

AP Environmental Science Summer Assignment

Welcome to AP Environmental Science (APES)! I am so excited for next year, and I hope you are too! The purpose of this summer assignment is three-fold. First, it will help you become aware of the environment and many of the ongoing concerns related to it. Second, it will help us to cover the information required for the AP exam next May. Third, it will hopefully inspire you so that you come ready to learn about all of the great topics we'll cover next year. If you have any questions about this work over the summer, please feel free to email me, but give me a few days leeway to get back to you since I am out of town a lot this summer! Thanks in advance for the time you put in and know that I'm picking the most important things for you to work on since I want you to have plenty of time to enjoy summer too!

ASSIGNMENT #1: 50 points

CURRENT EVENTS: ENVIRONMENTAL ARTICLES SUMMARIES &

REFLECTIONS Find two articles that have been published this summer 2019 (from

- Each article should be about a different environmental issue.
- May-August). Examples: chemical contamination, climate change, pollution, deforestation, overpopulation, endangered species, invasive species, pesticides, habitat destruction
- Include a hard copy of each article (either printed out, photocopied, or cut out) OR include the hyperlink to the URL if you found it online.
 - Sources can include scientific publications, journals, newspapers like the *NY Times*, *National Geographic*, *The Wall Street Journal* (aim high - the more scholarly the better).
 - o Online newspapers or journals or .gov, .edu. or .org sites are okay too.
 - Include a Works Cited at the end of your reflections (MLA or APA is fine).

For each article please address the following criteria in at least 1/2 page single-spaced per article.

1. Summarize the content of the article **in your own words**.
 - a. Focus on the following questions:
 - i. What is the problem? When did it begin?
 - ii. Do we know who are the responsible parties? If so, who is it?
 - iii. How severe is the environmental impact?
2. Reflect on or write your personal reaction to the article.
 - a. Focus on the following questions.
 - i. What are your thoughts on the issue?
 - ii. How does it compare to information you have heard or read before? Does it support/refute what you know or thought you knew?
 - iii. What other information would be helpful for you to better understand the environmental impacts?
 1. Are there words/concepts you don't understand?
 2. Do you know who to trust in regards to "the facts" presented?

ASSIGNMENT #2: 100 points ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION

Construct a table like my example that organizes important information regarding environmental legislation for the laws/treaties listed below. Include the following information:

- Name of Law or Treaty
- Draft Year and Amendment Years
- Is it International or National (just the U.S)
- Describe the Function.
- What Environmental Issues are Affected by this Legislation?
- Agency/Group Responsible for Regulation and Enforcement (United Nations, Department of Interior, EPA, etc.)

Name	Draft & Amendment Year(s)	International or US?	Description	Issue(s) Affected	Agency
Clean Air Act	1963, 1977, 1990	US	To monitor and control air pollutants such as sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, ozone, lead, carbon dioxide, volatile organic compounds, mercury. Meant to protect public welfare and health and to regulate emissions of dangerous air pollutants.	Air pollution, human health	EPA

Table Hints:

- You may find it easier to do this in landscape orientation.
- You can use your textbook or online SCHOLARLY resources (Wikipedia is not reliable) to find the information. Since these are governmental in nature, .gov sites are best!

*****You will have a QUIZ on this material the first/second week of school, so be prepared! *****

Clean Air Act (CAA)	Hardrock Mining & Reclamation Act	Occupational Safety & Health Act (OSHA)
Clean Water Act (CWA)	Healthy Forests Initiative (HFI)	Ocean Dumping Ban Act
Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation Liability Act (CERCLA)	Kyoto Protocol	Oil Pollution Act (OPA)
Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)	Lacey Act (1900)	Oil Spill Prevention & Liability Act
Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFÉ standards)	Law of the Sea Convention (UNCLOS)	Pollution Prevention Act (PPA)
Endangered Species Act (ESA)	Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA)	Refuse Act
Energy Independence & Security Act	Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA)	Resource Conservation & Recovery Act (RCRA)
Energy Policy Act	Montreal Protocol	Safe Drinking Water Act
Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA, FDCA, or FD&C)	National Energy Act	Soil & Water Conservation Act
Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)	National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	Solid Waste Disposal Act
Federal Water Pollution Control Act	National Wildlife Refuge System Act	Surface Mining Control & Reclamation Act (SMCRA)
Fish and Wildlife Act	Noise Control Act	Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
General Mining Act of 1872	Nuclear Waste Policy Act (NWPA)	Wilderness Act

ASSIGNMENT #3: 50 points**BE AWARE OF AND ENJOY NATURE**

Visit a natural area, go for a walk, sit in your backyard, go to a park or the beach or anywhere outside (get the point?) and make some observations!

- Record the date, time, duration, and location of your outing.
- Record observations on the following things:
 - o Flora (plants)
 - o Fauna (animals, fungi, etc.)
 - o Geology (rocks, soil, etc.)
 - o Weather (today)/Climate (throughout the seasons)
 - You don't need to know specific species names for all of the plants and animals and types of rocks and soil that you see, but *describe them*. What color are they? How big are they? What are they doing? How are they interacting with each other, with other types of organisms?
 - This part of the assignment can just be a running list of things you see, can use bullet points, and doesn't need to be in complete sentences.
 - You can also include drawings of what you see if you are so inclined.
- Write a paragraph (complete sentences, etc.) reflecting on the following questions:
 - o What did you encounter?
 - o What questions did you wonder as you observed everything?
 - o How much and what kinds of human impacts did you notice in that area?
 - o How did you enjoy the activity?

Thanks again for your hard work on these assignments! I hope you find them enjoyable!