

# University Studies Program

General Education, done better.

## Sustainability Pre- and Post-Test

This short test is designed to measure your understanding of sustainability before and after you take this class. Your performance on this test is **NOT** part of your grade. Data from students completing this test will be used for program improvement and assessment purposes only.

### KNOWLEDGE

1. Which of the following statements most completely defines the concept of sustainability?
  - A.) Being sustainable means recycling, eating organic food, and other personal lifestyle choices
  - B.) Sustainability means the ability to maintain current economic and environmental practices.
  - C.) Sustainability means actions that are socially just, ecologically healthy, and economically secure.
  - D.) All of the above.
  - E.) Not sure/don't know.
2. Which of the following **best** describes the three pillars of sustainability?
  - A.) Reduce, reuse, recycle
  - B.) Economy, equity, environment
  - C.) Legislative, executive, judicial
  - D.) All of the above
  - E.) None of the above
3. Which of the following statements **best** describes the relationship between social justice and sustainability?
  - A.) There is no relationship between social justice and sustainability.
  - B.) All people deserve access to healthy environments but the burdens of pollution and other forms of environmental risk are shared unequally across lines of race class, and ethnicity.
  - C.) Environmental pollution causes social injustice because it was created by corporations but affects people.
  - D.) Poor people are less likely to care about nature because they have more pressing financial concerns, while wealthy people can more easily afford to purchase organic food and make other sustainable lifestyle choices.
  - E.) Don't know/not sure.
4. Which of the following statements **best** describes the relationship between environmental issues and sustainability?
  - A.) Environmental issues and sustainability issues are not related.
  - B.) Environmental issues and sustainability issues are basically the same things.
  - C.) When humans learn to take better care of nature, sustainability issues will be resolved.
  - D.) The environment is in a state of crisis because of human-caused problems and this crisis frames the social, economic, and ecological aspects of sustainability.
  - E.) Don't know/not sure.
5. Which of the following statements **best** describes the relationship between economic issues and sustainability?
  - A.) Economic issues and sustainability issues are not related.
  - B.) Economic issues and sustainability issues are basically the same things.
  - C.) Sustainable economies will allow us to maintain current standards of living without worrying about environmental impacts.
  - D.) Because economics have been a central component of creating sustainability problems, economics needs to be part of sustainability solutions.
  - E.) Don't know/not sure.

## **SKILLS**

Please use a scale of **A** to **E**, with **A** being the highest, to rate how confident you are about the effectiveness of your skills in dealing with sustainability, problems, issues, and solutions.

- A:** Very Confident
- B:** Confident
- C:** Somewhat Confident
- D:** Not Confident
- E:** Not Confident at All

- 6.) I am able to critically analyze sustainability problems and issues.
- 7.) I can use the three pillars of sustainability to help me understand sustainability problems and issues.
- 8.) I can identify personal choices that I might make to alleviate sustainability problems and issues.
- 9.) I can identify policy solutions that might help alleviate sustainability problems and issues at a local, national, or global scale.

## **DISPOSITIONS**

Please use a scale of **A** to **E**, with **A** being the highest, to state the extent to which you agree with the following statements.

- 10.) I am very concerned with the future of the environment/sustainability issues.
- 11.) I am inclined to make choices about my personal lifestyle based on sustainability issues and concerns.
- 12.) I am inclined to make choices about my career based on sustainability issues and concerns.
- 13.) I am inclined to make choices about my role as a citizen based on sustainability issues and concerns.

## **TOPICS/CONCEPTS**

Please use a scale of **A** to **E**, with **A** being the highest, to rate your knowledge on the following topics.

- A:** Can define/explain the complexities of the topic
- B:** Can define/explain some of the complexities of the topic
- C:** Can define/explain it on a basic level
- D:** Have heard of the topic but can't really explain it
- E:** Never heard of the topic

- 14.) Environmental justice
- 15.) Fair trade
- 16.) Sense of place
- 17.) Triple bottom line
- 18.) Renewable/alternative energy
- 19.) Consumption
- 20.) Sustainable food
- 21.) Economic growth
- 22.) Climate change
- 23.) Biodiversity loss
- 24.) Ecological footprint
- 25.) Human population