

Sustainability literacy assessment- Test

Start of Block: Default Question Block

Q28 Please complete the following assessment of your sustainability literacy. This is a draft assessment to test questions for future assessments. Thank you.

Q30 Please select the identifier that best describes you.

- DU student (1)
 - DU faculty (2)
 - DU staff (3)
-

Q1 If you are a student, what is your major?

Q2 Ozone forms a protective layer in the earth's upper atmosphere. What does ozone protect us from?

- acid rain (1)
 - climate change (2)
 - sudden changes in temperature (3)
 - harmful UV rays (4)
 - don't know (5)
-

Q5 What are the potential effects of global climate change?

- Expansion of desert (1)
 - less severe weather (2)
 - loss of ozone layer (3)
 - decrease in sea level (4)
 - don't know (5)
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Q4 The most significant driver in the loss of species and ecosystems around the world is...

- overhunting/ overharvesting (1)
 - conversion of natural space into human developments (2)
 - acid rain (3)
 - breeding of animals in zoos (4)
 - don't know (5)
-

Q3 Of the following, which would be considered living in the most environmentally sustainable way?

- recycling all recyclable packaging (1)
 - reducing consumption of all products (2)
 - buying products labeled "eco" or "green" (3)
 - buying the newest products available (4)
 - don't know (5)
-

Q6 What factors influence the human population's impact on Earth?

- size of population (1)
 - amount of materials used per person (2)
 - use of technology that lessens our impact (3)
 - don't know (4)
 - all of the above (5)
-

Q7 Put the following list in order of the activities with the largest environmental impact to those with the smallest environmental impact:

- A. Keeping a cell phone charger plugged into an electrical outlet for 12 hours
- B. Eating one McDonald's quarter-pound hamburger
- C. Eating one McDonald's chicken sandwich
- D. Flying in a commercial airplane from Washington D.C. to China

- A,C,B,D (1)
 - D,A,B,C (2)
 - D,C,B,A (3)
 - D,B,C,A (4)
 - don't know (5)
-

Q8 Which of the following is the primary reason that gasoline prices have risen over the last several decades in the U.S.?

- growing percentage of gas stations owned by large corporations (1)
 - increasing oil discoveries overseas (2)
 - higher rates of state and federal gasoline taxes (3)
 - increasing global demand for oil (4)
 - don't know (5)
-

Q9 8. Many economists argue that electricity prices in the U.S. are too low because...

- they do not reflect the costs of pollution from generating the electricity (1)
 - too many suppliers go out of business (2)
 - electric companies have a monopoly in their service area (3)
 - consumers spend only a small part of their income on energy (4)
 - don't know (5)
-

Q10 Which of these countries is the largest per capita CO2 emitter from the following list?

- China (1)
- U.S. (2)
- Brazil (3)
- India (4)
- don't know (5)

Q31 Click to write the question text

- Click to write Choice 1 (1)
 - Click to write Choice 2 (2)
 - Click to write Choice 3 (3)
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Q11 The best way to support a local economy, such as the economy of Denver, is to buy goods (groceries, clothing, toiletries, etc)...

- at large chain stores that may employ workers from the local community (1)
 - online from discount retailers (2)
 - from stores that sell locally-produced goods (3)
 - from second-hand/ thrift stores (4)
 - don't know (5)
-

Q12 Imagine that we had to pay for all the costs associated with the goods we use every day. What would go into calculating the true costs of a product?

- the cost of raw materials to make the product (1)
 - the cost of environmental damage caused by production (2)
 - the cost of healthcare for employees who manufacture the product (3)
 - all of the above (4)
 - don't know (5)
-

Q32 What are considered the 3 pillars of Sustainability

- Economic, Environment, Social (1)
 - Click to write Choice 2 (2)
 - Click to write Choice 3 (3)
-

Q13 Which of the following is the most commonly used definition of sustainable development?

- creating a government welfare system that ensures universal access to education, health care, and social services (1)
 - building a neighborhood that is both socio-demographically and economically diverse (2)
 - meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (3)
 - setting aside resources for preservation, never to be used (4)
 - don't know (5)
-

Q14 The wealthiest 20% of people in the U.S. own approximately what percent of the nation's privately held wealth?

