International Baccalaureate · IB Diploma · Environmental Systems and Societies · HL

Glossary · every term in the course, A–Z

English

abiotic factor
/ˌæbɪˈɒtɪk ˈfæktə/

acid deposition

adaptation
/ˌædæpˈteɪʃn/

age-sex pyramid

agroforestry

albedo

ammonification
/əˌmɒnɪfɪˈkeɪʃn/

anthropocentric

antinatalist

aquaculture
/ˈækwəkʌltʃə/

aquifer

assimilation
/əˌsɪmɪˈleɪʃn/

atmosphere
/ˈætməsfɪə/

background extinction rate

biocapacity
/ˌbaɪəʊkəˈpæsɪti/

biocentric

biochemical oxygen demand

biodiversity
/ˌbaɪəʊdaɪˈvɜːsɪti/

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English

biodiversity hotspot

biogeochemical cycle

biomagnification
/ˌbaɪəʊˌmægnɪfɪˈkeɪʃn/
biomass
/ˌbaɪəʊˈmæs/
biome
/ˈbaɪəʊm/
biotic factor
/baɪˈɒtɪk ˈfæktə/
biotic index

boundary
/ˈbaʊndəri/
buffer strip

buffer zone

bycatch
/ˈbaɪkætʃ/
cap and trade

captive breeding
/ˈkæptɪv ˈbriːdɪŋ/
capture–mark–release–recapture

carbon capture and storage

carbon tax

carrying capacity
/ˈkæriɪŋ kəˈpæsɪti/
carrying capacity
/ˈkæriɪŋ kəˈpæsɪti/
case law

central environmental inspection

chlorofluorocarbon

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English

circular economy
/ˈsɜːkjʊlə ɪˈkɒnəmi/
CITES

clade
/kleɪd/
climate
/ˈklaɪmət/
climate change
/ˈklaɪmət tʃeɪndʒ/
climax community
/ˈklaɪmæks kəˈmjuːnɪti/
command and control

commercial farming
/kəˈmɜːʃl ˈfɑːmɪŋ/
common but differentiated responsibility

common resource
/ˈkɒmən rɪˈzɔːs/
community
/kəˈmjuːnɪti/
competition
/ˌkɒmpəˈtɪʃn/
composting
/ˈkɒmpɒstɪŋ/
condensation
/kɒndenˈseɪʃn/
consequentialism
/ˌkɒnsɪˈkwenʃɪəlɪzəm/
consumer
/kənˈsuːmə/
contingent valuation

contour ploughing
/ˈkɒntʊə ˈplaʊɪŋ/
controlled variable
/kənˈtrəʊld ˈveərɪəbl/

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convention on Biological Diversity

