

Quiz: Sustainability

Topic: sustainability

Questions: 2

Difficulty: Hard

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Question 1

A multinational corporation is considering two options for sourcing raw materials for its product: Option A involves sourcing from a region with lower labor costs but weak environmental regulations, leading to deforestation and habitat loss. Option B involves sourcing from a region with higher labor costs but strict environmental regulations and a commitment to sustainable forestry practices. From a holistic sustainability perspective, which option is preferable and why?

- A)** Option A, because lower labor costs increase profitability and contribute to economic growth, outweighing the environmental damage.
- B)** Option A, because focusing solely on economic efficiency is the most direct path to overall societal benefit.
- C)** Option B, because it balances economic considerations with environmental protection and social responsibility, promoting long-term sustainability.
- D)** Option B, because strict environmental regulations automatically guarantee social equity and economic prosperity for the local communities.

Question 2

A city government is developing a long-term urban development plan. They are considering two approaches to transportation: Approach X focuses on expanding highway infrastructure to accommodate increasing car traffic, assuming technological advancements will mitigate environmental impacts. Approach Y focuses on investing in public transportation, cycling infrastructure, and pedestrian-friendly zones, aiming to reduce car dependency. Which approach aligns better with the principles of sustainable urban development and why?

- A)** Approach X, because it addresses the immediate need for increased transportation capacity and relies on technological solutions for environmental problems.
- B)** Approach X, because it promotes individual freedom and economic growth by facilitating car ownership and usage.
- C)** Approach Y, because it reduces greenhouse gas emissions, promotes public health, and creates more equitable access to transportation for all residents.
- D)** Approach Y, because it solely focuses on environmental benefits, neglecting the economic and social aspects of urban development.

Answer Key

1. Answer: C

Explanation: Option B is preferable because it considers all three pillars of sustainability: environmental protection (sustainable forestry), economic viability (although labor costs are higher, the long-term benefits outweigh the short-term gains), and social responsibility (ethical sourcing and community well-being). Option A prioritizes short-term economic gains at the expense of environmental and potentially social well-being, which is not sustainable.

2. Answer: C

Explanation: Approach Y aligns better with sustainable urban development because it addresses multiple dimensions of sustainability. It reduces environmental impact (lower emissions), promotes social equity (access for all, including those who cannot afford cars), and can contribute to economic vitality (more livable and attractive city). Approach X, while potentially addressing transportation capacity, exacerbates environmental problems and may not be equitable.