

## CHAPTER 24--POLITICS, ENVIRONMENT, AND SUSTAINABILITY

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Marion Stoddart's work with the Nashua River best illustrates

- A. Pollution prevention is better than pollution cleanup.
- B. A penny saved is a penny earned.
- C. Committed individuals can bring about change.
- D. The squeaky wheel gets the grease.
- E. Pollution is everywhere.

2. Politics is concerned with

- A. Who's got the money?
- B. Where's the money going?
- C. Who's in charge?
- D. Who's vulnerable to persuasion?
- E. Who has the power over distribution of resources?

3. Development of public policy follows a four-stage policy life cycle. Which of the following is *not* one of those four stages?

- A. recognition
- B. simplification
- C. formulations
- D. implementation
- E. control

4. In a constitutional democracy, which of the following is *not* a function of the constitution?

- A. provides for free elections
- B. guarantees free speech
- C. provides for a basis of governmental authority
- D. allows for gradual change
- E. establishes implementation of policies

5. In the United States, the three branches of government serve what important purpose?

- A. curbing of rapid and destabilizing change
- B. establishment of future priorities
- C. oversight of regulations
- D. implementation of detailed budgets
- E. encouragement of free enterprise

6. Committing civilization to storing deadly radioactive wastes for up to 240,000 years is a failure of the

- A. humility principle
- B. reversibility principle
- C. precautionary principle
- D. prevention principle
- E. human rights principle

7. Motor vehicle drivers paying for the full cost of the harmful effects of fossil fuel use is the application of the

- A. precautionary principle
- B. public access principle
- C. human rights principle
- D. polluter-pays principle
- E. environmental justice principle

8. Implementing sound principles concerning environmental issues will require of policy makers around the world to do all of the following, *except*

- A. Become more environmentally literate and up to date.
- B. Support scientific research to understand environmental changes.
- C. Support free enterprise in all environmental situations.
- D. Support technological innovation dealing with environmental problems.
- E. Support research on early warning signs of ecological crises.

9. Which branch of government is responsible for overseeing the agencies that carry out government policies?

- A. judicial
- B. executive
- C. legislative
- D. administrative
- E. military

10. The government of the United States manages what percentage of the country's land?

- A. 5%
- B. 15%
- C. 25%
- D. 35%
- E. 45%

11. Which of the following activities would *not* be permitted in a National Wildlife Refuge?

- A. home construction
- B. hunting and fishing
- C. military activities
- D. farming and grazing
- E. logging

12. Which of the following is *not* one of the principles that should govern use of public lands, according to free-market economists and conservationists?

- A. They should be used primarily to protect biodiversity.
- B. Government subsidies should not be used for extracting resources.
- C. Sale of the properties should be at fair market value.
- D. American people deserve fair compensation for use of the properties.
- E. Those that extract resources are responsible for environmental damage.

13. Recent proposals from developers and resource extractors concerning federal land use include all of the following, *except*

- A. Sell public lands to corporations at less than market value.
- B. Increase federal funding for administration of regulations.
- C. Cut old-growth forests and replace with tree plantations.
- D. Open national parks and wilderness areas to oil drilling and mining.
- E. Allow private firms to build theme parks and concessions in national parks.

14. All of the following are things each of us can do to exercise our environmental leadership, *except*

- A. Lead by example.
- B. Work within existing economic and political structures to bring change.
- C. Run for local office.
- D. Propose and work for better solutions to environmental problems.
- E. Hire lobbyists to promote our agenda in Washington.

15. How much of the population must be involved in order to bring about change?

- A. 5-10%
- B. 20-35%
- C. 45-60%
- D. 65-75%
- E. more than 75%

16. The body of statements defining what is acceptable environmental behavior for individuals and groups, according to the larger community, is

- A. common law
- B. administrative law
- C. statutory law
- D. environmental law
- E. civil law

17. Most environmental lawsuits are

- A. administrative suits
- B. regulatory suits
- C. civil suits
- D. statutory suits
- E. criminal suits

18. Many things limit the effectiveness of an environmental lawsuit, including all of the following, *except*

- A. Plaintiffs must have legal standing.
- B. The government is always on the side of businesses.
- C. Lawsuits are very expensive.
- D. Public interest law firms can not recover fees unless Congress has agreed.
- E. Proving significant harm is time consuming and expensive.