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species

coral bleaching
/ˈkɒrəl ˈbliːtʃɪŋ/

correlation
/ˌkɒrɪˈleɪʃn/

corridor

corruption

cost-benefit analysis
/kɒst ˈbenɪfɪt əˈnæləsɪs/

counter-urbanisation

cover crop

crop rotation
/krɒp rəʊˈteɪʃn/

crude birth rate
/kruːd bɜːθ reɪt/

crude death rate
/kruːd deθ reɪt/

customary international law

customary rule

daily penalty

Data Deficient

dead zone

decomposer
/ˌdiːkəmˈpəʊzə/

decoupling

deep ecology

degrowth

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English

demographic transition model
/ˌdemə'græfɪk træn'sɪʃn 'mɒdl/

denitrification
/di:ˌnaɪtrɪfɪ'keɪʃn/

density-dependent factor

density-independent factor

deontology
/di:ən'tɒlədʒi/

dependency ratio
/dɪ'pendənsi 'reɪʃɪəʊ/

dependent variable
/dɪ'pendənt 'veərɪəbl/

desalination
/dɪˌsælɪ'neɪʃn/

descriptive

desertification
/dɪˌzɜ:tɪfɪ'keɪʃn/

dichotomous key
/daɪ'kɒtəməs ki:/

discount rate
/'dɪskaʊnt reɪt/

disease
/dɪ'zi:z/

displacement
/dɪ'spleɪsmənt/

distributive justice

doubling time
/'dʌblɪŋ taɪm/

doughnut economics

dynamic equilibrium
/daɪ'næmɪk ˌi:kwɪ'lɪbrɪəm/

eating lower in the food chain

eco-compensation

ecocentric

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English

ecocide

ecological civilisation

ecological economics

ecological efficiency

ecological footprint
/ˌekəˈlɒdʒɪkl ˈfʊtprɪnt/

ecological red line

ecological restoration

economic water scarcity

ecosystem
/ˈiːkəʊsɪstəm/

ecosystem service

edge effect

El Niño
/el ˈniːnjəʊ/

electronic waste

emigration
/ˌemɪˈgreɪʃn/

emissions trading

emissions trading scheme

endemic species

energy mix

energy security

enforcement
/enˈfɔːsmənt/

enhanced greenhouse effect
/enˈhænst ˈgriːnhaʊs ɪˈfekt/

entropy
/ˈentrəpi/

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English

environmental economics

environmental ethics

environmental impact assessment

environmental justice
/enˌvaɪrənˈmentl ˈdʒʌstɪs/

environmental Kuznets curve

environmental law

environmental public interest litigation

environmental value system

erosion
/ɪˈrəʊʒn/

eutrophication
/ˌjuːtrəfɪˈkeɪʃn/

evaporation
/ɪˌvæpəˈreɪʃn/

evapotranspiration

evenness
/ˈiːvənnəs/

evolution
/ɪvəˈluːʃn/

exponential growth
/ˌekspəˈnenʃl grəʊθ/

extensive farming

externality
/ekˈstɜːnælɪti/

feedback
/ˈfiːdbæk/

flagship species

flow
/fləʊ/

flow
/fləʊ/

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English

food chain
/fuːd tʃeɪn/
food security
/fuːd sɪˈkjʊərɪti/
food web
/fuːd web/
fragmentation
/ˌfrægmənˈteɪʃn/
frequency
/ˈfriːkwənsi/
functional unit
/ˈfʌŋkʃənl ˈjuːnɪt/
fundamental niche

genetic diversity
/dʒɪˈnetɪk daɪˈvɜːsɪti/
geoengineering

geographical isolation

global common

grain for Green

Great Smog of London

green growth

Green Revolution
/griːn ˌrevəˈluːʃn/
greenhouse effect
/ˈgriːnhaʊs ɪˈfekt/
greenhouse gas
/ˈgriːnhaʊs gæs/
greywater

gross domestic product
/grəʊs dəˈmestɪk ˈprɒdʌkt/
gross ecosystem product

gross primary productivity
/grəʊs ˈpraɪməri ˌprɒdəkˈtɪvɪti/

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English

gross secondary productivity

Haber process
/ˈheɪbə ˈprəʊses/

habitat
/ˈhæbɪtæt/

habitat diversity

habitat loss
/ˈhæbɪtæt lɒs/

hard law

herbivory

high Seas Treaty

high-yielding variety

horizon

humus
/ˈhjuːməs/

hydroelectric
/ˌhaɪdrəʊɪˈlektrɪk/

hydrological cycle

hypothesis
/haɪˈpɒθəsɪs/

ice-albedo feedback

immigration
/ˌɪmɪˈgreɪʃn/

impermeable surface

incineration
/ɪnˌsɪnəˈreɪʃn/

independent variable
/ˌɪndɪˈpendənt ˈveərɪəbl/

indicator
/ˈɪndɪkeɪtə/

indicator species
/ˈɪndɪkeɪtə ˈspiːsiːz/

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English

indigenous
/ɪn'dɪdʒənəs/
infiltration

informal settlement

information
/ˌɪnfə'meɪʃn/
informed consent
/ɪn'fɔ:md kən'sent/
instrumental value

integrated pest management
/'ɪntɪgreɪtɪd pest 'mænɪdʒmənt/
intensive farming
/ɪn'tensɪv 'fɑ:mɪŋ/
inter-tropical convergence zone

intergenerational equity

intermittent
/ˌɪntə'mɪtənt/
intrinsic value
/ɪn'trɪnsɪk 'vælju:/
invasive species
/ɪn'veɪsɪv 'spi:si:z/
jurisdiction
/ˌdʒʊərɪs'dɪkʃn/
keystone species
/'ki:stəʊn 'spi:si:z/
kigali Amendment

