

Asia Under Pressure

Trace environmental causes and effects across Southern and Eastern Asia.

SS7G10 "Explain the impact of environmental issues across Southern and Eastern Asia."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each environmental change or pollution source, circle each effect on people or places, and write the same number beside each connected cause-and-effect set.

Environmental Changes, Shared Impacts

- ① Environmental issues often cross borders in Southern and Eastern Asia. In the Himalayas, warmer temperatures are melting glaciers in Nepal, Bhutan, India, and China. At first, extra meltwater can swell rivers and raise the risk of floods and landslides. Later, smaller glaciers may send less water downstream during dry months. Farmers, cities, and hydropower stations in India, Bangladesh, and China depend on these rivers. One change in high mountains can therefore affect food, electricity, and safety far away.
- ② Air pollution also harms people across the region. In northern India and eastern China, coal-burning power plants, factories, vehicles, and the burning of crop waste release tiny particles into the air. These particles can enter lungs and worsen asthma and other breathing problems. Hazy air can also close schools, delay flights, and reduce time spent outdoors. Winds may carry pollution across national borders, so decisions about energy, transport, and farming in one place can affect communities in another.
- ③ Coastal communities face another shared challenge. Sea level is rising as ocean water warms and land ice melts. In low-lying Bangladesh, salt water can move into farmland and drinking-water supplies, making crops harder to grow and water less safe to use. Along China's coast, higher water levels can increase flood damage during coastal storms. Families may lose homes or income, while governments must spend money on flood barriers, drainage, or moving people. These costs can slow development and deepen inequality.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How can melting Himalayan glaciers create one danger at first and a different problem later?

2 Name two sources of fine-particle air pollution in the passage. Then explain one way this pollution affects people.

3 Why can rising sea level affect both families and governments in Bangladesh and China?

4 Use two examples from the passage to explain why an environmental issue can affect places far from where it begins.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose one environmental issue from the reading. In exactly three sentences, describe an impact chain that includes the environmental change or source, one place in Southern Asia, one place in Eastern Asia, and two effects on people or economies.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each environmental change or pollution source, circle each effect on people or places, and write the same number beside each connected cause-and-effect set. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How can melting Himalayan glaciers create one danger at first and a different problem later?	At first, extra meltwater can cause floods and landslides. Later, smaller glaciers can send less water downstream during dry months.
2	Name two sources of fine-particle air pollution in the passage. Then explain one way this pollution affects people.	Sources include coal-burning power plants, factories, vehicles, and burning crop waste. The particles can worsen asthma and other breathing problems, or hazy air can close schools and delay flights.
3	Why can rising sea level affect both families and governments in Bangladesh and China?	Families may face unsafe drinking water, harder-to-grow crops, lost homes, or lost income. Governments may need to spend money on flood barriers, drainage, or moving people.
4	Use two examples from the passage to explain why an environmental issue can affect places far from where it begins.	Himalayan glacier melt can change river water for people downstream in India, Bangladesh, and China. Winds can carry air pollution across national borders, affecting communities in another place.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Warming temperatures melt Himalayan glaciers. In India, extra meltwater can raise flood risk, while in China, less dry-season water later can affect hydropower. Flood losses can damage homes, and reduced electricity can affect jobs and daily life.

Accept equivalent cause-and-effect explanations that accurately connect an environmental issue to impacts on people, resources, or economies. For the open response, check for exactly three sentences, both regions, and at least two accurate impacts.