19. A lawsuit filled by a corporation or developer against citizens who publicly criticize a business for an activity is called

- A. a frivolous lawsuit
- B. a common law suit
- C. a criminal suit
- D. a regulatory suit
- E. a SLAPP

20. Concerned citizens have persuaded Congress to enact important environmental and resource protection laws, including all of the following, *except*

- A. establishment of fossil fuel import levels
- B. standards for pollution levels
- C. requirements to screen new substances for safety
- D. protection for certain species, resources, and ecosystems
- E. requirement for environmental impact statements

21. All of the following are examples of environmental nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), *except*

- A. World Wildlife Fund
- B. Natural Resources Defense Council
- C. Independent Petroleum Association of America
- D. The Nature Conservancy
- E. Greenpeace

22. Countries whose environment has been severely degraded may be characterized by any of the following, *except*

- A. deterioration of vital infrastructure
- B. increased immigration
- C. allegiance to warlords
- D. breakdown of law and order
- E. violent internal conflict or civil war

23. Economist Jeffrey Sachs argues that the situation in which conflict country in Africa is a result of an ecological crisis?

- A. Nigeria
- B. Egypt
- C. Libya
- D. Darfur
- E. South Africa

24. Which of the following countries did not adopt Agenda 21, the global agenda for sustainable development in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?

- A. Russia
- B. England
- C. United States
- D. Australia
- E. Canada

25. The first attempt by any country to foster a national debate on the issue of sustainability and to encourage innovative solutions to environmental problems occurred in

- A. The United States
- B. Switzerland
- C. Japan
- D. Australia
- E. The Netherlands

26. Guidelines have been suggested in order to foster cooperation instead of confrontation. Which of the following is *not* one of those guidelines?

- A. Seek government intervention whenever possible.
- B. Emphasize preventing environmental problems.
- C. Use well-designed and monitored marketplace solutions.
- D. Find win-win solutions or tradeoffs.
- E. Be honest and objective.

27. How much money would be required, on an annual basis, for the world to meet basic social and health goals and to provide environmental security?

- A. \$125 billion
- B. \$245 billion
- C. \$500 billion
- D. \$750 billion
- E. \$1 trillion

28. The only way change happens is for the leadership of the country to be convinced that change needs to happen.

True   False

29. Free enterprise is always good<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>government intervention is always bad.

True   False

30. Applying the Environmental Justice Principle would mean no group of people would bear an unfair share of environmental pollution or degradation.

True   False

31. Once a law has been passed and funded, the appropriate department or agency must first develop regulations and rules for implementing it.

True False

32. Businesses facing environmental regulations often try to have people from the business appointed to high positions in the agencies regulating the business.

True False

33. Many nations have set aside more land for public use than the United States.

True False

34. Oil and gas drilling are allowed in National Parks.

True False

35. Since 2002 the U.S. Congress has expanded the extraction of mineral, timber, and fossil fuel resources from public lands.

True False

36. The public's right to participate in decisions regarding forest management in national forests was eliminated in 2006 by an action of the U.S. Forest Service.

True False

37. Environmental lawsuits are not difficult to win.

True False

38. Most SLAPPs are not expected to be won.

True False

39. U.S. environmental laws have been highly effective, especially in controlling pollution.

True False

40. No well-organized movement has opposed the strong environmental laws passed in the 1970s.

True False

41. Most U.S. citizens do not realize that since 2000 efforts to weaken environmental laws and regulations have escalated and been successful.

True False

42. The bearers of bad tidings, including environmentalists, are embraced as bringers of truth.

True False

43. The NGO Environmental Defense worked with FedEx to help reduce the air pollution emissions of its planes and trucks.

True False

44. Many colleges and universities are now environmentally sustainable.

True False

45. Since 2007, 458 college and university presidents have signed an agreement to make their schools carbon neutral.

True False

46. The 1992 Rio Earth Summit led to agreements that were nonbinding.

True False

47. In 2008 countries were ranked according to an Environmental Performance Index. The United States ranked ninth out of 149.

