

Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh
National University of Ireland, Galway

Summer Examinations, 2004/2005

Exam Code(s)	2BA
Exam(s)	2 nd Arts
Module Code	TI220
Module(s)	Soils and Biogeography
Paper No.	1
External Examiner	Professor Michael Dunford
Internal Examiner(s)	Professor Ulf Strohmayer
	Dr. Kieran Hickey
<u>Instructions:</u>	Answer 1 question from each section. Use a separate answer book for each section
Duration	2 hrs
No. of Answer books	2
No. of Pages	1
Department	Geography

Section 1

1. Critically assess the use of food chains and food webs as a means of examining energy exchange in the ecosphere
2. Define and briefly explain the significance of **three** of the following: ecosystem, biomass, dead organic matter (DOM), primary succession, secondary succession.
3. Analyse the role of humans in causing the globally significant loss of biodiversity.

Section 2

4. The Lusitanian flora and fauna are the greatest puzzle of Ireland's postglacial natural history. Critically analyse this statement.
5. Explain pollen analysis and discuss the main limitations of this technique.
6. Analyse the main causes of the demise of the 'Giant Irish Elk', *Megalocerus giganteus*.