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Answer Key: Harness Your Habitat: Human-Environment History for 7th Grade

Analyze how societies reshape Earth through these 10 challenges on sustainable engineering and resource management.

1. The Quechua people of the Andes Mountains developed terrace farming to grow crops on steep slopes. This is primarily an example of which concept?

Answer: C) Environmental Modification

Terrace farming involves physically altering the shape of the land to make it suitable for agriculture, which is a classic example of modifying the environment.

2. Building earthquake-resistant skyscrapers in San Francisco is an example of humans adapting to their environment.

Answer: A) True

Adaptation involves changing human behavior or technology to survive natural conditions, such as seismic activity, without necessarily changing the nature of the earthquake itself.

3. The construction of the _____ Canal in Egypt drastically modified the physical environment to connect the Mediterranean and Red Seas.

Answer: B) Suez

The Suez Canal is a major geographical modification that allowed for shorter maritime trade routes by cutting through the Isthmus of Suez.

4. In the 1930s, the 'Dust Bowl' in the American Great Plains was a consequence of which human-environment interaction?

Answer: B) Over-farming and poor soil management

The Dust Bowl was a severe environmental consequence caused by the modification of the grasslands for intensive farming, which removed protective deep-rooted grasses.

5. Dependence refers to the way humans rely on natural resources like the Nile River for irrigation and drinking water.

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Answer: A) True

Dependence is the degree to which a population relies on its local environment for basic needs like water, food, and energy.

6. Singapore's use of 'Land Reclamation' to expand its borders by filling segments of the ocean with sand is a form of ____.

Answer: C) Human Modification

Land reclamation is a deliberate change to the physical landscape to create more space for human use, fitting the definition of modification.

7. Which of the following describes a POSITIVE consequence of human interaction with the environment?

Answer: A) The Great Green Wall project in Africa to stop desertification

Reforestation and conservation projects like the Great Green Wall are intentional interactions designed to restore ecosystems and improve sustainability.

8. In the city of Venice, Italy, residents have used ____ to deal with high water levels and flooding for centuries.

Answer: B) Canals

The canal system in Venice is a historical adaptation and modification that allows the city to function despite being built on a marshy lagoon.

9. The use of air conditioning in hot climates like Phoenix or Las Vegas is an example of human adaptation.

Answer: A) True

Using technology to change the internal temperature of buildings allows humans to live comfortably in environments that would otherwise be too harsh.

10. How does the 'Great Man-Made River' project in Libya represent human-environment interaction?

Answer: B) It is a modification to transport water from underground aquifers to cities

This massive pipeline system is a major engineering modification of the desert environment to provide water to coastal populations.

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