

University Studies Program

General Education, *done better.*

Sustainability Pre- and Post-Test Quest 1

This short test is designed to measure your understanding of sustainability before and after you take this class. Your performance on this test is **NOT** part of your grade. Data from students completing this test will be used for program improvement and assessment purposes only.

KNOWLEDGE

1. Which of the following statements most completely defines the concept of sustainability?

- A.) Being sustainable means recycling, eating organic food, and other personal lifestyle choices
- B.) Sustainability means the ability to maintain current economic and environmental practices.
- C.) **Sustainability means actions that are socially just, ecologically healthy, and economically secure.**
- D.) All of the above.
- E.) Not sure/don't know.

	N	% correct (C)	% change	% unsure (E)	% change
Pre test	383	32.90%		0.52%	
Post test	323	48.30%	+15.40%	0.00%	-0.52%

2. Which of the following **best** describes the three pillars of sustainability?

- A.) Reduce, reuse, recycle
- B.) Economy, equity, environment
- C.) Legislative, executive, judicial
- D.) All of the above
- E.) None of the above

	N	% correct (B)	% change
Pre test	383	75.72%	
Post test	323	79.57%	+3.85%

3. Which of the following statements **best** describes the relationship between social justice and sustainability?

- A.) There is no relationship between social justice and sustainability.
- B.) All people deserve access to healthy environments but the burdens of pollution and other forms of environmental risk are shared unequally across lines of race class, and ethnicity.
- C.) Environmental pollution causes social injustice because it was created by corporations but affects people.
- D.) Poor people are less likely to care about nature because they have more pressing financial concerns, while wealthy people can more easily afford to purchase organic food and make other sustainable lifestyle choices.
- E.) Don't know/not sure.

	N	% correct (B)	% change	Don't Know (E)	% change
Pre test	383	70.23%		9.92%	
Post test	323	75.23%	+5.00%	1.55%	-8.37%

4. Which of the following statements **best** describes the relationship between environmental issues and sustainability?

- A.) Environmental issues and sustainability issues are not related.
- B.) Environmental issues and sustainability issues are basically the same things.
- C.) When humans learn to take better care of nature, sustainability issues will be resolved.
- D.) The environment is in a state of crisis because of human-caused problems and this crisis frames the social, economic, and ecological aspects of sustainability.
- E.) Don't know/not sure.

	N	% correct (D)	% change	Don't Know (E)	% change	
Pre test	383	72.06%		4.70%		
Post test	323	86.07%	+14.01%	0.62%	-4.08%	

5. Which of the following statements **best** describes the relationship between economic issues and sustainability?

- A.) Economic issues and sustainability issues are not related.
- B.) Economic issues and sustainability issues are basically the same things.
- C.) Sustainable economies will allow us to maintain current standards of living without worrying about environmental impacts.
- D.) Because economics have been a central component of creating sustainability problems, economics needs to be part of sustainability solutions.
- E.) Don't know/not sure.

	N	% correct (D)	% change	Don't Know (E)	% change	
Pre test	383	57.18%		6.53%		
Post test	323	62.23%	+5.05%	0.31%	-6.22%	

SKILLS

Please use a scale of **A** to **E**, with **A** being the highest, to rate how confident you are about the effectiveness of your skills in dealing with sustainability, problems, issues, and solutions.

- A:** Very Confident
- B:** Confident
- C:** Somewhat Confident
- D:** Not Confident
- E:** Not Confident at All

6.) I am able to critically analyze sustainability problems and issues.

	N	A: Very Confident	B: Confident	C: Somewhat Confident	D: Not Confident	E: Not Conf. at All
Pre test	383	4.96%	16.97%	44.13%	27.68%	6.27%
Post test	323	29.41%	50.46%	18.27%	1.86%	0.00%
% Change		+24.45%	+33.49%	-25.86%	-25.82%	-6.27%

7.) I can use the three pillars of sustainability to help me understand sustainability problems and issues.

