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**Homework Essay Assignment 5:** This is a requirement for our course and **will count as part of your final score.**

This is an **academic essay assignment**. It is **due on** **June 4**. There will be **NO extensions** given as this will be graded with the final exams.

Submit your essays using **MS Word**. Write your **name and Student ID on the submitted paper**.

Use this guide and ALL of the lessons in the course to help you.

How to Format a 500-Word Academic Essay

The format of a **500-word academic essay is similar to a shorter essay**. Each paragraph is about 75-125 words, and it consists of 3-5 well-written sentences.

The main components of a 500-word essay include:

* **Introduction paragraph** that engages the reader and establishes the thesis. The thesis may be a question that you will later answer in the essay content, or it can be a statement that you support in the body paragraphs. If you are writing a story, your “thesis” may not be as apparent.
* **4-6 body paragraphs** that provide evidence to back up your thesis. Each paragraph should be a cohesive element with an intro and conclusion. The body paragraphs should flow well from one point to the next.
* **Conclusion** paragraph that reminds the reader of the thesis and highlights key points from the body text. The conclusion should answer the question or complete the statement made in the introduction. It should give the reader a sense of closure and resolution
* **You must include at least 3 recognized sources using the APA style.** **Use in-text references and include a separate ‘References’ page with all sources used. Check the iLearn link for more details.**

**Assignment 5**

Prompt: ***The world’s rainforests are becoming fewer and fewer. Within a few decades the last of these rainforests may have disappeared forever. What are the causes of this problem and what can be done to prevent it from happening?***

***REF:*** [***https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal15***](https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal15)

**Write between 500 and 550 words.**

**Follow the format guidelines above.**

Nowadays, the extent of the rainforests across the globe is gradually shrinking, and the remaining sections of them may become extinct permanently within a few decades. As long as the circumstances aren’t changed, not only will there be some potential derived issues that might put human beings in peril, but also the mother planet Earth will be destroyed and no longer suitable for living. As a result, we should investigate a few of the most crucial factors before setting out to transform the environment for the entire world.

To begin with the issue, the most significant reason that affects the world completely and even speeds up the extinction of the rainforests to an extreme must be global warming, which is the result of a variety of activities conducted by humans. Furthermore, the biggest cause of global warming is CO2, which is produced by human activity and whose concentration in the atmosphere has increased by 48% since pre-industrial times (before 1750) (European Commission, 2016). Therefore, we should try to reduce CO2 emissions. For instance, reducing the use of cars and stopping the burning of fossil fuels helps reduce emissions because not only private transportation but fossil fuels are a significant source of greenhouse gases (BBC Future team, 2023). Nevertheless, we can plant trees and seagrasses, which have been shown to be 30 to 50 times more effective at capturing carbon than forests on land (Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research, 2022), storing it efficiently, and removing pollutants from waters (Mramstead, 2023), to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Upon diligently implementing the measures mentioned above, swift alleviation of climate change can be achieved.

Another thing with which to be concerned is deforestation of rainforests, which refers to the removal of trees and forests that cover a significant area without their replacement (Graham, 2021). Although deforestation isn’t the most remarkable reason for rainforests decreasing, it is the most direct way to destroy the rainforests instead of the gradual climate changes. Moreover, Ruiz and Machado (2022) claimed that deforestation, wildfires, and climate change are forming a hazardous vicious cycle. For instance, warming exacerbates fire cycles, creating hotter, drier conditions in moisture-dependent forests. Meanwhile, drought weakens unburned forests, particularly at deforestation edges, making them more vulnerable to fires and releasing additional carbon, intensifying warming. For that reason, there is an urge that the authorities concerned make a policy to break the cycle, prevent any kind of further deforestation in the future, and even try to plant the corresponding tropical trees in the deforestation area. In addition, it seems there isn’t any risk in stopping deforestation, and it can be said it has a hundred merits but no harm, especially since the Union of Concerned Scientists (2021) proves that reducing deforestation is a helpful action against global warming—it can also make significant contributions to saving biodiversity and promoting sustainable development. Tropical forests help regulate regional rainfall and prevent both floods and droughts.

In conclusion, rainforest conservation is extremely urgent, and we must do all we can to stop aggravating global warming, try to prevent deforestation, and plant more trees at the same time. Overall, it’s not someone's or the government's responsibility; instead, it should be everyone’s responsibility to do so. As a consequence, we should reduce driving any kind of private transportation and using any kind of fossil fuel in the future to make our planet less hot but more suitable for living.

**References**

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Ruiz, S., & Machado, M. (2022, July 18). *The vicious cycle of climate change, deforestation, and fire in the Amazon*. Woodwell Climate. <https://www.woodwellclimate.org/climate-change-deforestation-and-fire-in-the-amazon/>

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