 population growth
rates of birth, death and fertility, life expectancy, infant mortality
- 23.2 population structure
population pyramids, young and ageing populations
- 23.3 migration
push/pull, urban/rural
- 23.4 the model of demographic transition and its limitations

24. Modification of vegetation and soils

- 24.1 factors influencing the clearance of natural vegetation over time
farming (crops, grazing), timber (fuel, building, furniture), paper (pulp), chemicals (gums, resins), settlement (towns, cities)



HOW DOES DEVELOPMENT CHANGE THE ENVIRONMENT?	HOW CAN THE ENVIRONMENT BE DEVELOPED SUSTAINABLY?
<p><i>All candidates should be able to analyse and discuss:</i></p> <p>25. Ecosystems at risk</p> <p>25.1 habitat destruction, loss of biodiversity, genetic depletion</p> <p>25.2 the effect of loss of habitat on wildlife and on the food chain <i>draining of wetlands, impounding water, deforestation, intensive agricultural practices</i></p> <p>25.3 the impact of tourism</p> <p>26. People in crisis</p> <p>26.1 social, economic and environmental implications of population growth rates and structures</p> <p>26.2 measures of world poverty and the North-South divide <i>per capita incomes, inadequacy of housing, levels of disease and nutrition</i></p> <p>26.3 the implications of the cycle of poverty, <i>as it effects individuals and communities, for the environment</i></p> <p>26.4 urbanisation <i>causes (push/pull factors), problems (housing, congestion, pollution, loss of agricultural land, provision of services)</i></p> <p>27. Land at risk</p> <p>27.1 causes and consequences of rapid and progressive deforestation <i>clearance for fuelwood, subsistence and cash crop farming, settlement, timber extraction and grazing; links with soil erosion and desertification, climate changes, effect on people (displacement, lack of fuel)</i></p> <p>27.2 causes and consequences of soil erosion and desertification <i>removal of vegetation, overgrazing, overcultivation, clearance of slopes, poor irrigation; food shortage and water shortage, displacement of people</i></p>	<p><i>All candidates should be able to analyse and discuss:</i></p> <p>28. Conservation of the ecosystem</p> <p>28.1 strategies for conservation of biodiversity and the genetic resource <i>sustainable harvesting of wild plant and animal species, national parks, wildlife reserves, world biosphere reserves, gene banks</i></p> <p>28.2 world conservation strategies and legislation <i>the work of organisations such as UNEP, IUCN, WWF, CITES</i></p> <p>29. Population management</p> <p>29.1 strategies for managing population growth <i>family planning, improved health and education, national policies</i></p> <p>29.2 strategies for managing the urban and rural environments <i>planning, environmental improvement, community participation</i></p> <p>29.3 strategies for overcoming world inequalities <i>improved trade and aid conditions, governmental and non-governmental aid, food aid</i></p> <p>29.4 managing tourism <i>National Parks, ecotourism</i></p> <p>30. Managing the land</p> <p>30.1 strategies for soil conservation <i>tree planting, terracing, contour ploughing, dry land farming, wind breaks, integrated rural development programmes, land reform, community participation</i></p> <p>30.2 sustainable forest management techniques <i>agro-forestry, community forestry, reforestation, sustainable harvesting of hardwoods, fuelwood planting, genetic engineering</i></p> <p>30.3 alternatives to deforestation <i>more efficient use of timber, recycling (paper/timber), alternative materials to timber</i></p>

7. Other information

Equality and inclusion

Cambridge International Examinations has taken great care in the preparation of this syllabus and assessment materials to avoid bias of any kind. To comply with the UK Equality Act (2010), Cambridge has designed this qualification with the aim of avoiding direct and indirect discrimination.

The standard assessment arrangements may present unnecessary barriers for candidates with disabilities or learning difficulties. Arrangements can be put in place for these candidates to enable them to access the assessments and receive recognition of their attainment. Access arrangements will not be agreed if they give candidates an unfair advantage over others or if they compromise the standards being assessed.

Candidates who are unable to access the assessment of any component may be eligible to receive an award based on the parts of the assessment they have taken.

Information on access arrangements is found in the *Cambridge Handbook* which can be downloaded from the website www.cie.org.uk/examsofficer

Language

This syllabus and the associated assessment materials are available in English only.

Grading and reporting

Cambridge O Level results are shown by one of the grades A, B, C, D or E, indicating the standard achieved, A being the highest and E the lowest. 'Ungraded' indicates that the candidate's performance fell short of the standard required for grade E. 'Ungraded' will be reported on the statement of results but not on the certificate. The letters Q (result pending), X (no results) and Y (to be issued) may also appear on the statement of results but not on the certificate.

Entry codes

To maintain the security of our examinations, we produce question papers for different areas of the world, known as 'administrative zones'. Where the component entry code has two digits, the first digit is the component number given in the syllabus. The second digit is the location code, specific to an administrative zone. Information about entry codes can be found in the *Cambridge Guide to Making Entries*.

Cambridge International Examinations
1 Hills Road, Cambridge, CB1 2EU, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0)1223 553554 Fax: +44 (0)1223 553558
Email: info@cie.org.uk www.cie.org.uk

© Cambridge International Examinations February 2015

