

Name: _____

Date: _____

Class: _____

IB ESS

1.1 Environmental Value Systems

Significant Ideas:

Historical events, among other influences, affect the development of environmental value systems and environmental movements.

There is a wide spectrum of environmental value systems each with their own premises and applications.

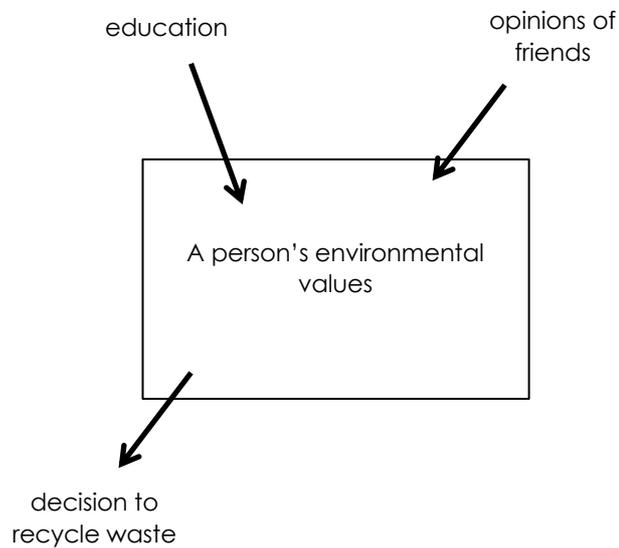


What is an EVS

1. Define "Environmental Value System".

2. Look at the systems diagram for an EVS. Add any additional inputs and outputs that you can think of.

(Hints: think about what things influence a person's knowledge and opinions on the environment.)



3. Define the following value systems:

Ecocentric

Anthropocentric

Technocentric

4. Summarise the viewpoints of the following types of people:

Cornucopians

Environmental Managers

Deep ecologists



The rate of extinctions world-wide is currently very high; the number of species going extinct is currently a lot more than it has been through most of geological time. This high extinction rate is largely a consequence of human activities.

5. Complete the table to summarise some possible viewpoints of the following types of people.

	Ecocentrists	Anthropocentrists	Technocentrists
Why is this a problem?			(This is mainly a cornucopian viewpoint): It is not a major problem. Species are going extinct because of pollutants, deforestation etc. but these activities are the result of economic development and this is perhaps more important than conserving some species; we can fix any problems this might cause later using human ingenuity.
What should we do about it?	Change our lifestyle: we need to use fewer harmful chemicals, stop burning fossil fuels etc. We need to accept having fewer luxuries in order to stop polluting the environment and destroying natural habitats.		



Historical Influences on EVSs

1. Draw a timeline to mark some of the major events in history that have influenced environmental value systems. As a minimum, you must include the following (but you are encouraged to add others):

The agricultural revolution, the industrial revolution, the green revolution, founding of Greenpeace, Carson's "Silent Spring" published, at least two major environmental disasters