	N	A: Very Confident	B: Confident	C: Somewhat Confident	D: Not Confident	E: Not Conf. at All
Pre test	383	3.92%	15.67%	37.86%	32.38%	10.18%
Post test	323	31.89%	50.46%	14.86%	2.79%	0.00%
% Change		+27.97%	+34.79%	-23.00%	-29.59%	-10.18%

8.) I can identify personal choices that I might make to alleviate sustainability problems and issues.

	N	A: Very Confident	B: Confident	C: Somewhat Confident	D: Not Confident	E: Not Conf. at All
Pre test	383	9.92%	35.77%	37.08%	14.36%	0.00%
Post test	323	39.94%	43.03%	13.31%	3.72%	0.00%
% Change		+30.02%	+7.26%	-23.77%	-10.64%	0.00%

9.) I can identify policy solutions that might help alleviate sustainability problems and issues at a local, national, or global scale.

	N	A: Very Confident	B: Confident	C: Somewhat Confident	D: Not Confident	E: Not Conf. at All
Pre test	383	2.61%	15.67%	33.68%	36.81%	10.97%
Post test	323	21.05%	42.41%	29.41%	6.81%	0.31%
% Change		+18.44%	+26.74%	-4.27%	-30.00%	-10.66%

DISPOSITIONS

Please use a scale of **A** to **E**, with **A** being the highest, to state the extent to which you agree with the following statements.

10.) I am very concerned with the future of the environment/sustainability issues.

	N	A: Strongly Agree	B: Agree	C: Neither Agree nor Disagree	D: Disagree	E: Strongly Disagree
Pre test	383	28.20%	39.16%	25.07%	5.22%	1.57%
Post test	323	43.03%	33.44%	17.65%	4.64%	1.24%
% Change		+14.83%	-5.72%	-7.42%	-0.58%	-0.33%

11.) I am inclined to make choices about my personal lifestyle based on sustainability issues and concerns.

	N	A: Strongly Agree	B: Agree	C: Neither Agree nor Disagree	D: Disagree	E: Strongly Disagree
Pre test	383	10.70%	33.94%	40.99%	11.23%	2.61%
Post test	323	24.77%	44.89%	24.77%	5.26%	0.31%
% Change		+14.07%	+10.95%	-16.22%	-5.97%	-2.30%

12.) I am inclined to make choices about my career based on sustainability issues and concerns.

	N	A: Strongly Agree	B: Agree	C: Neither Agree nor Disagree	D: Disagree	E: Strongly Disagree
Pre test	383	7.05%	20.10%	42.82%	22.19%	7.05%
Post test	323	16.41%	26.01%	36.53%	15.17%	5.57%
% Change		+9.36%	+5.91%	-6.29%	-7.02%	-1.48%

13.) I am inclined to make choices about my role as a citizen based on sustainability issues and concerns.

	N	A: Strongly Agree	B: Agree	C: Neither Agree nor Disagree	D: Disagree	E: Strongly Disagree
Pre test	383	13.32%	36.03%	33.94%	13.32%	2.87%
Post test	323	25.70%	45.82%	23.53%	4.02%	0.93%
% Change		+12.38%	+9.79%	-10.41%	-9.30%	-1.94%

TOPICS/CONCEPTS

Please use a scale of **A** to **E**, with **A** being the highest, to rate your knowledge on the following topics.

- A:** Can define/explain the complexities of the topic
- B:** Can define/explain some of the complexities of the topic
- C:** Can define/explain it on a basic level
- D:** Have heard of the topic but can't really explain it
- E:** Never heard of the topic

14.) Environmental justice

	N	A: Can define/explain	B: Can define/explain some	C: Can define/explain basic	B: Have heard but can't explain	E: Never heard of topic
Pre test	383	1.31%	6.01%	28.72%	50.91%	12.53%
Post test	323	20.74%	34.98%	33.75%	9.60%	0.31%
% Change		+19.43%	+28.97%	+5.03%	-41.31%	-12.22%

15.) Fair trade

	N	A: Can define/explain	B: Can define/explain some	C: Can define/explain basic	B: Have heard but can't explain	E: Never heard of topic
Pre test	383	3.39%	12.53%	31.07%	45.69%	6.79%
Post test	323	13.93%	31.58%	40.56%	12.69%	1.24%
% Change		+10.54%	+19.05%	+9.49%	-33.00%	-5.55%

