

Name _____

Urbanization and Our Changing Landscape: Balancing Land Use and Sustainability

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Urbanization can lead to habitat loss as natural areas are cleared for construction and development, depriving wildlife of their homes. This is a significant concern because it disrupts ecosystems, threatens biodiversity, and can lead to the decline of species, impacting the overall health of the environment.
2. Sustainable transportation focuses on reducing the environmental impact of transportation systems. Examples include promoting public transit, biking, and walking, which can reduce pollution, alleviate traffic congestion, improve air quality, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. These measures benefit urban areas by providing efficient transportation options while preserving the environment.
3. Claude Monet's "Water Lilies" series reflects the changing landscape due to urbanization by juxtaposing serene natural scenes, like water lilies, with an evolving urban environment. These paintings convey the message that cities and nature can coexist harmoniously, but it is essential to preserve the beauty and tranquility of the natural world amidst urbanization.
4. Strategies would vary, but some proposals could include:
 - Establishing green belts and preserving natural areas within the city.
 - Promoting public transportation and bike-sharing programs to reduce car emissions.
 - Implementing energy-efficient building codes and encouraging solar panel installations.
 - Enforcing strict pollution control measures for factories and vehicles.
 - Investing in recycling and waste management programs to reduce landfill waste.

