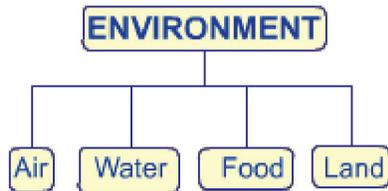


Short Note on Environment

Learning Goals:

- Components of Environment
- Natural Environment
- Man-made Environment
- Ecosystem

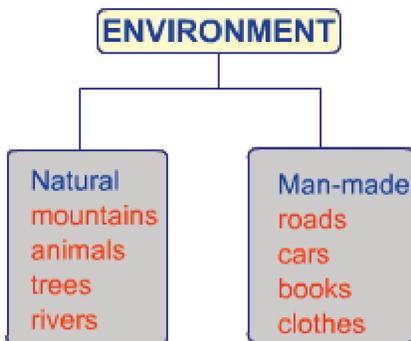
Environment is our basic life support system.



The school building, the chairs and tables of the classroom, the open field, and the friends in your class – all are a part of our environment.

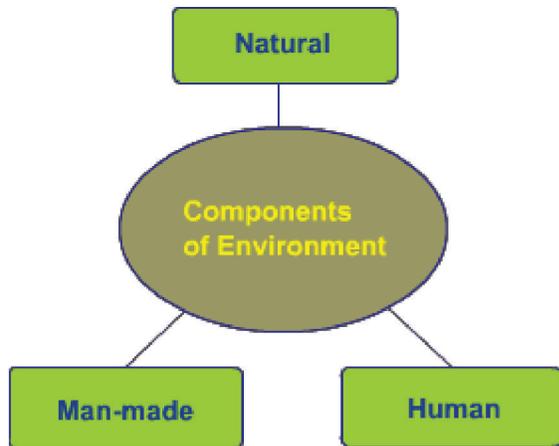
Our environment is constantly changing because of our needs.

Human beings are modifying or destroying the natural environment. The air is polluted by car fumes, water is collected in a pot, food is served in utensils and land is used for building houses and factories. Human beings are the ones who make cars, factories, houses, vessels, pots etc. thereby modifying the environment.



The word environment has its roots in the French word Environer / Environner which means neighbourhood. People, places, things and nature that surround any living organism are called environment.

Environment = natural phenomena + human made phenomena



The natural component of the atmosphere comprises of air, water, land and living things. The natural environment refers to both biotic and abiotic conditions. The biotic conditions consist of the world of living organisms e.g. plants and animals. The abiotic conditions consist of the world of non-living elements like land.

The human made component of the environment are the creations by human beings which include bridges, roads, dams, parks and monument etc.

The human environment consists of the individual and his interactions which include the following:

- Family
- Community
- Religion
- Educational
- Economic and political situations

Human environment reveals activities, creations and interactions among human beings.

Human Environment

The interaction between human beings and environment is a continuous process. The early humans tried to adapt to the environment. They did not change the environment and lived a simple life. With gradual passage of time, they began to change the environment to suit their needs. They developed new methods and technologies to changed the environment as per their need.

The following are the examples of uses / changes made in the environment by human beings:

- Growing crops

- Domesticating Animals
- Leading a Settled Life

Some of the significant changes which helped in progress of human life are: invention of wheel, surplus food production, barter system, trade and commerce, etc. The Industrial Revolution helped in large scale production of goods. In modern times, the information technology has made long distance communication easier and faster across the globe.

A perfect balance and harmony is necessary between the natural environment and the human environment. This is the reason we prefer different foods in different seasons.

But there is a need for perfect balance and harmony between the human environment and natural environment. This is evident in as simple fact as our preference for different food in different seasons.

Do You Know?

- June 5 every year is celebrated as the World Environment Day.