ALGERIAN DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Field: Geography and Regional Planning

ESP Course 1

Course Title: English for Geography and Environmental Studies

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Course Duration: 12 weeks (one semester)

Course Objectives

1-Enhance students' understanding and use of geographical and environmental terminology in English.

2- Develop students' reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in the context of geography and environmental studies.

3-Enable students to communicate effectively in discussions, presentations, and academic settings.

4-Introduce students to grammatical structures and writing techniques commonly used in scientific texts.

5-Explore key topics in geography and environmental studies to build subject-specific knowledge.

Week 1-2: Introduction to Geography and Environment in English

Week 1: Course overview and expectations. Introduction to the importance of English in geography and environmental studies.

Week 2: Basic geographical and environmental concepts. Vocabulary building with key terms and phrases. Reading and discussing simple texts on geography and the environment.

Week 3-4: Speaking Skills for Academic Discussions

Week 3: Engaging in academic discussions on geography and environmental topics. Emphasize logical development of ideas.

Week 4: Practicing various forms of dialogue, including interviews and debates, on relevant subjects. Encourage active participation.

Week 5-6: Listening Comprehension in Geography

Week 5: Listening to and analyzing authentic or simulated texts (lectures, discussions) related to geography and environment. Focus on comprehending main ideas and details.

Week 6: Developing interpretation and summarization skills, with an emphasis on the speciality topics. Encourage students to take notes while listening.

Week 7-8: Grammar and Scientific Writing

Week 7: Introduce grammatical structures commonly used in scientific texts, such as verb tenses, passive voice, and adjective/adverb usage.

Week 8: Conduct writing exercises, including writing reports, summaries, and descriptions. Review and edit written work to improve clarity and accuracy.

Week 9-10: Environmental Issues

Week 9: Explore key environmental topics, such as biodiversity, pollution, urban expansion, and sustainable development. Reading and discussing scientific texts on these subjects.

Week 10: Analyze case studies related to environmental problems. Encourage critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Week 11-12: Specialized Vocabulary and Final Assessment

•**Week 11:** Expand specialized vocabulary related to geography and environmental studies. Create a glossary of terms for reference.

•**Week 12:** Prepare and deliver presentations on chosen environmental issues. Final examination assessing overall language skills and subject knowledge.

Chapter 1: Introduction to Geography and Environment in English

Lesson1: overview and expectations. Introduction to the importance of English in geography and environmental studies.

-English plays a significant role in geography and environmental studies for several reasons

Access to Research Literature: Graduate students in geography and environmental studies need to conduct comprehensive literature reviews as part of their research. The majority of scholarly articles, journals, and research papers in these fields are published in English. Proficiency in English is essential for graduate students to access and understand the extensive body of literature relevant to their research topics.

Effective Communication: Graduate students often engage in discussions, seminars, and presentations with peers and professors. English proficiency enables them to articulate their research ideas, findings, and questions clearly and effectively. This skill is critical for academic success and for gaining valuable feedback and insights from their academic community.

International Collaboration: Many graduate students have opportunities for international research collaborations, which can enrich their academic experience and provide a broader perspective on environmental issues. English serves as the lingua franca for such collaborations, enabling students to work with researchers and institutions from different countries.

Conferences and Networking: Graduate students are encouraged to present their research at conferences and participate in networking events. English proficiency is vital for delivering compelling presentations, engaging in academic discussions, and networking with fellow researchers and potential mentors from around the world.

Career Advancement: English proficiency enhances graduate students' career prospects in both academia and the broader job market. It opens doors to opportunities in international organizations, research institutions, government agencies, NGOs, and private companies engaged in environmental and geographical work.

Data Analysis and GIS: Many advanced analytical tools and software, including Geographic Information Systems (GIS), are available primarily in English. Graduate students often need to work with these tools for data analysis and mapping, making English skills essential for conducting research effectively.

Publication: If researchers want to publish their work in reputable international journals, they often need to submit their papers in English. English proficiency is essential for conveying research findings accurately and effectively to a global audience.

