

## 3. Respond to parts A, B, C, D, E, F, and G.

- A. One major environmental problem is air pollution. Air pollution can come from natural or anthropogenic sources. Motor vehicles can be a source of particulate matter (PM) and other pollutants.

**Identify** an anthropogenic source of particulate matter, other than from motor vehicles.

- B. One way to reduce pollutants associated with motor vehicles is to use a vapor recovery nozzle. **Describe** one way a vapor recovery nozzle is used to reduce atmospheric pollution.

- C. Acid rain is another air pollutant linked to motor vehicles. Over the past few years, there has been an increase in the number of people working from home, so fewer people are commuting to work in their personal vehicles.

**Explain** how a decrease in the number of people commuting to work in their personal vehicles could lead to a reduction in acid rain.

- D. The average gas mileage for a small gasoline-powered sport utility vehicle (SUV) is 22 miles per gallon (mpg) in the city. The average gas mileage for a small hybrid SUV is 36 mpg in the city. One commuter sells their gasoline-powered SUV and replaces it with a hybrid SUV.

**Calculate** the percent change in gas mileage between the gasoline-powered SUV and the hybrid SUV based on the data provided. **Show** your work.

- E. Both the gasoline-powered SUV and the hybrid SUV have 14-gallon gas tanks. As stated in part D, the average gas mileage for a small gasoline-powered sport utility vehicle (SUV) is 22 miles per gallon (mpg) in the city. The average gas mileage for a small hybrid SUV is 36 mpg in the city.

**Calculate** how many more miles the owner can drive in the hybrid SUV in the city than they could have driven in the gasoline-powered SUV. **Show** your work.

- F. In addition to vehicles, buildings such as schools often have high energy consumption. The primary sources of energy use in many buildings are heating, cooling, and lighting.

**Propose** a realistic solution that schools could implement to decrease energy use for heating and cooling, other than a reduction in the amount of time the school building is occupied.

- G. The school plans to upgrade its lighting to save money and reduce both its electricity use and its ecological footprint. The sustainability committee proposes that the school reduce its electricity use by switching to energy-efficient light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs. The school building uses  $2.8 \times 10^4$  bulbs. The LED bulbs would each use 0.0085 kilowatts per hour. Each bulb would be used for an average of 2,340 hours per year.

**Calculate** the energy use in the school building in kilowatts per year using LED light bulbs. **Show** your work.

**STOP**  
**END OF EXAM**

4. Soil is a complex mixture of living organisms and organic material, along with minerals and other abiotic components. Soils help sustain life and support ecosystem functions.

(a) **Describe** how TWO climate factors affect the rate of soil formation.

(b) As soils form, distinct layers known as horizons develop over time. One of these is the A horizon.

(i) **Identify** one specific biotic component of the A horizon.

(ii) **Identify** one abiotic component of the A horizon.

Resources such as soil and water can be degraded by human activities.

- (c) Nitrate levels exceeding the United States Environmental Protection Agency's primary drinking water standard have been found in the groundwater of areas with intensive agriculture.

(i) **Identify** one agricultural practice that can lead to elevated nitrate levels in groundwater.

(ii) **Describe** how the practice you identified in (c)(i) leads to elevated nitrate levels in groundwater.

- (d) Acid deposition has affected soil quality in many parts of the northeastern United States.

(i) **Explain** one way acid deposition onto soil can affect plant health.

(ii) **Describe** one method for remediating soil affected by acid deposition.

- (e) Climate change is causing far-reaching ecosystem changes, including soil degradation in many of the world's biomes. **Describe** TWO ways that climate change can degrade soil.

**STOP**  
**END OF EXAM**