**Human Impact on our Atmosphere Readings**

*Directions:  Read the article and answer the questions found below.  Questions need to be answered in complete sentences.  You need to answer at least five questions per article.  Answering more questions will get you extra credit - up to 20 points!*

**The Greenhouse Effect**

1. What is a greenhouse?  What is the purpose of a greenhouse?
2. Where does most energy on Earth come from?
3. What are the most important greenhouse gases?
4. What are the positive consequence of the greenhouse effect?
5. Explain why Venus experiences the negative effects of a greenhouse effect?
6. Now that you have read the article, explain how the greenhouse effect on Earth is similar to a real greenhouse.

**Problems in the Atmosphere**

1. What is the purpose of the Earth’s atmosphere?
2. Explain the types of pollution which affect our atmosphere.
3. Explain the negative effects that ozone can have on our Earth.
4. Explain the negative effects that acid rain can have on our Earth.
5. Which chemical has caused significant damage to the ozone layer?
6. What is the danger of too much UV radiation?

**Global Warming:  Why the fuss?**

1. How long ago was the last ice age?
2. Why is the Earth’s atmosphere similar to a piece of clothing?
3. Temperatures began to increase rapidly from about 1750 until the present.  What was happening in that time period to cause the increase in temperature?
4. How are scientists using computer models to predict global warming patterns?
5. Most behaviors that need to change can fall into two categories.  What are they?
6. What are two things people can do to reduce energy use, and help slow global warming?

**The Science of Acid Rain**

1. What is acid rain?  In what period in history was acid rain first recognized?
2. What two chemicals does burning fossil fuels release?
3. What does acid rain do to the atmosphere?
4. Several examples of acid rain damage in Europe are mentioned.  Name one.
5. What was the black triangle?
6. Explain what steps you think we need to take in the future to prevent further ecological damage to our Earth due to acid rain.