Policy and Advocacy: Environmental issues, such as climate change, deforestation, and pollution, are often addressed at the international level. English proficiency is crucial for environmental advocates and policymakers to participate in global negotiations and contribute to shaping international environmental policies.

Teaching and Education: English is a primary language of instruction in many universities and institutions worldwide. Professors and educators in geography and environmental studies need to be proficient in English to teach and mentor students effectively.

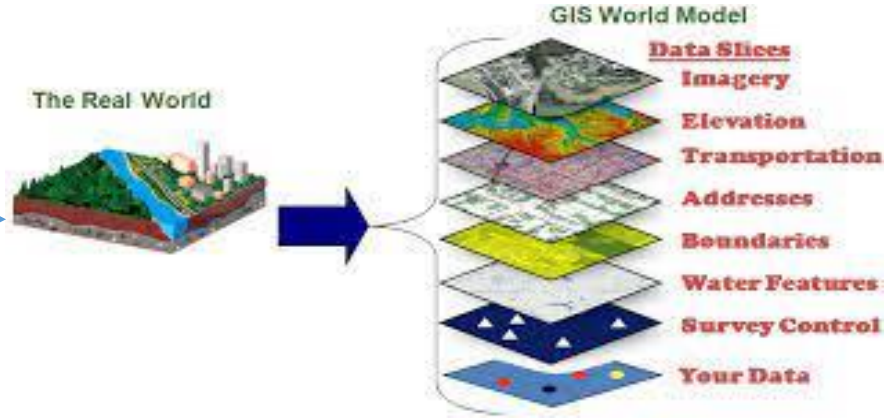
In summary, English proficiency is crucial for graduate students in geography and environmental studies to access research literature, communicate effectively, collaborate internationally, present research, publish papers, advance their careers, and engage in data analysis and teaching. It is an essential skill that not only supports their academic endeavors but also prepares them for a globalized and interconnected world of research and environmental action.

Lesson 2 :Basic geographical and environmental concepts. Vocabulary building with key terms and phrases. Reading and discussing simple texts on geography and the environment.

key terminology in Geography and Environmental Studies

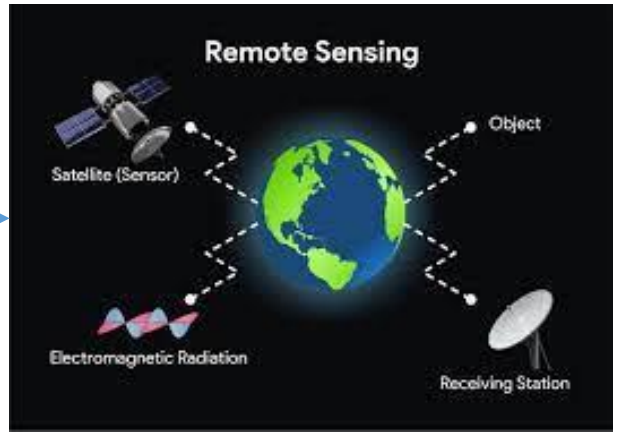
1-Geography:

1-1-Geographic Information System (GIS): A system designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present spatial or geographic data. GIS is widely used for mapping and spatial analysis in various fields, including urban planning, natural resource management, and disaster response.

