Chapter 6 Humans in the Biosphere

Section 6–1 A Changing Landscape (pages 139–143)

This section describes types of human activities that can affect the biosphere.

Earth as an Island (page 139)

1. Increasing demands on what resources come with a growing human population?
   There are increasing demands on Earth's air, water, land, and living things.

Human Activities (page 140)

2. Is the following sentence true or false? Human activity uses as much energy as all of Earth's other multicellular species combined. _____true_____

3. What four human activities have transformed the biosphere?

Hunting and Gathering (page 140)

4. How did prehistoric hunters and gatherers change the environment? They may have caused major extinction of some animals.

5. Hunting that makes relatively few demands on the environment is called ______subsistence hunting______.

Agriculture (pages 141–142)

6. What is agriculture? It is the practice of farming.

7. Why was the spread of agriculture an important event in human history? It provided people with one of their most basic needs, a dependable supply of food.

8. What social changes came with the cultivation of both plants and animals? Humans began to gather in large settlements, enabling the development of elements of civilization.
9. What changes in agriculture occurred in the 1800s as a result of advancements in
   science and technology? Irrigation, new crop varieties, and the invention of farm machines for
   plowing, planting, and harvesting helped farmers increase their yields tremendously.

10. What was the green revolution? It was the effort in the 1950s by governments and scientists
    to increase food production through new, intensive farming practices that greatly increased yields
    of rice, wheat, and other crops.

11. What is the farming method called monoculture? It calls for large fields to be cleared,
    plowed, and planted with a single crop year after year.

12. Circle the letter of each benefit of the green revolution to human society.
    a. It helped prevent food shortages.
    b. China and India depleted water supplies.
    c. It increased food production.
    d. Global food production was cut in half.

   Industrial Growth and Urban Development (page 143)

13. What occurred during the Industrial Revolution of the 1800s? It added machines and
    factories to civilization.

14. From what resources do we obtain most of the energy to produce and power the
    machines we use? We obtain most of it from fossil fuels, including coal, oil,
    and natural gas.

15. The continued spread of suburban communities across the American landscape is referred
    to as suburban growth.

16. How does suburban growth place stress on plant and animal populations?
    Growth consumes farmland and natural habitats.