**UNIT SUMMARY**

1. What is the difference between weather and climate?
2. What effect does Earth’s rotation have on atmospheric circulation and ocean currents?
3. In what ways are atmospheric and oceanic circulation patterns similar? How are they different?
4. Explain the forces that drive global circulation patterns and how those patterns determine weather and climate.
5. What are some ways that humans use and impact terrestrial biomes?
6. What characteristics of a terrestrial biome determine its productivity?
7. Describe the characteristics of the major terrestrial biomes.
8. What are the different zones of lakes and the open ocean? What defines these zones?
9. How does water depth or flow influence the organisms that live in an aquatic biome?
10. Describe the characteristics of the major aquatic biomes.
11. Describe the formation of Earth and the distribution of critical elements on Earth.
12. Describe the theory of plate tectonics and discuss its importance in environmental science.
13. Explain how earthquakes and volcanoes are caused.
14. Distinguish between weathering and erosion. Explain the importance of each process.
15. Describe the rock cycle and discuss its importance in environmental science.
16. Explain how soil forms and describe its characteristics.
17. How do a soil’s physical and chemical properties influence its role as a medium for plant growth?
18. Identify Earth’s natural sources of water. Identify some notable examples of water sources.
19. What is the difference between a confined and an unconfined aquifer?
20. How do human activities worsen the effects of drought and floods?
21. Discuss the ways in which humans manage water distribution. Identify specific methods and the purpose of each.
22. Explain the purpose and process of water desalinization.
23. Describe the major human uses of water.
24. Compare the different methods of irrigation and their associated influences on water use.
25. Identify the factors that will affect the future availability of water.