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

Glossary · every term in the course, A–Z

English

abiotic factor
/ˌæbɪˈɒtɪk ˈfæktə/

acid deposition

adaptation
/ˌædæpˈteɪʃn/

age-sex pyramid

agroforestry

albedo

ammonification
/əˌmæməˌnɪfɪˈkeɪʃn/

anthropocentric

antinatalist

aquaculture
/ˈækwəkʌltʃə/

aquifer

assimilation
/əˌsɪmɪˈleɪʃn/

atmosphere
/ˈætməsfɪə/

background extinction rate

biocapacity
/ˌbaɪəʊkəˈpæsɪti/

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

carbon capture and storage

carbon tax

carrying capacity
/ˈkæriɪŋ kəˈpæsɪti/
carrying capacity
/ˈkæriɪŋ kəˈpæsɪti/
chlorofluorocarbon

circular economy
/ˈsɜːkjʊlə ɪˈkɒnəmi/
climate
/ˈklaɪmət/
climate change
/ˈklaɪmət tʃeɪndʒ/

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English

climax community
/ˈklaɪmæks kəˈmjuːnɪti/
commercial farming
/kəˈmɜːʃl ˈfɑːmɪŋ/
common resource
/ˈkɒmən rɪˈzɔːs/
community
/kəˈmjuːnɪti/
competition
/ˌkɒmpəˈtɪʃn/
composting
/ˈkɒmpɒstɪŋ/
condensation
/kɒndenˈseɪʃn/
consumer
/kənˈsuːmə/
contour ploughing
/ˈkɒntʊə ˈplaʊɪŋ/
controlled variable
/kənˈtrəʊld ˈveərɪəbl/
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
coral bleaching
/ˈkɒrəl ˈbliːtʃɪŋ/
correlation
/ˌkɒrɪˈleɪʃn/
corridor
counter-urbanisation
cover crop
crop rotation
/krɒp rəʊˈteɪʃn/
crude birth rate
/kruːd bɜːθ reɪt/
crude death rate
/kruːd deθ reɪt/
Data Deficient

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English

dead zone

decomposer
/ˌdi:kəm'pəʊzə/

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

denitrification
/di:ˌnaɪtrɪfɪ'keɪʃn/

density-dependent factor

density-independent factor

dependency ratio
/dɪ'pendənsi 'reɪʃɪəʊ/

dependent variable
/dɪ'pendənt 'veərɪəbl/

desalination
/dɪˌsælɪ'neɪʃn/

desertification
/dɪˌzɜ:tɪfɪ'keɪʃn/

dichotomous key
/daɪ'kɒtəməs ki:/

disease
/dɪ'zi:z/

doubling time
/'dʌblɪŋ taɪm/

doughnut economics

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

eating lower in the food chain

ecocentric

ecological efficiency

ecological footprint
/ˌekə'lɒdʒɪkl 'fʊtprɪnt/

ecological restoration

economic water scarcity

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English

ecosystem
/ˈiːkəʊsɪstəm/
ecosystem service

edge effect

El Niño
/el ˈniːnjəʊ/
electronic waste

emigration
/ˌemɪˈgreɪʃn/
emissions trading scheme

endemic species

energy mix

energy security

enhanced greenhouse effect
/enˈhænst ˈgriːnhaʊs ɪˈfekt/

entropy
/ˈentrəpi/
environmental impact assessment

environmental value system

erosion
/ɪˈrəʊʒn/
eutrophication
/ˌjuːtrəfɪˈkeɪʃn/
evaporation
/ɪˌvæpəˈreɪʃn/
evapotranspiration

evenness
/ˈiːvənnəs/
evolution
/ɪvəˈluːʃn/
exponential growth
/ˌekspəˈnenʃl grəʊθ/

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English

extensive farming

feedback
/ˈfiːdbæk/
flagship species

flow
/fləʊ/
flow
/fləʊ/
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

Great Smog of London

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

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/

herbivory

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/

infiltration

informal settlement

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English

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

intermittent
/ˌɪntə'mɪtənt/
intrinsic value
/ɪn'trɪnsɪk 'vælju:/
invasive species
/ɪn'veɪsɪv 'spi:si:z/
keystone species
/'ki:stəʊn 'spi:si:z/
kite diagram

Lake Tai

landfill
/'lændfɪl/
leachate
/'li:tʃeɪt/
leaching

life cycle assessment
/laɪf 'saɪkl ə'sesmənt/
limiting factor
/'lɪmɪtɪŋ 'fæktə/
Lincoln index

loam
/ləʊm/
long-wave radiation

marine protected area

mass extinction

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English

maximum sustainable yield

megacity
/ˈmegəsɪti/

microplastics
/ˌmaɪkrəʊˈplæstɪks/

mitigation
/ˌmɪtɪˈgeɪʃn/

model
/ˈmɒdl/

monoculture
/ˈmɒnəʊkʌltʃə/

Montreal Protocol
/ˌmɒntrɪˈɔːl ˈprəʊtəkɒl/

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/

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English

non-point source

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

percolation

permafrost

perspective
/pəˈspektɪv/
photochemical smog
/ˌfəʊtəʊˈkemɪkl smɒg/
photosynthesis
/ˌfəʊtəʊˈsɪnθəsɪs/

