

Review!

Human Impact Vocabulary

KEY

① land use practices	Involves the management and modification of natural environment or wilderness into built environment such as settlements and semi-natural habitats such as arable fields, pastures, and managed woods.
② air pollution	The contamination of the atmosphere by the introduction of pollutants from human and natural sources.
③ urban sprawl	Migration of a population from cities to low density in rural land.
④ ecological footprint	The impact of a person or a community on the environment.
⑤ fossil fuels	Nonrenewable energy resources formed from the remains of organisms that lived long ago.
⑥ per-capita	Means for each person.
⑦ repercussion	An unintended consequence occurring some time after an event or action, especially an unwelcome one.
⑧ deforestation	Clearing of Earth's forest on a massive scale.
⑨ landfill	A place to dispose of waste by burying it and covering it over with soil.
⑩ climate change	The increase in the earth's average temperature and precipitation.
⑪ population growth	An increase in the number of people that reside in a country, state, county, or city.
⑫ atmosphere	A mixture of gases that surround a planet or moon.

⑬ ■ Greenhouse effect: a phenomenon in which the atmosphere of a planet traps radiation emitted by its sun, caused by gases such as carbon dioxide, water vapor, and methane that allow incoming sunlight to pass through but retain heat radiated back from the planet's surface.

⑭ ■ Greenhouse gas: gases which allow direct sunlight to reach Earth's surface, but absorb the infrared energy (heat) that is radiated to the atmosphere. These gases include: water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, among others. Also referred to as heat-trapping gases.

⑮ ■ Carbon dioxide: CO₂ is the primary greenhouse gas emitted through human activities

⑯ ■ Cumulative: increasing or increased in quantity

⑰ ■ Emissions: the act of producing or sending out something (such as energy or gas) from a source

⑱ ■ Carbon sink: anything that absorbs more carbon than it releases (trees, ocean)