

UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL
SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL, EARTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
DISCIPLINE OF GEOGRAPHY
EXAMINATION: MAY/JUNE 2012
MODULE NAME & CODE: NATURAL RESOURCES AND SUSTAINABLE LAND USE,
GEOG733

DURATION: 3 HOURS

TOTAL MARKS: 300

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EXTERNAL EXAMINER: PROF S OLDFIELD, UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

INSTRUCTIONS: THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF TWO PAGES.
ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS. ONE FROM SECTION A, ONE FROM
SECTION B, AND ONE FROM EITHER A OR B.
ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS (100)

SECTION A

1. The contemporary approach in conservation in Southern Africa is the creation of parks that are not constrained by national boundaries, but in fact cross them in a way that is promoted as contributing to post-conflict reconstruction in the region (Ramutsindela, 2003). Critically examine this conservation approach, its challenges, socio-ecological effects and potential conflict situations between neighbouring countries, using appropriate case studies.
2. Participatory and community-based approaches are often heralded as the universal remedy to natural resource management initiatives in Southern Africa. However, there has been a marked lack of recognition of the diversity of local resource use and resource users, and of the complexity of livelihood strategies based on natural resources in local environments which are highly variable (Tyler, 2010). Explain this debate and the ways it challenges simplistic perspectives on participation.
3. The pursuit of more sustainable livelihoods in South Africa is bound up with the trade-offs between securing immediate needs and ensuring that future generations inherit a sustainable resource base (McShane and Wells, 2004). Critically analyse the above statement highlighting strategies that can be utilized to strike a balance between securing the needs and conserving natural resources for the future.

SECTION B

4. “Understanding the inherent discontinuities and dynamism of Africa’s drylands recognises that their sustainability is dependent on change and disturbances that temporally diminish valued qualities” (Eriksen and Watson, 2009: 6). Critically discuss this statement.
5. “The sustainability of most non-private protected areas in southern Africa is compromised by a series of threats that emanate from inadequate state funding and too little direct benefit from revenue generated” (Hachileka, 2010: 47). Critically discuss this statement.
6. Explain why rhino poaching has recently accelerated in South Africa and evaluate the measures currently being planned for implementation. Discuss their strengths and weaknesses.
7. Using a specific ancient civilization as a case study, evaluate the lessons for sustainable land use and natural resource management that we can learn from their demise.