



"Investing in Africa's Future"

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

HES 424 ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS AND HUMAN RESPONSE

END OF SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

APRIL/MAY 2017

LECTURER: G. R. CHIMONYO

DURATION: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do NOT write your name on the answer sheet
 2. Use answer sheets provided
 3. Answer any **THREE (3)** questions
 4. Read and understand all questions before you answer
 5. Where necessary, illustrate your answers with sketches, figures and diagrams
 6. Each question is marked out of 20 marks
 7. Take note of mark distribution in each section of a question
 8. Begin your answer for each question on a new page
 9. Credit is given to neat presentation of answers
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Question One

Examine the factors behind the increased trends in vulnerability to natural hazards in Less Developed Countries over the past 80 or so years.

Question Two

Provide an explanation of the difference between risk assessment and risk perception.

Question Three

Compare and contrast the root causes of vulnerability between the 4th February 1976 Guatemala earthquake disaster and the 19th September 1985 Mexico City earthquake.

Question Four

"Eruptions differ from most other causes of disasters such as earthquakes, hurricanes and floods, in that they cause virtually total destruction of life and property within relatively small areas which can be easily delineated," (Tomblin 1987). Citing specific examples discuss this statement in relation to primary and secondary volcanic hazards.

Question Five

"The Chernobyl accident was the inevitable outcome of a combination of bad design, bad management and bad communication practices in the Soviet nuclear industry," (A. Shlyakhler and R. Wilson, 1992: p.1). In light of this statement review the causes of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

Question Six

Citing one example you have studied, discuss how human enterprise has exacerbated the flood hazard.

Question Seven

"Despite the fact that many government policies and popular ideas on famine tend to blame drought and other natural hazards for causing famine...such explanations are inadequate," (Blackie, Cannon, Davis and Wisner 1994: 76). Discuss.

END OF QUESTION PAPER