

OLLSCOIL NA hÉIREANN
National University of Ireland, Galway

BA in Social and Community Studies.

Summer Examinations 1998.

Professor Huw Beynon
Professor Chris Curtin
Dr. Caoimhin Mac Aoidh

Environmental and Natural Resources

Time allowed: 3 Hours.

Answer 2 questions from Section A and two questions from Section B.
All questions carry equal marks.

Section A

1. Outline and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the Irish Marine environment.
2. The Irish environment is defined by its geology. Discuss.
3. Explain the concept of a "renewable resource" and its significance in an environmental context. Cite examples.
4. Outline, in a structured format, a report on your field trip noting the environments, your observations and any conclusions you may have found.

Section B

5. Outline and discuss Ireland as part of the global biosphere.
6. Identify the three most critical environmental factors in Ireland today. Justify your choices, citing examples.
7. Is forestry the saviour or the scourge of the Irish rural environment? Justify your response.
8. Outline the components of soils and discuss the importance of soil as an environmental resource.