

**IV SEMESTER DIPLOMA EXAMINATION IN SECRETARIAL PRACTICE**

**WORD PROCESSING II**

**Part A – Speed Test**

MODEL QUESTION PAPER

*Duration : 10 Minutes*

*Marks : 25*

Soil conservation

Soil conservation is the collective efforts of groups or individuals to improve the quality of the soil and minimize erosion and other negative events. For example, soil that is eroding can be made healthier by planting plants and grass to keep it from washing away. Soil conservation is generally accomplished with a variety of management techniques. Some of these including managing surface runoff, protecting exposed soil and protecting downstream watercourses from pollution and sedimentation. Soil conservation can ensure that soil is its most productive for the food supply and ensures that the habitats of area wildlife are maintained while protecting water from pollution.

Three methods of soil conservation include the prevention of soil erosion, reducing tillage and rotational grazing to prevent overgrazing. Soil conservation and water conservation are achieved simultaneously and go hand-in-hand. Soil erosion is a leading issue to consider when maintaining healthy soil, either for farming practices or sustaining livestock. Wind and water runoff can cause soil erosion, and it is therefore important to ensure that grass and plant life are abundant and no physical or chemical degradation occurs. Tillage can negatively affect

soil when crops are not properly rotated or when nutrients are not properly released back into the soil, causing the soil to become compacted. By rotating crop cycles and recycling nutrients back into the soil, tillage can be delayed or avoided.

Rotational grazing can also prevent soil erosion by eliminating or decreasing the risk of overgrazing in one area. Giving livestock access to open pastures can also help. Other important factors to consider involve water conservation and proper irrigation techniques. This can include mulching, irrigation scheduling, nutrient monitoring and nutrient management. Nutrient management can ensure that soil contains the proper elements to allow for optimal absorption of water, either from rainfall or man-made irrigation.

\*\*\*\*\*