kite diagram

kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Lake Tai

landfill
/'lændfɪl/

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English

leachate
/ˈliːtʃeɪt/
leaching

legal person

liability
/ˌlaɪəˈbɪlɪti/
life cycle assessment
/laɪf ˈsaɪkl əˈsesmənt/
limiting factor
/ˈlɪmɪtɪŋ ˈfæktə/
Lincoln index

loam
/ləʊm/
local protectionism

long-wave radiation

loss and damage

marine protected area

market failure
/ˈmɑːkɪt ˈfeɪlɪə/
market-based instrument

mass extinction

maximum sustainable yield

megacity
/ˈmegəsɪti/
microplastics
/ˌmaɪkrəʊˈplæstɪks/
mitigation
/ˌmɪtɪˈgeɪʃn/
model
/ˈmɒdl/
monoculture
/ˈmɒnəʊkʌltʃə/
Montreal Protocol
/ˌmɒntrɪˈɔːl ˈprəʊtəkɒl/

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English

moral standing

municipal solid waste

mutualism
/ˈmjuːtʃuːəlɪzəm/
natural capital

natural income

natural increase rate

natural resource

natural selection
/ˈnætʃərəl sɪˈlekʃn/
negative feedback
/ˈnegətɪv ˈfiːdbæk/
net primary productivity
/net ˈpraɪməri ˌprɒdəkˈtɪvɪti/
net secondary productivity

net zero

niche
/niːʃ/
nitrification
/ˌnaɪtrɪfɪˈkeɪʃn/
nitrogen fixation
/ˈnaɪtrədʒn fɪkˈseɪʃn/
non-point source

non-renewable
/nɒn rɪˈnjuːəbl/
normative
/ˈnɔːmətɪv/
nuclear
/ˈnjuːklɪə/
null hypothesis
/nʌl haɪˈpɒθəsɪs/
ocean acidification
/ˈəʊʃn əˌsɪdɪfɪˈkeɪʃn/

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English

open system
/ˈəʊpən ˈsɪstəm/
overgrazing
/ˌəʊvəˈgreɪzɪŋ/
overharvesting
/ˌəʊvəˈhɑːvɪstɪŋ/
ozone
/ˈəʊzəʊn/
ozone hole

ozone layer
/ˈəʊzəʊn ˈleɪə/
ozone-depleting substance

parasitism
/ˈpærəsɪtɪzəm/
Paris Agreement

particulate matter
/pəˈtɪkjʊleɪt ˈmætə/
payment for ecosystem service

percentage cover

percolation

permafrost

perspective
/pəˈspektɪv/
photochemical smog
/ˌfəʊtəʊˈkemɪkl smɒg/
photosynthesis
/ˌfəʊtəʊˈsɪnθəsɪs/
physical water scarcity

pigouvian tax
/pɪˈguːvɪən tæks/
pioneer species
/paɪəˈnɪə ˈspiːsiːz/
plagioclimax

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English

planetary boundary

point source
/pɔɪnt sɔːs/
pollutant load
/pəˈluːtənt ləʊd/
polluter pays principle

pollution
/pəˈluːʃn/
polyculture

population
/ˌpɒpjʊˈleɪʃn/
population density
/ˌpɒpjʊˈleɪʃn ˈdensɪti/
porosity
/pɔːˈrɒsɪti/
positive feedback
/ˈpɒzɪtɪv ˈfiːdbæk/
precautionary principle

predation
/prɪˈdeɪʃn/
prevention principle

primary pollutant

primary succession
/ˈpraɪməri səkˈseʃn/
procedural justice

producer
/prəˈdjuːsə/
productivity
/ˌprɒdəkˈtɪvɪti/
pronatalist

protected area

public good
/ˈpʌblɪk gʊd/
public participation

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English

pull factor

push factor
/pʊʃ ˈfæktə/
pyramid of biomass

pyramid of numbers

pyramid of productivity

quadrat
/ˈkwɒdræt/
questionnaire

quota
/ˈkwəʊtə/
ramsar Convention

random
/ˈrændəm/
random error
/ˈrændəm ˈerə/
random sampling
/ˈrændəm ˈsæmplɪŋ/
range of tolerance
/reɪndʒ ɒv ˈtɒlərəns/
rare earth element

ratify

realised niche

rebound effect

rebound effect

reciprocity
/rɪsɪˈprɒsɪti/
recycling

Red List

red tide

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English

regulation
/ˌregjʊ'leɪʃn/
reintroduction

reliability
/rɪˌlaɪə'bɪlɪti/
renewable
/rɪ'nju:əbl/
replacement level
/rɪ'pleɪsmənt 'levl/
representative
/ˌreprɪ'zentətɪv/
reproductive strategy