True False

48. Chief Executive Officers of corporations have learned there is a lot of money to be made providing environmentally friendly goods and services.

True False



49. Since the Netherlands Green Plan began in 1989, the country has accomplished 70% of the goals.

True False

50. The world does not possess the technology, knowledge, or financial resources to end poverty, malnutrition, and illiteracy.

True False

51. Urgently making the transition to more sustainable societies is a way to restore hope to the world's people.

True False

52. Politics is about who has \_\_\_\_\_ over the distribution of \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_

53. The exact role played by a government is determined by its \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_

54. One of our greatest challenges is to place more emphasis on \_\_\_\_\_ thinking.

\_\_\_\_\_

55. Groups that advocate passing laws favorable to their causes and repealing laws unfavorable to their positions are called \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_

56. Using government subsidies to pay for inefficient energy alternatives is a violation of the \_\_\_\_\_ principle.

\_\_\_\_\_

57. Decisions made by various courts make up a body of law known as \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_

58. \_\_\_\_\_ is an important process, in which individuals or groups use public pressure, personal contacts, and political action to persuade legislators to vote in their favor.

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59. Adopting a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ is the most important and controversial activity of the executive and legislative branches of government.

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60. At a fundamental level, all politics is \_\_\_\_\_.

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61. The legal concept of \_\_\_\_\_ occurs when people use their property in a way that causes annoyance or injury to others.

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62. Common law cases may involve \_\_\_\_\_, in which a party causes damage by knowingly acting in an unlawful or unreasonable manner.

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63. \_\_\_\_\_ is a formal effort, somewhat similar to a trial, to resolve a dispute.

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64. Less than \_\_\_\_\_ % of the U.S. public considers the environment to be one of the nation's most pressing problems.

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65. More than \_\_\_\_\_ % of the U.S. public strongly supports environment laws and regulations and does not want them weakened.

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66. One of the most important trends influencing environmental decisions and policies is the growing influence of \_\_\_\_\_.

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67. NGOs working together worldwide serve as an emerging citizen-based \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_

68. Many environmental groups on college campuses have made \_\_\_\_\_ of their campuses, gathering data on practices affecting the environment.

\_\_\_\_\_

69. Environmental security is as important as military and economic security because all \_\_\_\_\_ are supported by the earth's natural capital.

\_\_\_\_\_

70. Scarcity of resources can be correlated to the spread of civil violence and dysfunction in government, which can cause countries to become \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_

71. Protocols for protecting the \_\_\_\_\_ are the most successful examples of the global community working together to solve environmental problems.

\_\_\_\_\_

72. Countries such as the Netherlands and New Zealand are involved in \_\_\_\_\_, the creation of long-term environmental strategies.

\_\_\_\_\_

73. A study of nature reveals that all parts of the \_\_\_\_\_ are ecologically interdependent.

\_\_\_\_\_

74. The author describes politics as concern "with who has power over the distribution of resources<sup>3/4</sup>who gets what, and when and how they get it." (Core Case Study) Assuming this is an accurate description, what does this description imply in addressing environmental issues?

75. The public policy life cycle given in the text consists of four stages. Choose an environmental issue covered in the book and describe where you think the issue is in the cycle. What is the next step in the cycle for your chosen issue? What do you think will happen when the cycle is complete?

76. Lobbying is an important part of the legislative process in our society. Lobbyists, though, have become an easy scapegoat in our public conversations. Do lobbyists play an important role in the development of legislation, or could they be abolished? Explain.

77. Explain the function of a SLAPP. Do you think this is an appropriate way to influence persons to not sue a company? Is there a balance that must be maintained, where neither companies nor citizens should be harassed by the other?

78. In the midst of all the competing interests a student has, you might not be inclined to help with a campus environmental audit. Does the fact that the environment will likely have a significant impact on your future make any difference in your deliberations about working on an audit? Why or why not?

79. Violent conflicts are often in the news. Seldom do the environmental consequences of such conflicts make the news. As new weapons become more and more toxic, should the environmental consequences play a role in decision-making? Why or why not? The World Trade Center collapse had a devastating effect on the city of New York and its people. Does an event like that make a difference in your thinking? Why or why not?