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English

physical water scarcity

pioneer species
/paɪəˈnɪə ˈspiːsiːz/
plagioclimax

planetary boundary

point source
/pɔɪnt sɔːs/
pollutant load
/pəˈluːtənt ləʊd/
pollution
/pəˈluːʃn/
polyculture

population
/ˌpɒpjʊˈleɪʃn/
population density
/ˌpɒpjʊˈleɪʃn ˈdensɪti/
positive feedback
/ˈpɒzɪtɪv ˈfiːdbæk/
predation
/prɪˈdeɪʃn/
primary pollutant

primary succession
/ˈpraɪməri səkˈseʃn/
producer
/prəˈdjuːsə/
productivity
/ˌprɒdəkˈtɪvɪti/
pronatalist

protected area

pull factor

push factor
/pʊʃ ˈfæktə/
pyramid of biomass

pyramid of numbers

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English

pyramid of productivity

quadrat
/ˈkwɒdræt/
questionnaire

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

realised niche

rebound effect

recycling

Red List

red tide

reintroduction

reliability
/rɪˌlaɪəˈbɪlɪti/
renewable
/rɪˈnjuːəbl/
replacement level
/rɪˈpleɪsmənt ˈlevl/
representative
/ˌreprɪˈzentətɪv/
reproductive strategy

research question
/rɪˈsɜːtʃ ˈkwestʃn/
residence time

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English

resilience
/rɪˈsɪlɪəns/
resource
/rɪˈzɔːs/
resource security

respiration
/ˌrespɪˈreɪʃn/
rewilding

salinisation

sample
/ˈsæmpl/
secondary pollutant

secondary succession
/ˈsekəndəri səkˈseʃn/
seed bank
/siːd bæŋk/
seral stage

sere

short-wave radiation

sigmoid curve

Simpson's reciprocal index

sink
/sɪŋk/
soil
/sɔɪl/
soil degradation

soil texture

solar
/ˈsəʊlə/
source
/sɔːs/

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English

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/
steady-state equilibrium

stock
/stɒk/
storage
/ˈstɔːrɪdʒ/
stratified sampling
/ˈstrætɪfaɪd ˈsæmplɪŋ/
stratosphere
/ˈstrætəsfɪə/
subsistence farming
/sʌbˈsɪstəns ˈfɑːmɪŋ/
substitution
/ˌsʌbstɪˈtjuːʃn/
succession
/səkˈseʃn/
survivorship curve
/səˈvaɪvəʃɪp kɜːv/
sustainability
/səˌsteɪməˈbɪlɪti/
sustainable city

sustainable development
/səˈsteɪməbl dɪˈveləpmənt/
sustainable intensification

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English

sweet wormwood

system
/ˈsɪstəm/
systematic
/ˌsɪstəˈmætɪk/
systematic error
/ˌsɪstəˈmætɪk ˈerə/
systematic sampling
/ˌsɪstəˈmætɪk ˈsæmplɪŋ/
technocentric

tectonic plate
/tekˈtɒnɪk pleɪt/
temperature inversion

terracing
/ˈterɪsɪŋ/
thermal pollution
/ˈθɜːml pəˈluːʃn/
thermohaline circulation

tipping point

topsoil

total fertility rate
/ˈtəʊtl fɜːˈtɪlɪti reɪt/
tragedy of the commons
/ˈtrædʒədi ɒvðə ˈkɒmənz/
transect
/trænˈsekt/
transfer
/ˈtrænsfɜː/
transformation
/trænsfɔːˈmeɪʃn/
transpiration
/trænspəˈreɪʃn/
tricellular model

trophic level
/ˈtrəʊfɪk ˈlevl/

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English

troposphere
/ˈtrɒpəsfɪə/
tropospheric ozone

ultraviolet
/ˌʊltrəˈvaɪəlɪt/
uncertainty
/ʌnˈsɜːtənti/
upwelling
/ˈʌpwəlɪŋ/
urban heat island
/ˈɜːbən hiːt ˈaɪlənd/
urban planning

urban sprawl
/ˈɜːbən sprɔːl/
urbanisation
/ˌɜːbənaɪˈzeɪʃn/
validity
/væˈlɪdɪti/
value
/ˈvælju:/
virtual water

volatile organic compound

waste hierarchy

water footprint

water security
/ˈwɔːtə sɪˈkjʊərɪti/
water stress
/ˈwɔːtə stres/
weather
/ˈweðə/
weathering
/ˈweðərɪŋ/
wind
/wɪnd/
worldview

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English

yield
/ji:ld/
zonation

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