UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER MAY 2005

TITLE OF PAPER : INTRODCUTION TO THE HUMAN
                  ENVIRONMENT

COURSE NUMBER : GEP 121

TIME ALLOWED   : THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS   : 1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS.

                  2. PART B IS COMPULSORY.

                  3. <u>PART A: SHORT ANSWERS/ESSAYS</u>
                     (i) ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS, ONE
                         FROM EACH SECTION.
                     (ii) THIS PART CARRIES 60 MARKS.

                  4. <u>PART B: TECHNIQUES AND SKILLS</u>
                     (i) ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS.
                     (ii) THIS PART CARRIES 40 MARKS.

                  4. WHERE APPROPRAITE, ILLUSTRATE
                     YOUR ANSWER WITH EXAMPLES.

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS
BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

PART A : SHORT ANSWERS AND ESSAYS   (60 MARKS)

SECTION A: ANSWER ONE QUESTION FROM THIS SECTION.

QUESTION 1

i) What makes human culture different from learned behavior of other nonhuman animals?   [6 marks]

ii) Justify the statement that 'there is no simple culture.'   [4 marks]

iii) Using examples, explain the mechanisms responsible for spatial-temporal changes in culture.   [20 marks]

QUESTION 2

(i) Explain what we mean by the term 'urbanization.'   [4 marks]

(ii) Outline the main functions of cities.   [6 marks]

(iii) Explain why urban land uses, just like rural ones, vary in intensity and type.   [20 marks]

SECTION B: ANSWER ONE QUESTION

QUESTION 3

(i)   Explain what do exponential models of population describe.

[4 marks]

(ii)   Outline the main characteristics that separate renewable from non-renewable resources.   [6 marks]

(iii) Explain what is meant by the 'tragedy of the commons.'

[5 marks]

(iv) Using examples, describe the global population characteristics and explain the patterns.   [15 marks]

QUESTION 4

(i) 'Major technological disasters seem to occur much less frequently than natural ones. But when they do they have far-reaching consequences.' By reference to specific examples discuss this statement.   [30 marks]

PART B : TECHNIQUES AND SKILLS (40 MARKS)

QUESTION 1

(a) With an aid of examples fully describe the levels / scales of measurement used in geography.   (20 marks)

(b) Using data presented on table 1, on age – sex distribution of population of countries A, B and C (All values given are percentages of the total population) do the following:

(i) Construct an appropriate graphical technique to represent the age – sex distribution of the population of country B.   (15 marks)

(ii) What is percentage of the dependent population in country B?   (2 marks)

(iii) Compare the age – sex distribution of the population of country A with that of country C.   (3 marks)

Table 1: Age – sex distribution of population of countries A, B and C

Age group	Country A		Country B		Country C	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 – 4	8.7	8.5	4.6	4.4	4.7	4.5
5 – 9	7.4	7.2	4.7	4.5	4.9	4.8
10 – 14	6.4	6.2	4.5	4.3	4.8	4.7
15 – 19	5.4	5.3	4.3	4.1	4.3	4.4
20 – 24	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.4	3.6	4.0
25 – 29	3.7	3.6	3.9	3.5	2.9	3.3
30 – 34	3.0	3.0	3.3	3.0	2.7	3.1
35 – 39	2.5	2.5	3.0	2.9	2.9	3.4
40 – 44	2.1	2.1	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.3
45 – 49	1.8	1.8	2.8	2.9	2.8	3.2
50 – 54	1.4	1.5	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.8
55 – 59	1.1	1.2	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.7
60 – 64	0.9	0.9	2.0	2.3	2.2	2.6
65 – 69	0.6	0.7	1.7	2.0	1.7	2.3
70 – 74	0.4	0.5	1.2	1.6	1.1	1.7
75 – 79	0.2	0.3	0.8	1.1	0.7	1.0
80+	0.2	0.2	0.8	1.0	0.4	1.0

Based on information in UN Demographic Yearbook 1975