

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS****FIRST SEMESTER 2025/2026 ACADEMIC YEAR****FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE****ENSC 112: APPROACHES TO ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES*****STREAM: R******TIME: 2 HRS******DAY: MONDAY [8.30 – 10.30 A.M]******DATE: 02/02/2026*****THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF THREE (3) PAGES****PLEASE DO NOT OPEN UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR SAYS SO.**

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer question one and any other two questions

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

a). Define the following terms:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| i) Environmental science | (1 Mark) |
| ii) Environmental studies | (1 Mark) |
| iii) Environmental degradation | (1 Mark) |
| iv) Environmental hazard | (1 Mark) |
| v) Environmental pollution | (1 Mark) |
| vi) Natural environment | (1 Mark) |
| vii) Built environment | (1 Mark) |
| viii) An ecosystem | (1 Mark) |
| ix) Biodiversity | (1 Mark) |
| x) Conservation | (1 Mark) |

- b) How have humans related their environment across historical timelines? Pick an era and discuss the relationship between humans and the environment at that time. (6 Marks)
- c) Discuss with examples **two** (2) principles that guide environmental studies (4 Marks)
- d) Differentiate between natural and built environments? (4 Marks)
- e) With relevant examples, differentiate between an ecosystem and an environment (6 Marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Why is biodiversity important to the Kenyan people today? Discuss with **two** (2) examples. (4 Marks)
- b) Discuss the **three** (3) main components of biodiversity. (6 Marks)
- c) Giving appropriate examples, discuss any **five** (5) causes of biodiversity changes the world is experiencing today. (10 Marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) You are the county director of environment in your home county. Discuss **two** biodiversity losses experienced in that county. (10 Marks)
- b) Discuss strategies to address each of the biodiversity losses identified, in question (a) above. (10 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Which is Kenya's legal framework that governs pollution? (2 Marks)
- b) Which institution in Kenya is responsible for enforcing pollution policies and regulations? (2 Marks)
- c) Which principle governs the responsibility of a polluter? (2 Marks)
- d) Discuss their impacts on the environment (4 Marks)
- e) Discuss their effects on human health. (4 Marks)
- f) List **three** (3) major sources of environmental pollutions in the world today. (6 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Kenya has serious challenges with water pollution. Making reference to this;

- a) Discuss giving concrete examples, **two** (2) major sources of water pollution in the country (6 Marks)
- b) Giving appropriate examples, explain the impacts of water pollution on human health. (6 Marks)
- c) Discuss **two** (2) strategies that can be initiated to mitigate the water pollution. (8 Marks)