research question
/rɪ'sɜ:tʃ 'kwestʃn/
residence time

resilience
/rɪ'sɪlɪəns/
resource
/rɪ'zɔ:s/
resource security

respiration
/ˌrespɪ'reɪʃn/
rewilding

salinisation

sample
/'sæmpl/
secondary pollutant

secondary succession
/'sekəndəri sək'seʃn/
seed bank
/si:d bæŋk/
seral stage

sere

short-wave radiation

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English

sigmoid curve

Simpson's reciprocal index

sink
/sɪŋk/
social cost
/ˈsəʊʃl kɒst/
social cost of carbon

soft law

soil
/sɔɪl/
soil degradation

soil texture

solar
/ˈsəʊlə/
source
/sɔːs/
sovereign

spearman's rank
correlation coefficient
/ˈspɪəmənz ræŋk ˌkɒrɪˈleɪʃn ˌkəʊɪˈfɪʃənt/
speciation
/ˌspiːʃiˈeɪʃn/
species
/ˈspiːsiːz/
species diversity

species richness
/ˈspiːsiːz ˈrɪtʃnəs/
sponge city

standard deviation
/ˈstændəd ˌdiːvɪˈeɪʃn/
statute

steady-state economy

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steady-state equilibrium

stock
/stɒk/
storage
/'stɔ:rɪdʒ/
stratified sampling
/'strætɪfaɪd 'sæmplɪŋ/
stratosphere
/'strætəsfɪə/
strong sustainability

subsistence farming
/sʌb'sɪstəns 'fɑ:mɪŋ/
substitution
/ˌsʌbstɪ'tju:ʃn/
succession
/sək'seʃn/
survivorship curve
/sə'vaɪvəʃɪp kɜ:v/
sustainability
/səˌsteɪnə'bɪlɪti/
sustainable city

sustainable development
/sə'steɪnəbl dɪ'veləpmənt/
sustainable intensification

sweet wormwood

system
/'sɪstəm/
systematic
/ˌsɪstə'mætɪk/
systematic error
/ˌsɪstə'mætɪk 'erə/
systematic sampling
/ˌsɪstə'mætɪk 'sæmplɪŋ/
technocentric

tectonic plate
/tek'tɒnɪk pleɪt/

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temperature inversion

terracing
/ˈterɪsɪŋ/
the Way follows nature

thermal pollution
/ˈθɜːml pəˈluːʃn/
thermohaline circulation

tipping point

topsoil

total economic value

total fertility rate
/ˈtəʊtl fɜːˈtɪlɪti reɪt/
tragedy of the commons
/ˈtrædʒədi ɒvðə ˈkɒmənz/
transboundary

transect
/trænˈsekt/
transfer
/ˈtrænsfɜː/
transformation
/trænsfɔːˈmeɪʃn/
transpiration
/trænspəˈreɪʃn/
treaty

tricellular model

trophic level
/ˈtrəʊfɪk ˈlevl/
troposphere
/ˈtrɒpəsfɪə/
tropospheric ozone

ultraviolet
/ˌʊltrəˈvaɪəlɪt/
UN Convention on the Law
of the Sea

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English

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

uncertainty
/ʌnˈsɜːtənti/

unity of heaven and humanity

upwelling
/ˈʌpwəlɪŋ/

urban heat island
/ˈɜːbən hiːt ˈaɪlənd/

urban planning

urban sprawl
/ˈɜːbən sprɔːl/

urbanisation
/ˌɜːbənaɪˈzeɪʃn/

validity
/væˈlɪdɪti/

value
/ˈvæljuː/

virtual water

virtue ethics
/ˈvɜːtʃuː ˈeθɪks/

volatile organic compound

waste hierarchy

water footprint

water security
/ˈwɔːtə sɪˈkjʊərɪti/

water stress
/ˈwɔːtə stres/

weak monitoring

weak sustainability

weather
/ˈweðə/

weathering
/ˈweðərɪŋ/

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English

willingness to pay
/ˈwɪlɪŋnəs tə peɪ/
wind
/wɪnd/
worldview

yangtze River Protection Law

yield
/jiːld/
zonation

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