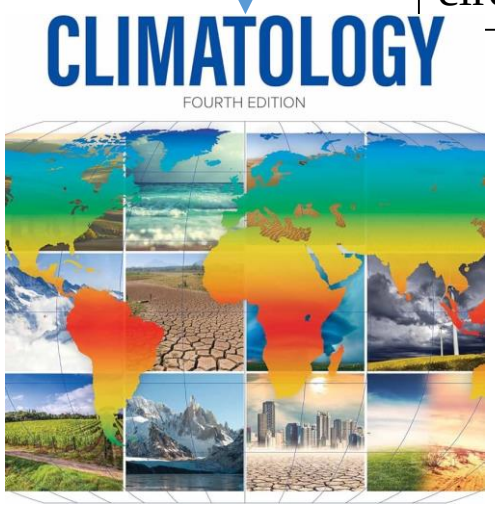


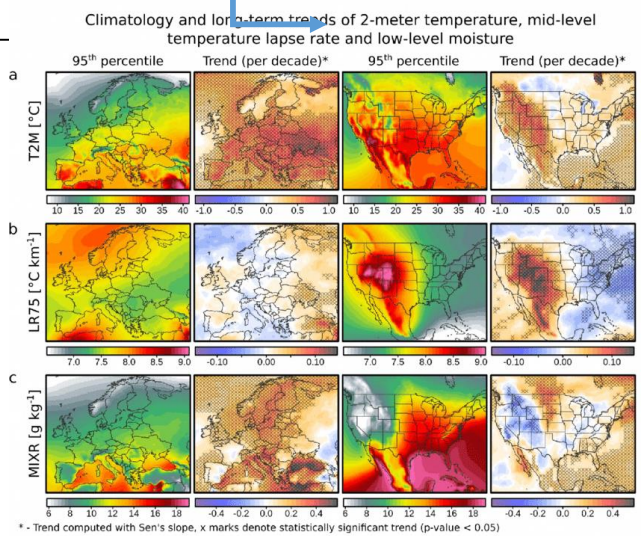
1-2-Geospatial Data: Data that includes information about the geographic location and characteristics of features on Earth's surface. This can include data about land use, elevation, population density, and more.

1-3-Remote Sensing: The process of gathering information about the Earth's surface from a distance, often using satellites, aircraft, or drones. Remote sensing is used to monitor changes in land cover, vegetation, and environmental conditions.

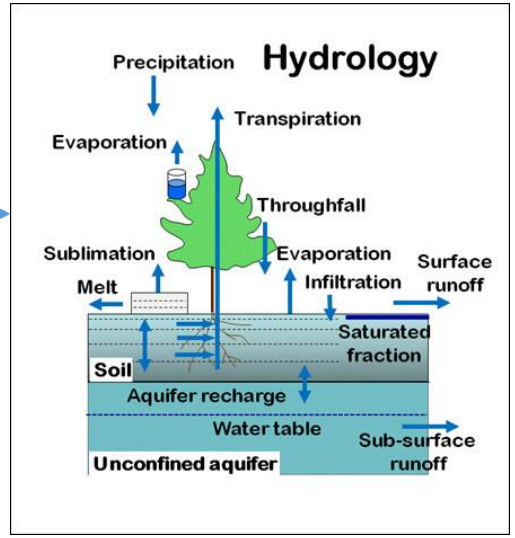


1-4-Climatology: The study of climate, including long-term weather patterns, climate change, and the factors that influence climate such as ocean currents and atmospheric circulation.





1-5-Hydrology: The study of water, including its distribution, movement, quality, and quantity. Hydrologists examine issues related to rivers, lakes, groundwater, and precipitation.



1-6-Cultural Geography: The branch of human geography that studies the cultural aspects of geographic space, including language, religion, ethnicity, and cultural landscapes.

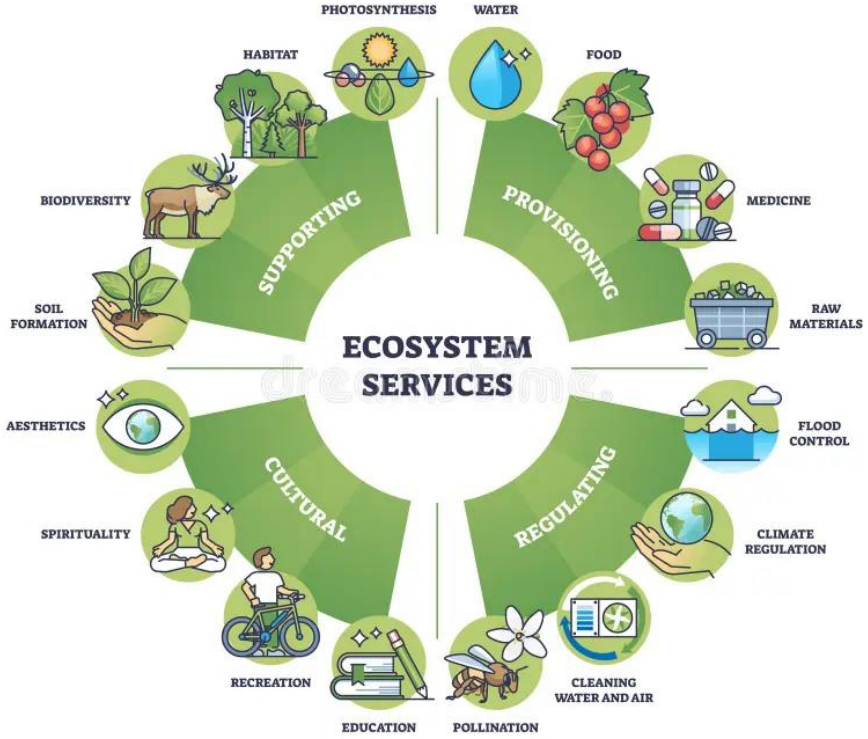
1-7-Urbanization: The process by which an increasing proportion of a population lives in cities and urban areas. Urbanization is often associated with changes in land use, infrastructure development, and social dynamics.

