

**Curriculum Unit
Title**

Questions of Sustainability

Author

Michael A. Doody

KEY LEARNING, ENDURING UNDERSTANDING, ETC.

Sustainability has different definitions depending on social, economic, and cultural values.

Quantitative analyses are the only way to issue firm judgements of sustainability.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION(S) for the UNIT

How do you determine the sustainable choice when presented with two or more options?

CONCEPT A

Paper versus Plastic

CONCEPT B

Meat versus Plant-based Diets

CONCEPT C

Gas-powered versus Electric Vehicles

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS A

Which is more sustainable, paper or plastic?

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS B

Which is more sustainable, meat or plant-based diets?

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS C

Which is more sustainable, gas-powered or electric vehicles?

VOCABULARY A

Sustainability, CO₂ Emissions, Pollution, Household Waste, Water Use

VOCABULARY A

Sustainability, Land Use, Water Use, CO₂ Emissions

VOCABULARY A

Sustainability, CO₂ Emissions, Resource Extraction, Pollution

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/MATERIAL/TEXT/FILM/RESOURCES

Additional resources: released free-response questions available from College Board: https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/digitalServices/pdf/ap/ap16_frq_environmental_science.pdf, https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/apc/_ap05_frq_envir_sci_45691.pdf, https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/apc/envir_sci_frq_02_10393.pdf.