80. The author lists four guidelines to foster cooperation instead of confrontation as we move toward solutions to environmental problems. Summarize those guidelines. Do you think the guidelines are realistic in the very competitive world of business? Why or why not?

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**FALSE**

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**FALSE**

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36. The public's right to participate in decisions regarding forest management in national forests was eliminated in 2006 by an action of the U.S. Forest Service.

**TRUE**

37. Environmental lawsuits are not difficult to win.

**FALSE**

38. Most SLAPPs are not expected to be won.

**TRUE**

39. U.S. environmental laws have been highly effective, especially in controlling pollution.

**TRUE**

40. No well-organized movement has opposed the strong environmental laws passed in the 1970s.

**FALSE**

41. Most U.S. citizens do not realize that since 2000 efforts to weaken environmental laws and regulations have escalated and been successful.

**TRUE**

42. The bearers of bad tidings, including environmentalists, are embraced as bringers of truth.

**FALSE**

43. The NGO Environmental Defense worked with FedEx to help reduce the air pollution emissions of its planes and trucks.

**TRUE**

44. Many colleges and universities are now environmentally sustainable.

**FALSE**

45. Since 2007, 458 college and university presidents have signed an agreement to make their schools carbon neutral.

**TRUE**

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**TRUE**

47. In 2008 countries were ranked according to an Environmental Performance Index. The United States ranked ninth out of 149.

**FALSE**

48. Chief Executive Officers of corporations have learned there is a lot of money to be made providing environmentally friendly goods and services.

**TRUE**

49. Since the Netherlands Green Plan began in 1989, the country has accomplished 70% of the goals.

**TRUE**

50. The world does not possess the technology, knowledge, or financial resources to end poverty, malnutrition, and illiteracy.

**FALSE**

51. Urgently making the transition to more sustainable societies is a way to restore hope to the world's people.

**TRUE**

52. Politics is about who has \_\_\_\_\_ over the distribution of \_\_\_\_\_.

**power; resources**

53. The exact role played by a government is determined by its \_\_\_\_\_.

**policies**

54. One of our greatest challenges is to place more emphasis on \_\_\_\_\_ thinking.

**long-term**

55. Groups that advocate passing laws favorable to their causes and repealing laws unfavorable to their positions are called \_\_\_\_\_.

**special-interest groups**

56. Using government subsidies to pay for inefficient energy alternatives is a violation of the \_\_\_\_\_ principle.

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57. Decisions made by various courts make up a body of law known as \_\_\_\_\_.

**case law**

58. \_\_\_\_\_ is an important process, in which individuals or groups use public pressure, personal contacts, and political action to persuade legislators to vote in their favor.

**Lobbying**

59. Adopting a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ is the most important and controversial activity of the executive and legislative branches of government.

**budget**

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**local**

61. The legal concept of \_\_\_\_\_ occurs when people use their property in a way that causes annoyance or injury to others.

**nuisance**

62. Common law cases may involve \_\_\_\_\_, in which a party causes damage by knowingly acting in an unlawful or unreasonable manner.

**negligence**

63. \_\_\_\_\_ is a formal effort, somewhat similar to a trial, to resolve a dispute.

**Arbitration**

64. Less than \_\_\_\_\_ % of the U.S. public considers the environment to be one of the nation's most pressing problems.

**10**

65. More than \_\_\_\_\_ % of the U.S. public strongly supports environment laws and regulations and does not want them weakened.

**80**



66. One of the most important trends influencing environmental decisions and policies is the growing influence of \_\_\_\_\_.

**non-governmental organizations** or  
**NGOs**

67. NGOs working together worldwide serve as an emerging citizen-based \_\_\_\_\_.

**global sustainability movement**

68. Many environmental groups on college campuses have made \_\_\_\_\_ of their campuses, gathering data on practices affecting the environment.

**environmental audits**

69. Environmental security is as important as military and economic security because all \_\_\_\_\_ are supported by the earth's natural capital.

**economies**

70. Scarcity of resources can be correlated to the spread of civil violence and dysfunction in government, which can cause countries to become \_\_\_\_\_.

