Environmental problems

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

ADVANCED | C1

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each advanced environmental-governance concept with its meaning.

1 planetary boundaries	____	a fairness between present and future generations
2 climate justice	____	b requirement that environmental gains would not occur without an intervention
3 just transition	____	c policy action that unintentionally increases vulnerability
4 carbon leakage	____	d safe operating limits for critical Earth-system processes
5 rebound effect	____	e responsibility of those causing pollution to cover its costs
6 maladaptation	____	f emissions moving to jurisdictions with weaker controls
7 additionality	____	g acting to prevent serious harm despite incomplete certainty
8 intergenerational equity	____	h fairness in causes, impacts, participation and remedies of climate change
9 polluter-pays principle	____	i inclusive shift to a low-carbon economy that protects workers and communities
10 precautionary principle	____	j efficiency gains being partly cancelled by increased consumption

2 Complete the governance collocations.

additionality | boundaries | equity | justice | leakage | pays | precautionary | transition

1 remain within planetary _____

2 advance climate _____

3 design a just _____

4 prevent carbon _____

5 demonstrate project _____

6 protect intergenerational _____

7 apply the polluter-_____ principle

8 invoke the _____ principle

3 Choose the concept that best captures the distinction.

1 Production shifts abroad after domestic carbon rules tighten: *carbon leakage / rebound effect*.

2 Efficient cars encourage more driving, reducing savings: *rebound effect / additionality*.

3 A seawall increases long-term exposure behind it: *maladaptation / mitigation*.

4 Future people should not inherit disproportionate costs: *intergenerational equity / climate finance*.

5 A company funds cleanup after contaminating water: *polluter-pays / precautionary*.

6 Regulators restrict a potentially severe risk before certainty: *precautionary / polluter-pays*.

7 Workers and regions are supported through decarbonisation: *just transition / carbon offsetting*.

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4 Complete the governance analysis with terms from the box.

additionality | carbon leakage | climate justice | intergenerational equity | just transition | maladaptation | planetary boundaries | polluter-pays principle | precautionary principle | rebound effect

The framework locates policy within **1** _____ and treats **2** _____ as a question of responsibility, participation and remedy. Industrial reform requires a **3** _____, while border measures may limit **4** _____. Efficiency standards must account for the **5** _____. Adaptation screening aims to prevent **6** _____. Offset projects must demonstrate **7** _____. Long-term appraisal protects **8** _____. Liability follows the **9** _____, while uncertain but severe threats may justify the **10** _____.

5 Read the text and answer the questions concisely.

Policy beyond a single indicator

A policy may cut territorial emissions while increasing imported emissions, material extraction or social hardship elsewhere. Evaluation based on one headline indicator can therefore reward displacement rather than genuine improvement. Robust appraisal defines system boundaries, checks counterfactuals and examines distribution across places, groups and generations. It also distinguishes correlation from causation and reports uncertainty. No framework removes political judgment, because priorities and acceptable trade-offs remain contested. Transparency makes those judgments visible and allows policy to be revised when outcomes diverge from assumptions.

1 How may territorial cuts hide wider harm? _____

2 What can a single indicator reward? _____

3 Name three elements of robust appraisal. _____

4 What analytical distinction is required? _____

5 Why can no framework remove political judgment? _____

6 What two functions does transparency serve? _____

6 Paraphrase using the expression in capitals.

1 The project would not happen without carbon finance. **ADDITIONALITY** ___

2 Efficiency caused people to consume more energy. **REBOUND** _____

3 The adaptation measure increased vulnerability. **MALADAPTATION** ___

4 The contaminating company must pay for restoration. **POLLUTER** ___

OVER TO YOU

Write a **160-190 word** critical response: What makes an environmental policy effective, fair and credible when impacts cross borders, sectors and generations?

[ ] Use at least ten target terms or collocations. [ ] Define system boundaries and counterfactuals. [ ] Address uncertainty, distribution and trade-offs.

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ANSWER KEY

1 Environmental-governance concepts

1 **d** 2 **h** 3 **i** 4 **f** 5 **j** 6 **c** 7 **b** 8 **a** 9 **e** 10 **g**

2 Governance collocations

1 **boundaries** 2 **justice** 3 **transition** 4 **leakage** 5 **additionality** 6 **equity** 7 **pays** 8 **precautionary**

3 Conceptual distinctions

1 **carbon leakage** 2 **rebound effect** 3 **maladaptation** 4 **intergenerational equity**
5 **polluter-pays** 6 **precautionary** 7 **just transition**

4 Governance analysis

1 **planetary boundaries** 2 **climate justice** 3 **just transition** 4 **carbon leakage** 5 **rebound effect**
6 **maladaptation** 7 **additionality** 8 **intergenerational equity** 9 **polluter-pays principle** 10 **precautionary principle**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 Imported emissions, extraction or hardship may rise elsewhere. 2 Displacement rather than real improvement. 3 Any three: boundaries, counterfactuals, distribution, causal analysis, uncertainty.
4 Correlation versus causation. 5 Priorities and trade-offs are contested. 6 It exposes judgments and supports revision.

6 Paraphrasing - possible answers

1 The project demonstrates **additionality**. 2 A **rebound effect** increased energy use. 3 The measure resulted in **maladaptation**. 4 The **polluter-pays principle** applies.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check conceptual precision, system boundaries, causal reasoning and distributional analysis.