1-8-Population Density: The number of people living in a given area, usually expressed as the number of individuals per square kilometer or square mile.

1-9-Migration: The movement of people from one place to another, whether within a country (internal migration) or across international borders (international migration). It can be driven by factors like economic opportunity, conflict, or environmental change.

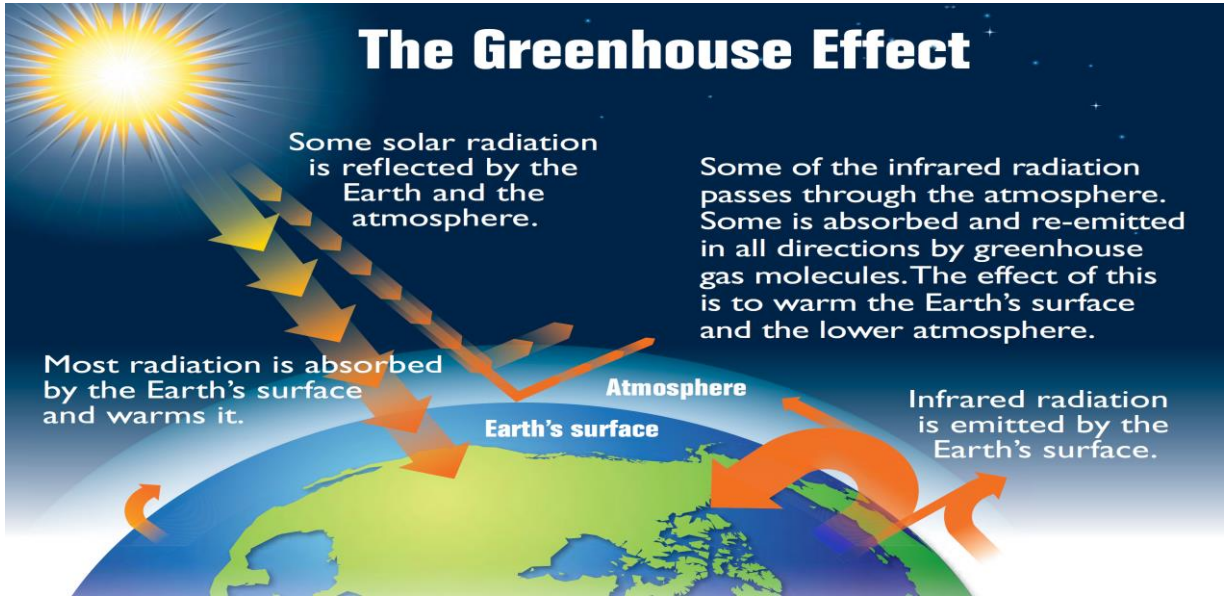
2-Environmental Studies:

2-1-Ecosystem Services: The benefits that humans obtain from ecosystems, including provisioning services (e.g., food and water), regulating services (e.g., climate regulation), supporting services (e.g., nutrient cycles), and cultural services (e.g., recreation and spiritual benefits).



