

Environmental Challenges

Thinking About History

- Turn to pages 108–109 of the Atlas. Read the overview. Also look at graph A, “An American’s Ecological Footprint.” For each pair of events, write **C** next to the cause and **E** next to the effect.
 - _____ The world population is growing rapidly.
_____ Earth’s resources are being used faster than they can be renewed.
 - _____ Climate-related disasters are more frequent.
_____ Global climate is changing.
 - _____ Americans cause long-term damage to the atmosphere and oceans.
_____ Americans use more resources than are available.

History Through Maps

- Look at map B, “Natural Disasters.” List the year each of the following disasters happened. Use the map on pages 112–113 if you need help.

Disaster	Year
a. Mt. St. Helens volcano in Washington explodes	_____
b. Mississippi River floods	_____
c. Northridge earthquake	_____
d. Drought and heat wave in Mississippi	_____
e. Hurricane Katrina	_____

Places, Regions, and Landscapes

- Look again at map B. Draw a line from each type of disaster to the region in which it is likely to occur. Use the map on pages 114–115 if you need help.

Disaster	Region
a. Tornado Alley •	• Western mountains
b. Wildfires •	• Pacific Coast
c. Hurricanes •	• Great Plains
d. Earthquakes •	• Gulf and Atlantic Coasts

🐼 People and Their Environments

4. Look at map C, “Carbon Dioxide Emissions.” Rank the following states from most polluted to least.
- a. Connecticut _____
 - b. California _____
 - c. Indiana _____
 - d. New Mexico _____

🐼 Gathering the Facts

5. Look again at the overview and map C. Also look at photo D and map E, “Forest and Grassland.” Write **T** if the statement is true and **F** if the statement is false.
- a. _____ Carbon dioxide is common in polluted air.
 - b. _____ Denver is the most polluted city in the United States.
 - c. _____ The United States emits more carbon dioxide than any other country in the world.
 - d. _____ Forests and grasslands remove carbon dioxide from the air.
 - e. _____ Since the late 1960s, Americans have made considerable progress in protecting the environment.

🐼 Time and Change

6. Compare map E with map A, “Forest and Grassland 1620,” on page 18. Write **F** if the area was forest, **G** if the area was grassland, and **N** if the area was neither.

Region	1620	Today
a. Maine	_____	_____
b. central Montana	_____	_____
c. central Ohio	_____	_____
d. northern Mississippi	_____	_____
e. central Kansas	_____	_____
f. eastern Pennsylvania	_____	_____