

Forests Through Time and Space: January 12, 2005 Quiz and Study Questions for Week 2, Winter Quarter

Quiz Questions

These questions are due in class on January 19, when we will collect and evaluate them (20 points total), as last quarter. Type your answers. Do not discuss your answers with anyone once you have begun working on them.

1. Incorporating your knowledge of vicariance, dispersal, and the predictions of island biogeography theory, how do you think the species richness and diversity of the Seychelles compare to that of Madagascar? Give specific evidence of your thought process. You may want to consult the following site for more information on the Seychelles:
http://www.phelsumania.com/public/articles/biogeography_plateau_1.html
2. Give three examples of how Malagasy cultural traditions have impacted Madagascar's forests. For each, explain the nature of the impact: Have they been positive or negative, in what ways, under what conditions, and to what extent. For each example, address whether its impact has always been like this (consider the tragedy of the commons in your answer).

Study Questions

Due January 19, when we will be discussing your answers in class. These do not need to be typed, and you will not be handing them in now (but they will go into your portfolio for us to assess at the end of the term).

1. What is the evidence that Madagascar was once completely forested? The evidence against?
2. What are some of the reasons that accurate estimates of previous forest cover and rates of deforestation are so difficult to come by in Madagascar?
3. Give four causes of nutrients loss from Malagasy forests when they undergo *tavy* agriculture.
4. Give two real examples of Malagasy forest products that are usually sustainably harvested, and two that are not. For each example, explain how it is used, how important it is to the people who harvest it, whether they are the end user (and if not, how the product benefits future users), and the ecological impact on the forest.
5. Pick a Malagasy species that is currently CITES listed, and describe what specifically is putting this species at risk. (To find listed species, go to <http://www.cites.org/index.html>, click on Species Database (under Resources), search by Madagascar.)