

AP Environmental Science

Name: _____ Score: _____

1. The **tragedy of the commons** happens when...

- ☐ individuals overuse a shared resource, ruining it for all
- ☐ no one uses a resource
- ☐ a resource grows forever
- ☐ a resource is privately owned

2. **Clearcutting** is...

- ☐ cutting down all the trees in an area at once
- ☐ planting new trees
- ☐ a type of soil
- ☐ watering a forest

3. How does heavy **tillage** (ploughing) harm soil?

- ☐ it bares the soil and speeds up erosion
- ☐ it has no effect
- ☐ it makes rock
- ☐ it adds new soil

4. A **pesticide** is a chemical used to...

- ☐ kill pests such as insects or weeds
- ☐ fertilise crops
- ☐ water the field
- ☐ harvest the crop

5. **Overfishing** means...

- ☐ catching fish faster than they can reproduce
- ☐ catching no fish at all
- ☐ cleaning the ocean
- ☐ farming fish

6. The leftover toxic waste rock from processing ore is called _____.

7. When humanity uses resources faster than Earth can renew them, we _____ Earth's capacity.

8. A planted, low area designed to soak up stormwater is called a rain _____.

9. Farming without ploughing, to protect the soil from erosion, is called _____-till.

10. Replanting trees to renew a forest after harvest is called _____.

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1. **individuals overuse a shared resource, ruining it for all**

The **tragedy of the commons**: each person, acting in self-interest, overuses a shared resource until it collapses.

2. **cutting down all the trees in an area at once**

Clearcutting removes every tree in an area – fast and cheap, but very damaging.

3. **it bares the soil and speeds up erosion**

Heavy **tillage** breaks up and bares the soil, letting wind and rain erode it faster.

4. **kill pests such as insects or weeds**

A **pesticide** kills **pests** – insects, weeds, or fungi that damage crops.

5. **catching fish faster than they can reproduce**

Overfishing takes fish faster than they breed, so the population crashes.

6. **tailings**

Tailings are toxic waste from mining that can pollute soil and water for a long time.

7. **overshoot**

When our total footprint exceeds Earth's **biocapacity**, we **overshoot** – using more than the planet can sustain.

8. **garden**

A rain **garden** collects runoff and lets plants and soil absorb it, reducing flooding and pollution.

9. **no**

No-till farming leaves the soil and plant cover undisturbed, greatly reducing erosion.

10. **reforestation**

Reforestation replants trees so the forest and its benefits return over time.