- 20% (1)
 - 35% (2)
 - 50% (3)
 - 85% (4)
 - don't know (5)
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Q15 Which of the following is the best example of environmental justice?

- urban citizens win a bill to have toxic wastes taken to rural communities (1)
 - government dams a river, flooding Native American tribal lands to create hydro-power for large cities (2)
 - all stakeholders from an indigenous community are involved in setting a quota for the amount of wood they can take from a protected forest next to their village (3)
 - multi-national corporations build factories in developing countries where environmental laws are less strict (4)
 - don't know (5)
-

Q16 Using resources, like fossil fuels, can create economic growth. However, future generations may be disadvantaged if the current generation overuses these resources. Which of the following principles can we follow if we do not want to disadvantage the next generation?

- Renewable resources such as fish, soil, and groundwater must be used no faster than the rate at which they regenerate. (1)
 - Nonrenewable resources such as minerals and fossil fuels must be used up quickly to encourage the development of renewable substitutes. (2)
 - Pollution must be emitted at current levels so that natural systems can maintain the ability to absorb them, recycle them, or render them harmless (3)
 - None of the above are true (4)
 - Don't know (5)
-

Q17 Which of the following statements about water is true?

- Globally, water for personal use such as washing dishes, doing laundry, and bathing is the major user of water resources. (1)
 - Globally, freshwater reserves (aquifers) are used faster than they are replenished. (2)
 - Floods and severe weather will increase the availability of clean drinking water. (3)
 - Because water is a free and abundant resource, it is not a major concern for most countries. (4)
 - Don't know (5)
-

Q18 What category accounts for the most water consumption in the state of Colorado?

- agriculture (1)
 - residential water use (2)
 - oil shale fracking (3)
 - recreation activities (4)
 - don't know (5)
-

Q19 Workers around the world face a variety of social injustices, including low wages, poor working conditions, and lack of access to education. To help improve conditions for these workers you can:

- Support corporations that do not allow workers to join labor unions (1)
 - Buy the newest products to keep factories around the world open (2)
 - Purchase products from companies that conduct business in a socially responsible manner (3)
 - Support large corporations because they generally have more money to pay their workers (4)
 - don't know (5)
-

Q20 Which of the following are you able to recycle on the DU campus?

- plastic trash bags (1)
 - paper towels (2)
 - red solo cups (3)
 - candy wrappers (4)
 - don't know (5)
-

Q21 Which of the following are you able to compost on the DU campus?

- plastic trash bags (1)
 - paper towels (2)
 - red solo cups (3)
 - candy wrappers (4)
 - don't know (5)
-

Q22 Which of the following is not a potential local effect of global climate change in Colorado?

- rising sea levels (1)
 - negative economic impact on the ski industry (2)
 - more severe weather (3)
 - drought (4)
 - don't know (5)
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Q23 What percentage of food that is grown, harvested, processed and distributed in the US goes to the landfill?

- 10% (1)
 - 17% (2)
 - 40% (3)
 - 60% (4)
 - don't know (5)
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Q24 For a person to get the most food energy out of 100 pounds of vegetables and grain, the person should _____.

- eat the vegetables and grain (1)
 - feed them to an animal and eat the meat (2)
 - feed them to a cow to produce milk, feed the milk to an animal and eat the meat (3)
 - don't know (4)
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Q25 What are the primary energy sources used to generate power in Colorado?

- solar and wind (1)
 - coal and natural gas (2)
 - coal and hydroelectric (3)
 - nuclear and natural gas (4)
 - don't know (5)
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Q26 A technique to assess environmental impacts associated with all stages of a product's life from cradle to grave (resource extraction through usage and disposal or reuse) is called:

- An energy audit (1)
 - A cost-benefit analysis (2)
 - A life cycle assessment (3)
 - A thermal system analysis (4)
 - Don't know (5)
-

Q27 While studying at the University of Denver, how many courses have you taken that address the topics presented in this survey?

- 0 (1)
 - 1-2 (2)
 - 2-3 (3)
 - 3-4 (4)
 - 4 or more (5)
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Q29 Do you have any comments about the questions in this survey?

End of Block: Default Question Block
