Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY SOLUTIONS

Directions: Read about each environmental problem and choose a policy that would solve it. Then, use the lines provided to explain HOW your policy would help to eliminate the problem.

POLICY OPTION
Recycling
Tax Credits
Pollution Limits
Fuel Standards

1. Imagine thick clouds of smog hang over Tokyo. Many believe this is because of new factories that are positioned upwind from the city.

What is your policy solution? _____

How will it help? _____

2. There is a growing problem of litter from tourists, but Tokyo cannot afford to ship out the new trash. Some think the city will have to dig a new landfill in the surrounding suburbs to accommodate all the garbage.

What is your policy solution? _____

How will it help? _____

3. Several factories that manufacture tires in Osaka are releasing huge amounts of carbon into the atmosphere. This carbon is getting trapped in the atmosphere and contributing to global warming.

What is your policy solution? _____

How will it help? _____

4. Imagine more and more wealthy Japanese are buying sport utility vehicles (SUVs) and trucks that require a lot of gas to operate. In 2015, surveys found that SUVs were among the best-selling cars in the country.

What is your policy solution? _____

How will it help? _____

5. Scientists fear the world will heat up 5 degrees by 2050 if we do not cut our electricity usage. Using fluorescent light bulbs can save a lot of energy, but consumers think they are too expensive.

What is your policy solution? _____

How will it help? _____

6. Japanese conservation groups are reporting a sharp increase in the number of plastic bottles and aluminum cans found in the Pacific Ocean, often coming from other nations. The trash is spreading pollutants in the water and killing animals.

What is your policy solution? _____

How will it help? _____

7. Wind power presents an excellent alternative to oil and gas for powering large new buildings because they produce no harmful emissions. However, many architects think the wind turbines are ugly.

What is your policy solution? _____

How will it help? _____

8. Which of these government policies was established specifically to address air pollution problems?
    a. Mandating reduction of emissions from automobiles
    b. Researching soil conservation to improve farming
    c. Passing laws to protect endangered species
    d. Funding a highway beautification project

Study the headline below and answer question 9.

"RIVER POLLUTION AT RECORD HIGH LEVELS"

9. Which of these government actions would <u>most likely</u> be used to solve the problem above?
    a. Construction of a new landfill
    b. Decreased regulation of the auto industry
    c. Increased enforcement of emission standards
    d. Tax breaks for businesses that increase production

10. Which of these is the goal of a law to reduce air and water pollution?
    a. Expanding the economy
    b. Promoting economic equity
    c. Ensuring public health
    d. Protecting individual rights