**failed states**

71. Protocols for protecting the \_\_\_\_\_ are the most successful examples of the global community working together to solve environmental problems.

**ozone layers**

72. Countries such as the Netherlands and New Zealand are involved in \_\_\_\_\_, the creation of long-term environmental strategies.

**green planning**

73. A study of nature reveals that all parts of the \_\_\_\_\_ are ecologically interdependent.

**biosphere**

74. The author describes politics as concern "with who has power over the distribution of resources<sup>3/4</sup>who gets what, and when and how they get it." (Core Case Study) Assuming this is an accurate description, what does this description imply in addressing environmental issues?

Answer is somewhat subjective. A reasonable answer would need to include a discussion of becoming involved in the political state of affairs at all levels. Lobbying for an ecological/environmental view with current power brokers would be a starting place. Electing persons who are more favorable to environmental issues would be a second step. Perhaps it would be necessary for the individual to consider running for office at some point and at some level. It would also be important to recognize that environmental issues would be present and important in local politics as well as national and international levels.

75. The public policy life cycle given in the text consists of four stages. Choose an environmental issue covered in the book and describe where you think the issue is in the cycle. What is the next step in the cycle for your chosen issue? What do you think will happen when the cycle is complete?

(page 636) Answer is highly subjective. The answer should indicate an awareness of the steps in the cycle and what part of society would be involved in the steps.

76. Lobbying is an important part of the legislative process in our society. Lobbyists, though, have become an easy scapegoat in our public conversations. Do lobbyists play an important role in the development of legislation, or could they be abolished? Explain.

Answer is somewhat subjective. Lobbyists play an important role in educating politicians on subjects the politicians may not know anything about. However, when education turns to providing favors or money for votes, the system breaks down. Attempting to persuade a policy maker of a particular point of view on a subject is quite legitimate. Regulation needs to assure that the line between appropriate and inappropriate persuasion is not crossed.

77. Explain the function of a SLAPP. Do you think this is an appropriate way to influence persons to not sue a company? Is there a balance that must be maintained, where neither companies nor citizens should be harassed by the other?

Answer is somewhat subjective. SLAPPs are a form of harassment that companies apply when they do not want to take the chance of losing in court, or do not want to change practices that may be questionable. Since plaintiff companies usually have more resources for such legal maneuvers, the citizen may lose the right to seek redress in court. On the other hand, citizens sometimes sue companies hoping that the company will settle out of court. A balance needs to be found protecting companies from needless lawsuits and protecting the right of citizens to seek remedy in court.

78. In the midst of all the competing interests a student has, you might not be inclined to help with a campus environmental audit. Does the fact that the environment will likely have a significant impact on your future make any difference in your deliberations about working on an audit? Why or why not?

Answer is highly subjective. Students, like everyone else, allocate their time according to necessities and interests. The environment is not likely to be high on the priorities list for most students, as the problems seem distant and uncertain. An examination of where the environment is on your own priorities list, and why, would be a useful exercise.

79. Violent conflicts are often in the news. Seldom do the environmental consequences of such conflicts make the news. As new weapons become more and more toxic, should the environmental consequences play a role in decision-making? Why or why not? The World Trade Center collapse had a devastating effect on the city of New York and its people. Does an event like that make a difference in your thinking? Why or why not?

Answer is highly subjective. A useful approach would be to consider what remains on a battlefield, rendering the environment hazardous and/or toxic. The reality that people have to try to reconstruct their lives in such situations may provide insight into the problem. Except for the WTC, conflicts have been distant events for most U.S. citizens. If it was our environment we might be more interested in what remains.

80. The author lists four guidelines to foster cooperation instead of confrontation as we move toward solutions to environmental problems. Summarize those guidelines. Do you think the guidelines are realistic in the very competitive world of business? Why or why not?

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- 1) Emphasize preventing or minimizing environmental crises.
- 2) Use well-designed and monitored marketplace solutions.
- 3) Work to find "win-win solutions" and tradeoffs.
- 4) Establish trust between groups by being honest and objective in interactions.

These guidelines may be difficult to implement in today's economic-political climate. The key may be in convincing all parties it is in their best self-interest to move to cooperation in order to prevent an even worse situation.