2-2-Deforestation: The clearing of forests, often for agriculture, logging, or urban development, which can have significant environmental and ecological impacts, including loss of biodiversity and disruption of the carbon cycle.

Greenhouse Effect: The natural process by which certain gases in the Earth's atmosphere trap heat from the sun, preventing it from escaping into space. Human activities, such as burning fossil fuels, have enhanced this effect, leading to global warming and climate change.



Sustainable Development: Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It encompasses economic, social, and environmental dimensions.

Ecological Footprint: A measure of the environmental impact of an individual, community, organization, or country in terms of the resources consumed and waste produced, typically expressed in terms of global hectares.

ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

The ecological footprint is a way of measuring human impact on the environment.

DEFINITION

"[Ecological footprint] measures the human impact on the biosphere by estimating the amount of biologically productive land and water area required to sustain the consumption of a population or economic system and to absorb the wastes generated by its production and consumption activity" (Wackernagel & Rees, 1996)

EXAMPLES

- **Transportation:** You use of energy to transport yourself contributes to your ecological footprint.
- **Food production:** The amount of water, land, and other resources used to generate food for you contributes to your ecological footprint.

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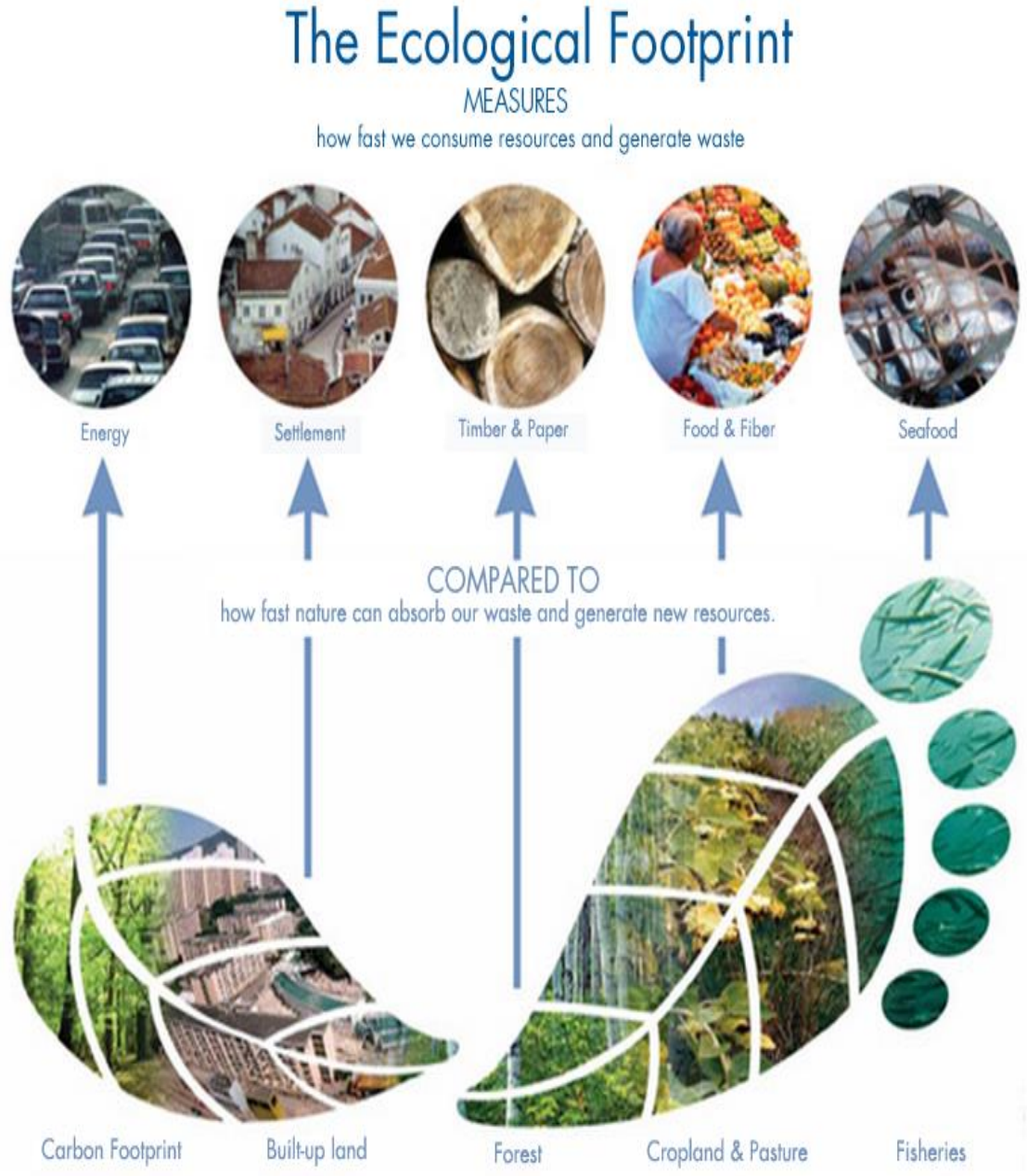
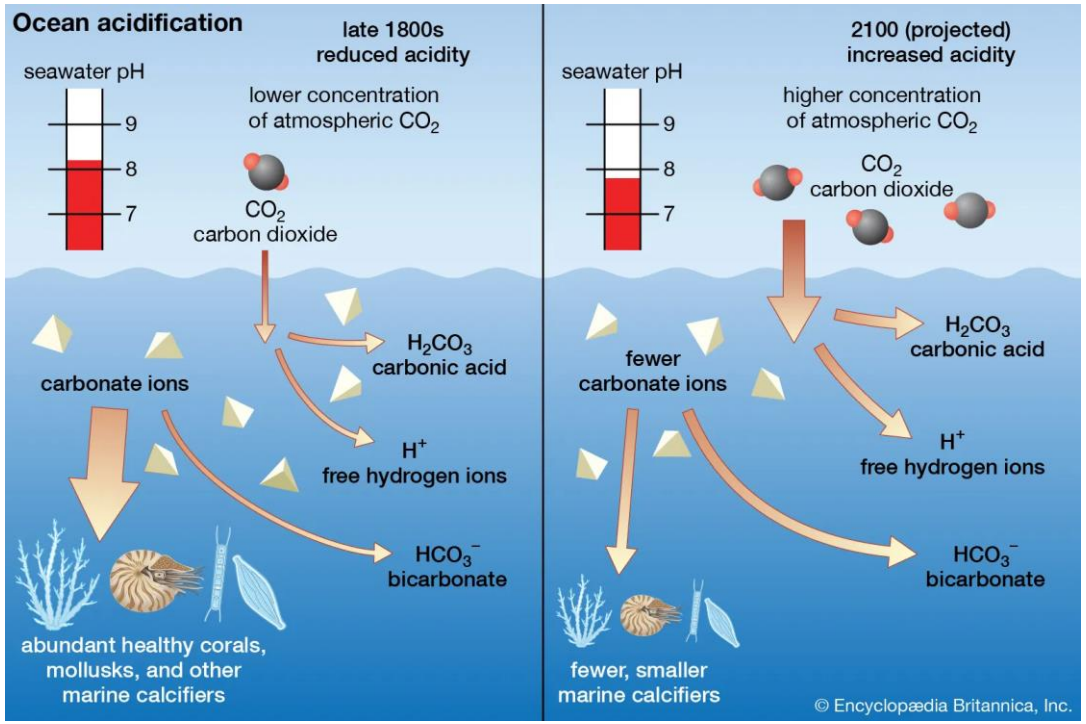
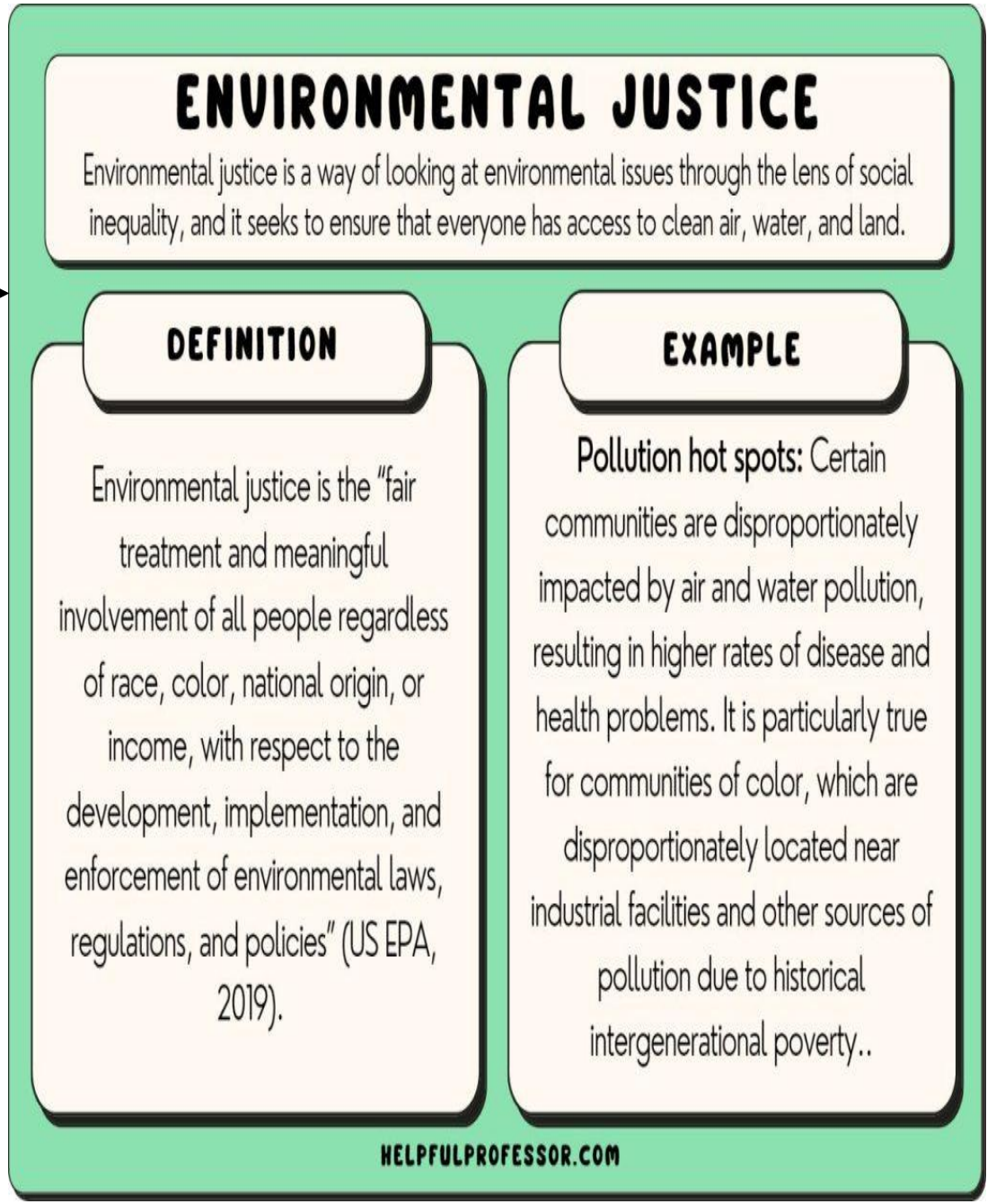


Habitat Destruction: The process of altering or destroying natural habitats, often leading to the displacement or extinction of species. It can result from activities like urbanization, mining, and agriculture.



Ocean Acidification: The ongoing decrease in the pH of the Earth's oceans due to the absorption of excess carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. It has adverse effects on marine life, particularly organisms with calcium carbonate shells or skeletons.

Environmental Justice: The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, in the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.



Eco-Tourism: Tourism that promotes responsible travel to natural areas while conserving the environment and improving the well-being of local communities. It aims to minimize negative impacts on ecosystems.

These terms provide a deeper understanding of the concepts and issues studied in the fields of Geography and Environmental Studies, which are crucial for addressing environmental challenges and managing our planet's resources sustainably.