

Global Change Questions

Use complete sentences to answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper. You may type your work if you wish. Staple this sheet on top of your work.

1. What is the extent of deforestation globally; where and how rapidly is it occurring?
2. What is the basic reason for clearing forests, and what are five consequences of that clearing?
3. Name a few ways that forests can still be exploited or utilized for their resources, yet still preserve most of their vital functions.
4. What is the global pattern of exploitation of fisheries; how does the New England fishery exhibit some of the worst problems of exploitation?
5. What countries are pressuring (or have pressured) the International Whaling Commission (IWC) to reopen commercial whaling, and what is their rationale for resuming the killing?
6. Compare and contrast the terms *conservation* and *preservation*.
7. Contrast the different levels of ecosystem protection given to public lands in the United States.
8. How do land trusts work, and what role do they play in preserving natural lands?
9. To what degree has energy conservation served to mitigate energy dependency? What are some prime examples of energy conservation? To what degree may conservation alleviate future energy shortages and the cost of developing alternatives?
10. Does our National Park system encompass enough area, or should it be expanded? Either way, defend your answer. If you believe the system should be expanded, propose some new areas to be added. What are some of the negative consequences of an expansion of the National Park system?

The Greenhouse Effect

11. What is the greenhouse effect? Make a labeled sketch of the Earth and its atmosphere to accompany your description of the greenhouse effect.
12. What are greenhouse gases? Provide examples of greenhouse gases, including ones not included in the activity.
13. What are some natural sources of greenhouse gases? What are some anthropogenic sources of greenhouse gases.
14. How are the greenhouse effect and climate change connected?
15. Use the internet to do some simple research on climate change. Be sure to rely on scientific, peer-reviewed, or government sites for your information. What is the scientific consensus on the potential short-term and long-term effects of climate change?
16. In a paragraph, use the data provided and analyze the results to draw a conclusion about the effects of the three different greenhouse gases studied.