Notes on Environment Science-2024, Gyan Sanchay CSJM University Kanpur

1. What are renewable materials?

Answer: Renewable materials are natural resources that can be replenished or regenerated over time, such as wood, bamboo, cork, and natural fibers like cotton or wool.

- 2. Give two examples of renewable materials used in construction. *Answer:* Bamboo and recycled wood are renewable materials commonly used in construction for their sustainability and strength.
- 3. Why are renewable materials important? *Answer:* Renewable materials reduce reliance on finite resources, minimize environmental impact, and promote sustainable practices in industries like construction, fashion, and energy production.
- 4. What is the difference between renewable and non-renewable materials? *Answer:* Renewable materials regenerate naturally over time (e.g., bamboo, cotton), while non-renewable materials, such as metals and fossil fuels, are finite and deplete with use.
- 5. **Name one renewable material used in bioplastics.** *Answer:* Cornstarch is a renewable material often used in the production of biodegradable bioplastics.
- 6. How does the use of renewable materials contribute to sustainable development? *Answer:* Using renewable materials reduces waste, conserves energy, lowers carbon footprints, and supports eco-friendly industrial practices, ensuring resources are available for future generations.

Short-answer questions with answers related to the **role of mechanical engineering in waste segregation and management**:

- 1. What is the role of mechanical engineering in waste management? *Answer:* Mechanical engineering designs and develops machines and systems for efficient waste segregation, recycling, composting, and disposal.
- 2. Name a mechanical process used in waste segregation. *Answer:* Mechanical processes like magnetic separation are used to segregate metals from mixed waste.
- 3. **How does mechanical engineering improve recycling efficiency?** *Answer:* Mechanical engineering improves recycling efficiency by designing shredders, crushers, and balers that prepare materials like plastic and metals for reprocessing.

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- 4. What is the importance of automation in waste segregation? *Answer:* Automation, enabled by mechanical engineering, speeds up waste sorting, reduces human intervention, and increases accuracy, as seen in conveyor-based segregation systems.
- 5. Give an example of mechanical equipment used in waste management. *Answer:* A trommel screen is used to separate waste by size, sorting materials into categories like organic matter and recyclables.
- 6. **How do mechanical engineers contribute to landfill management?** *Answer:* Mechanical engineers design landfill compactors and leachate management systems to optimize space and reduce environmental contamination.
- 7. What role does mechanical engineering play in waste-to-energy systems? *Answer:* Mechanical engineers design and maintain incinerators, turbines, and biogas plants that convert waste into usable energy like electricity and heat.

short answer questions on ecofriendly Nanomaterials

- 1. What are eco-friendly nanomaterials? *Answer:* Eco-friendly nanomaterials are nanoscale materials that are sustainable, nontoxic, and environmentally friendly, used in applications like water purification, energy storage, and green construction.
- 2. Give two examples of eco-friendly nanomaterials. *Answer:* Examples include cellulose nanofibers (from plants) and graphene (a carbon-based material).
- 3. **How are eco-friendly nanomaterials used in water purification?** *Answer:* Nanomaterials like silver nanoparticles and titanium dioxide are used to remove contaminants, disinfect water, and degrade pollutants through photocatalysis.
- 4. What makes nanomaterials eco-friendly? *Answer:* Eco-friendly nanomaterials are biodegradable, non-toxic, and derived from renewable resources, causing minimal environmental harm during production and use.

- 5. Name one application of eco-friendly nanomaterials in renewable energy. *Answer:* Graphene-based nanomaterials are used in the production of solar cells and supercapacitors for efficient energy storage.
- 6. **How do eco-friendly nanomaterials contribute to sustainable agriculture?** *Answer:* They are used in smart fertilizers and pesticides, releasing nutrients and chemicals in a controlled manner to minimize environmental impact.
- 7. What is the role of nanomaterials in reducing pollution? Answer: Nanomaterials like carbon nanotubes and metal oxides are used in air and water filtration systems to remove pollutants and improve environmental quality.