16.) Sense of place

	N	A: Can define/explain	B: Can define/explain some	C: Can define/explain basic	B: Have heard but can't explain	E: Never heard of topic
Pre test	383	2.87%	8.88%	23.76%	41.51%	21.93%
Post test	323	17.34%	32.51%	28.79%	17.03%	4.33%
% Change		+14.47%	+23.63%	+5.03%	-24.48%	-17.60%

17.) Triple bottom line

	N	A: Can define/explain	B: Can define/explain some	C: Can define/explain basic	B: Have heard but can't explain	E: Never heard of topic
Pre test	383	0.26%	0.78%	6.53%	27.94%	63.97%
Post test	323	12.38%	12.07%	28.17%	30.96%	15.79%
% Change		+12.12%	+11.29%	+21.64%	3.02%	-48.18%

18.) Renewable/alternative energy

	N	A: Can define/explain	B: Can define/explain some	C: Can define/explain basic	B: Have heard but can't explain	E: Never heard of topic
Pre test	383	14.88%	36.55%	34.99%	10.97%	2.09%
Post test	323	43.65%	38.70%	16.72%	1.24%	0.00%
% Change		+28.77%	+2.15%	-18.27%	-9.73%	-2.09%

19.) Consumption

	N	A: Can define/explain	B: Can define/explain some	C: Can define/explain basic	B: Have heard but can't explain	E: Never heard of topic
Pre test	383	12.01%	29.50%	41.25%	14.88%	1.83%
Post test	323	38.70%	38.08%	21.36%	1.86%	0.00%
% Change		+26.69%	+8.58%	-19.89%	-13.02%	-1.83%

20.) Sustainable food

	N	A: Can define/explain	B: Can define/explain some	C: Can define/explain basic	B: Have heard but can't explain	E: Never heard of topic
Pre test	383	6.53%	22.72%	34.46%	29.77%	5.74%
Post test	323	38.39%	39.32%	21.05%	1.24%	0.00%
% Change		+31.86%	+16.60%	-13.41%	-28.53%	-5.74%

21.) Economic growth

	N	A: Can define/explain	B: Can define/explain some	C: Can define/explain basic	B: Have heard but can't explain	E: Never heard of topic
Pre test	383	7.83%	30.03%	45.69%	13.32%	2.61%
Post test	323	28.79%	40.25%	26.01%	4.95%	0.00%
% Change		+20.96%	+10.22%	-19.68%	-8.37%	-2.61%

22.) Climate change

	N	A: Can define/explain	B: Can define/explain some	C: Can define/explain basic	B: Have heard but can't explain	E: Never heard of topic
Pre test	383	14.10%	36.81%	40.73%	5.74%	2.09%
Post test	323	44.58%	39.63%	12.69%	2.79%	0.31%
% Change		+30.48%	+2.82%	-28.04%	-2.95%	-1.78%

23.) Biodiversity loss

	N	A: Can define/explain	B: Can define/explain some	C: Can define/explain basic	B: Have heard but can't explain	E: Never heard of topic
Pre test	383	4.18%	7.83%	20.10%	39.43%	27.68%
Post test	323	23.84%	26.93%	30.96%	14.55%	3.41%
% Change		+19.66%	+19.10%	+10.86%	-24.88%	-24.27%

24.) Ecological footprint

	N	A: Can define/explain	B: Can define/explain some	C: Can define/explain basic	B: Have heard but can't explain	E: Never heard of topic
Pre test	383	4.70%	17.23%	28.46%	31.07%	18.54%
Post test	323	29.41%	35.29%	26.93%	7.12%	1.24%
% Change		+24.71%	+18.06%	-1.53%	-23.95%	-17.30%

25.) Human population

	N	A: Can define/explain	B: Can define/explain some	C: Can define/explain basic	B: Have heard but can't explain	E: Never heard of topic
Pre test	383	21.93%	37.34%	32.11%	4.96%	0.52%
Post test	323	44.27%	39.01%	10.84%	1.55%	0.31%
% Change		+22.34%	+1.67%	-21.27%	-3.41%	-0.21%