

AP Environmental Science

Name: _____ Score: _____

1. A **point source** of pollution is...
 - ☐ always in the air
 - ☐ one identifiable spot, like a pipe
 - ☐ impossible to locate
 - ☐ spread across a whole region
2. Which human activity most directly harms an ecosystem?
 - ☐ cleaning up a beach
 - ☐ planting native trees
 - ☐ protecting a wetland
 - ☐ dumping toxic waste into a river
3. A **wetland** is land that...
 - ☐ is bare rock
 - ☐ is always dry desert
 - ☐ is deep open ocean
 - ☐ is covered or soaked with water
4. Eutrophication usually starts with...
 - ☐ less sunlight
 - ☐ extra nutrients washing into water
 - ☐ removing all the fish
 - ☐ water getting colder
5. A key feature of a **persistent** organic pollutant is that it...
 - ☐ is always harmless
 - ☐ stays in the environment for a very long time
 - ☐ breaks down within hours
 - ☐ evaporates instantly
6. The animal with the highest toxin level is usually the top _____.

7. Letting food and garden scraps rot into soil is called _____.

8. In secondary treatment, _____ break down the dissolved organic waste.

9. The dose below which there is no visible effect is called the _____.

10. An animal that carries a pathogen from host to host, like a mosquito, is a _____.

AP Environmental Science

1. **one identifiable spot, like a pipe**

A **point source** comes from one clear location – a factory pipe, a smokestack, a single spill.

2. **dumping toxic waste into a river**

Dumping toxic waste poisons water and kills the organisms living in it – direct harm.

3. **is covered or soaked with water**

A **wetland** is land soaked or covered with water – marshes, swamps, and bogs.

4. **extra nutrients washing into water**

Extra **nutrients** – nitrogen and phosphorus from fertilizer – trigger the whole process.

5. **stays in the environment for a very long time**

“**Persistent**” means it resists breaking down – POPs can last for years or decades.

6. **predator**

The top **predator** eats many contaminated prey, so it ends up with the highest concentration.

7. **composting**

Composting turns organic waste into rich soil, keeping it out of landfills.

8. **bacteria**

Secondary treatment uses **bacteria** to digest the organic matter left in the water.

9. **threshold**

The **threshold** is the lowest dose that starts to cause a measurable effect.

10. **vector**

A **vector** (like a mosquito or tick) carries a pathogen and passes it to new hosts.