FAQs

(1) How natural scientists came close to economics ?

Seeing the seriousness of environmental problems natural scientists come close to economics to understand the link between ecology and economics. They wanted to understand that how ecological imbalance is created by pursuit of economic growth through exploitation and depletion of natural resources and it affects the economic system. By understanding this they realized that basic principles of economics and their applications can give better understanding of environmental problems and issues.

2. What role 'Resource for the Future (RFF) played in understanding environmental problems ?

Resources for the Future (RFF) is a Washington based institution came in to being in early fifties. It pioneered the application of economics as a tool for developing more effective policy about the use and conservation of natural resources. its scholars employ social science methods to analyze critical issues concerning pollution control, energy policy, land and water use, hazardous waste, climate change, biodiversity and the environmental changes of developing countries.

3. What is the serious concern of environmentalists ?

Their true serious concern is what is being done to water, air and the habitats of numerous species, global warming and the needless waste of resources associated with modern patterns of consumption and production. The damage to ecosystem is a far greater threat to the way people live, they are causing harm to environmental systems in which they live. They also concern with industries, firms, different plants including government's plants, launched for development, damage and degrade environment by discharging waste, polluting air, water and noise.

4. What connection is seen between the environment, human society and the economy ?

There are threefold connections between environment, human society and the economy.

1. The raw materials flow from environment, transformed in to consumer products through the production process.

2. Environment provides services which are directly used by consumer, e.g. oxygen in the air, water that we drink and natural science severe that gives us pleasure we enjoy nature's aesthetic etc.

3. It takes the waste within it, which results by process of production and consumption. It also acts up on the waste products to clean up the environment and recycle the waste in to material that can be reused.

5. What is ecology ?

Ecology is a term derived from the Greek word Oikos meaning home or habitat. Literally ecology means the study of home or habitat. The term can be applied to pond, rainforest, oceans or even the earth itself. It covers human beings, animals plants, air, water and soil and they are governed by the laws of physical sciences and biology.

6. What are the categories of Biotic Component ?

There are four categories of Biotic Component.

1. Plants, that depend primarily upon soil nutrients, water and sunlight.

2. Animals including reptiles, rodents, insects, birds and fishes.

3. Man has capacity to adapt and modify nature with the use of technology.

4. Micro-organisms including parasitic and saprophytic bacteria and fungi, feed primarily upon other living or dead organisms also some non-biotic elements.

7. What are the elements of Abiotic Component ?

There are three elements of Abiotic component :

1. The solid matter of earth starting with top soil dust, and all its solid components under the ground including minerals and metallic ores called lithosphere.

2. The water in the oceans and in the rivers, lakes, and ponds, including marshes and wetland, as well as the ice and snow on the mountains called hydrosphere.

3. The gaseous mixture around us including nitrogen and oxygen and water vapour, called the atmosphere.

8. What are the Biogeochemical cycles ?

These cycles deal with Hydrogen, Oxygen, and Carbon. They also include Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium, Calcium, Sulphur, Magnesium and Iron. These are the important elements needed by plants and animals. The Zinc, Cobalt, Copper Manganese and Boron are also part of these cycles. There are two types of Biogeochemical cycles.

1. Gaseous cycles. These are cycles where element concerned must pass through a gaseous phase. Before the cycle can be completed.

2. Sedimentary cycles. In these cycles elements need not pass through the gaseous phase before the cycle can be completed.

9. Explain the cycle of Biological Production and Destruction

The cycle of biological production and destruction is followed by the processes of energy flow and cycling of materials. They both occur simultaneously and concurrently. As a consequence of these two simultaneous processes a variety of biological species are produced in the ecosystem. When this cycle is disturbed by environmental degradation, then we see the effect on economy and its different aspects. Moreover the growth of plants, crops, tree vegetation, animal species and population species are covered this cycle.

10. What is biodiversity loss ?

Biodiversity loss occurs when entire species are wiped out of existence, thereby breaking. Some delicate link in a chain that may be vital to others. It also occurs by the destruction of the natural habitat a particular species may fail to adapt to an alternative habitat or to migrate so that the entire species may become extinct. Direct harvesting also causing biodiversity loss for human beings, resort to slaughter of naturally occurring species for food and pleasure.