

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO – SRI LANKA
FACULTY OF ARTS
STUDY STREAM EXAMINATION IN ARTS (GEOGRAPHY) – PART I
SECOND SEMESTER FINAL EXAMINATION (2018/19)
GYG 2236 – ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

Time: Two (02) Hours

Answer **three (03)** questions only.

01. (i). What is meant by “Disaster Vulnerability”? **(3 Marks)**
(ii). Name six (06) factors that determine the severity of natural hazards. **(3 Marks)**
(iii). Compare the variation of severity of a flood and an earthquake considering three of the factors which were mentioned in the above question (1.ii). **(6 Marks)**
(iv). Discuss the impact of human intervention on accelerating the severity of flood hazard. **(8 Marks)**
(Total Marks 20)
02. (i). Classify landslides. **(3 Marks)**
(ii). Briefly describe the criterion that were used to classify landslides in the above question (2.i). **(3 Marks)**
(iii). Compare any two types of landslides using relevant sketches. **(6 Marks)**
(iv). Discuss the importance of using pre-warning signs of landslides in mitigating impacts of landslides. **(8 Marks)**
(Total Marks 20)
03. (i). Name four districts that frequently experience drought. **(2 Marks)**
(ii). Briefly explain why the above mentioned districts are frequently vulnerable to droughts. **(4 Marks)**
(iii). Discuss the impacts of droughts on developing countries. **(6 Marks)**
(iv). Explore the strategies that can be adopted by Sri Lanka as a developing country, in mitigating the impacts of droughts. **(8 Marks)**
(Total Marks 20)

04. (i). How would you explain “Disaster Management”? **(3 Marks)**
- (ii). Briefly state the phases of the Disaster Management Cycle using a suitable diagram. **(4 Marks)**
- (iii). List out the structural and non-structural disaster mitigation measures. **(5 Marks)**
- (iv). Discuss the role of community in pre and post disaster management. **(8 Marks)**
- (Total Marks 20)**

05. (i). Define the terms of Host, Pathogen and Environment in relation to biological hazards. **(3 Marks)**
- (ii). What is meant by “Vector-borne diseases”? **(4 Marks)**
- (iii). Explain briefly the factors that strongly affect the transmission of vector-borne diseases. **(5 Marks)**
- (iv). “Vector-borne infectious diseases are more complex” do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer. **(8 Marks)**
- (Total Marks 20)**

06. Write brief accounts on any **two (02)** the following topics.

- i. Paradigm shift in Disaster Management
- ii. Major causes of soil erosion
- iii. Infectious disease model
- iv. Trends of road accidents in Sri Lanka

(10*2 = 20 Marks)