

Name _____

Unveiling the Invisible Threat: Exploring Different Types of Air Pollutants

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Ground-level ozone forms when pollutants like nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds react with sunlight. Its impacts on human health include respiratory issues, aggravation of asthma, and cardiovascular problems.
2. Air pollution can harm the environment by damaging ecosystems, contributing to climate change, and causing acidification of water bodies through the formation of acid rain.
3. Individuals can reduce their contribution to air pollution by using public transportation, carpooling, conserving energy at home, and properly disposing of household chemicals.
4. Particulate matter is considered a significant health concern because it can penetrate deep into the lungs, causing respiratory problems, cardiovascular diseases, and even premature death, particularly among vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and individuals with pre-existing health conditions.