

January 2010

Environmental Quiz

1. The population of the world in 1950 was about 2.6 billion. The world population is currently about:
 - a. 3.4 billion
 - b. 6.8 billion
 - c. 9.3 billion
 - d. 11.5 billion

2. The population of the world is currently increasing at a rate of about 8,600 people per _____.
 - a. month
 - b. week
 - c. day
 - d. hour

3. The estimated world population in the year 2050 is about:
 - a. 3.4 billion
 - b. 6.8 billion
 - c. 9.3 billion
 - d. 11.5 billion

4. The population of the United States in 1960 (50 years ago) was 181 million. On January 12, 2010 the U.S. population was _____.
 - a. 187 million
 - b. 220 million
 - c. 308 million
 - d. 459 million

- ___ 5. True (T) or False (F). United States population growth is near zero, with the population expected to stabilize by about 2030.

- ___ 6. True (T) or False (F). Assuming a growth rate of 5% annually, the population of the United States would surpass the current population of China by 2040.

- ___ 7. True (T) or False (F). The United States is a net exporter of most raw materials used by industry today.

- ___ 8. True (T) or False (F). The raw material that is used in the greatest quantity in the United States today, and which accounts for almost one-third (by weight) of the total raw materials used annually, is steel.

- ___ 9. True (T) or False (F). Consumption of mineral resources globally has increased sharply over the past 30 years.

- ___ 10. True (T) or False (F). Energy consumption per capita (per person) in the United States is twice that of the European Union.
11. The number one cause of tropical deforestation worldwide is:
- commercial logging.
 - wildfire.
 - clearing of lands for agricultural use.
 - gathering of firewood.
 - building of roads and cities.
12. The area covered by forests in the United States today is approximately _____ of the forested area that existed in 1600.
- 72 percent
 - 50 percent
 - 33 percent
 - 17 percent
- ___ 13. True (T) or False (F). The geographic area that encompasses the United States today has greater forest coverage than the same geographic area did in 1920.
14. Which of the following statements most accurately describes United States forests:
- forest harvest exceeds net growth by 20 percent.
 - forest harvest exceeds net growth by 5 percent.
 - forest harvest roughly equals net growth.
 - net forest growth exceeds harvest by 29 percent.
 - net forest growth exceeds harvest by 72 percent.
- ___ 15. True (T) or False (F). Growing trees capture carbon dioxide from the air and release oxygen.
- ___ 16. True (T) or False (F). As originally established, it was never intended that the National Forests of the United States would be periodically harvested to obtain timber that would be used in meeting the nation's need for wood.
- ___ 17. True (T) or False (F). At current rates of deforestation, 40 percent of current forests in the United States will be lost by the middle of the this century.
- ___ 18. True (T) or False (F). In the U.S. and globally, more species of plants and animals have been driven to extinction by logging activity than any other activity of mankind.
- ___ 19. True (T) or False (F). Under current United States law, forest harvesting is allowed within federally designated wilderness areas.
- ___ 20. True (T) or False (F). Populations of elk, pronghorn antelope, and wild turkey have declined significantly in the United States over the past 60 years.

- ___ 21. True (T) or False (F). Considering the total annual harvest of forests in the United States and the total consumption of wood and wood fiber products within our country, the U.S. is a net importer of wood and wood products.
22. As a percentage of all the paper used in the United States in 2008, _____ was recovered for reuse.
- a. 14 percent
 - b. 36 percent
 - c. 57 percent
 - d. 92 percent
23. Recovered paper provided _____ of the U.S. paper industry's fiber in 2008.
- a. 12 percent
 - b. 34 percent
 - c. 51 percent
 - d. 86 percent
- ___ 24. True (T) or False (F). More extensive recycling of paper could reduce harvesting of forests in the United States by 60 percent or more.
- ___ 25. True (T) or False (F). The manufacture of wood construction materials generally results in far lower environmental impacts than when similar construction materials are manufactured from steel, aluminum, plastic, or concrete.