

The Big Necessity – Blog Posts

Deborah Sills

August 17, 2013

Learning Objectives

1. Develop an appreciation of the impact of civil & environmental engineering on society and the environment.
2. Engage in an intellectual discussion with your peers about the topics raised by the author.

Rationale

In her book *The Big Necessity, the World of Human Waste and Why it's important*, Rose George covers a wide range of topics. These range from the sewers of London, to open defecation in the slums of , and the “most expensive toilet in the world,” which was constructed for the Space Station. I chose this book, because almost all of the chapters (except, perhaps, the one about the fancy Japanese toilets) remind me of how civil and environmental engineers have improved our lives, but, on the other hand, the problems that current environmental engineering designs don't address.

Assignment

1. Write three blog posts (300 words each) on three chapters of your choice. In each case, you should address at least two of the following prompts:
 - How did the environmental engineering technology described in this chapter change peoples live?
 - How did the engineering technology described in this chapter protect the environment?
 - Imagine the world without the technology described in this chapter.