

Written Assignment

Write a letter to the local newspaper in which you, using what you've learned as evidence, respond to one of the following questions.

1. What is a low-energy lifestyle? Look for evidence of low-energy lifestyles: individual case studies, such as Amory Lovins, or national case studies such as Sweden.
2. Is recycling effective? Look for evidence of recycling in Canada, bottlenecks that inhibit recycling, strategies that successfully enhance recycling efforts.
3. How much are you willing to pay in the short run to receive economic and environmental benefits in the long run? Explore costs and payback times of energy-efficient appliances, energy-saving light bulbs, and weather stripping.
4. Should we eat lower on the food chain? Look for evidence in a vegetarian diet, or a diet including insects, in which it could save land.
5. How can humans work with ecosystems? Look for evidence in composting, organic gardening, land reclamation, rebuilding degraded lands, tree-planting.
6. Another question which may have occurred to you so far in the course. Run it by me before you begin.

Your strategy:

1. Make sure you can define the terminology in your question.
2. Begin by doing some reading in the text, and on line sources. Make some notes about the topic and keep track of the web sites.
3. Find at least one peer-reviewed article on the topic (I will show you in class how to find them on the library site).
4. Since it is a letter, your writing will be informal. However, keep it succinct and on topic, and cite your sources. Include a title and your name at the top.
5. Look at the notes you have written and organize them into an appropriate sequence.
6. The paper should have an introductory paragraph, including the question, and a conclusion.
7. Remember as you're writing that we are looking for solutions to environmental issues.
8. The paper should be about 2 ½ pages double-spaced (no more than 3 pages max).
9. Include a reference section at the end.
10. The citation style should be Harvard: <http://www.citethisforme.com/harvard-referencing>