

MULTI LEVEL PRACTICE TEST 23

PART 1

Who do you trust most?

I would have to say my father. Although we have our differences, I know he is 100% someone I can count on (depend on). I feel that I could tell him any10 secret, and I know that he would never spill the beans (tell a secret) to anyone. He is a very trustworthy and sincere person.

What kind of people do you trust?

I trust people who are transparent, those who are open with their emotions. When I feel someone keeps everything inside, I wonder what it is that they have to hide, so naturally my trust lessens. Furthermore, I trust people who aren't always just looking out to gain something for themselves, and someone who doesn't have a criminal background, especially involving theft.

Have you ever lost trust in somebody?

Of course! In high school, my best friend and I were attached at the hip (very close). We used to have sleepovers (when kids sleep at each other's houses) almost every weekend, until one day my mother discovered that my friend was stealing money from her savings jar. Since that day, I felt that I couldn't trust someone who would take advantage of my mother who always opened her home to my friend.

Do you trust artificial intelligence?

That's an interesting question. Well, I believe that technology nowadays is advanced enough to create intelligence, but I wouldn't say that it's equal to human intelligence. While a robot may be better on paper (objectively more intelligent), they lack feelings, which leads me to believe that they aren't emotionally and/or socially intelligent, which ties everything together. So, all in all, I'm not overly trusting of artificial intelligence.

Have you ever borrowed books from others?

Yes, I have! Actually, my friends and I often have a book exchange. I see it as a waste of money to buy every book you want to read, so it's very effective to do this! I always look forward to (excited for) the books I'll get from them.

Have you ever borrowed money from others?

Who hasn't? It isn't something I enjoy doing, but something that has been necessary at certain points. For example, one time my washing machine and oven broke simultaneously (at the same time), so I asked my father if he could lend me some money to get a new one. I, of course, paid him back as soon as I could.

Describe an environmental you problem that you think is most disturbing.

PART 2

You should say:

- what the problem is
- what causes it
- and explain what you think could be done to solve it

Air is perhaps the most important element of the environment, and "air pollution" is a severe environmental problem that I know about. Thank you very much for this interesting question, and I will answer it here in brief.

Air pollution has become a grave issue for the present world, and the global air index shows that air quality in many metropolitan cities is dangerous to live there. Air gets polluted mainly from burning fossil fuels and we use such fuels extensively to run our cars and continue our productions in factories. Cutting trees indiscriminately has also contributed to air pollution. Manufacturing industries discharge a large amount of carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons, organic compounds, and chemicals into the air, thereby depleting air quality. Waste dumped in landfills generates methane, which is harmful to air quality as well. Finally, our lifestyle choices also contribute to polluting air.

Air pollution has many severe and negative effects on our health and the environment. First, it is responsible for several respiratory and heart conditions like asthma, chronic bronchitis, and heart diseases. Due to the direct or indirect negative effects of air pollution, millions of people die globally each year. Just like humans, animals also face many devastating effects of air pollution. In a sense, air pollution is dangerous to our well-being, and to the survival of the world.

Well, it appears to me that two main types of preventive measures could be adopted for preventing air to get polluted in such a magnitude. Firstly, the government should take measures from its end to control the pollution. In this case, the government can impose strict rules and regulations to control the use of fossil fuels. Running different campaigns is also necessary to create awareness among people. On the other hand, mass people should contribute to recycling and reusing things to prevent waste disposal. They should also plant trees in their backyards and rooftop to lessen the extent of air pollution.

PART 3

What do you consider to be the world's worst environmental disaster caused by humans?

I think that may be the nuclear disaster in Chernobyl, Ukraine. In that case there was an explosion and nuclear meltdown. It caused great loss of life. The environment was badly affected and it is still affected today and could be for many years. There are also many people who are still getting sick from the disaster and no one can live anywhere near the site. Of course there are many other serious ones, some more recent such as the oil spills in Africa and the US.

Why do you think environmental disasters caused by humans happen?

It could be for different reasons. In some cases it is simply because not enough care is taken. Maybe procedures are not good enough. It could also be because the drive for profit means that there is cost cutting and that again could mean that good procedures are not in place. There is usually a situation when a disaster happens where blame will be deflected and it is difficult to establish exactly who

is responsible. Nobody wants to admit responsibility because it means they will have to pay compensation. Sometimes a disaster can happen because of a simple mistake by someone.

Do you think there will be more environmental disasters caused by humans in the future?

I don't think there will necessarily be more. Procedures are always getting tighter so in theory there should be fewer, but mistakes will always happen so I'm sure they will continue unfortunately. Governments must continue to prosecute any companies that do cause environments problems or disasters so that they are less likely to happen again.

Do you think that governments around the world are doing enough to tackle the problems?

No, usually I don't think they are doing enough. There are countries that do what they can do help their people when problems occur and they are trying to come up with measures to mitigate the effects but when it comes to the major issue of global warming countries are not doing enough. We see time and again that no agreement can be made on how to reduce carbon footprints. This is usually because governments know that to make a serious reduction in carbon dioxide emissions they will have to sacrifice economic growth and they are not prepared to do this. Governments think very short-term. They know that if there is economic decline, then they will be voted out.

Tell me about some of the environmental problems that are affecting countries these days?

Well, there are a lot at the moment. Although it has not been proven for sure, there is a great deal of consensus about the fact that global warming is leading to severe weather change and this is resulting in many problems. We are seeing a

lot of countries with the same problems that they have always had but on a much larger scale. For example, in the United States there seem to be far more hurricanes and tornadoes than in the past, with more devastating effects. There seems to constantly be news of serious flooding in many countries from Asia to Europe. Forest fires also seem to be getting worse, particularly each year in Australia.