

University of Florida: Department of Geography
GEO 3370 / Section 2303: Conservation of Resources
Sample Questions, EXAM #1 (Spring, 2005)

Note: These are intended to give you a basic idea of the type and format of questions that will appear on the first exam. The exam will include short answer questions similar to those below, which should be answered with terms, phrases, or short sentences. There will be approximately 18 questions, of which you will need to select about 14 to answer as directed. Some questions are primarily from lecture material, others are primarily from the readings, and some include material from both lectures and readings.

Short Answer Questions (3 points per question)

Directions: Answer **any fourteen** of the following questions with terms, phrases, or short sentences for a total of 42 points.

*If you answer more than 14 questions, **only the first 14 answered questions will be counted**. Check to be sure you've answered only the questions you want graded.*

- (1) In the video on the Baka, what were the ages (or what was the difference between the ages) of the children of the family in the video? What significance is there to this birth spacing, as discussed in class? *{from class}*

- (2) What is the main physical feature that differentiates a domesticated version of a grain such as einkorn wheat from a wild version of that plant? Identify two additional features in which domesticated plants usually differ from their wild ancestors, as discussed by Diamond and/or in the lectures. *{from class & article}*

- (3) (a) Identify **any three** heat-using industries that were common before the Industrial Revolution. (b) What were the two main sources of power in human societies before the Industrial Revolution (ie, what provided the greatest total amount of power)? *{from class}*

- (4) What key shortage does Wilkinson say was the major factor in the "ecological background" to the industrial revolution? How did this shortage affect: (a) food supply; (b) overland transport? *{from article}*

- (5) (a) Are crude death rates today lower in Mexico or in the US? Briefly explain why. (b) What demographic variable today is most closely correlated with a country's level of economic development (i.e., it varies most consistently from the richest to the poorest countries)? *{from class}*

- (6) Explain briefly the difference in the views of Thomas Malthus and Ester Boserup on the relation between population and food supply. Which view is most supported by the experience of the last 200 years, and what evidence is there over this period to support one or the other view? *{from class}*