3.4 Green Crime and State Crime as Categories of Harm: Test Pack

AQA 7192 · about 20 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. Write full sentences for the longer, 10-mark and 12-mark questions.

1 Which one of the following best describes 'green criminology' as a field in sociology and criminology?

- ☐ A) a branch of criminology concerned only with illegal hunting and poaching
- ☐ B) a perspective that studies environmental harm, including legal but harmful acts against ecosystems
- ☐ C) a legal category used by courts to sentence corporate polluters to higher fines
- ☐ D) an approach focusing solely on animal rights as a moral issue

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

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2 Item B: Short item for the final evaluation. Item B: A global NGO report states: 'Large scale industrial agriculture and some state-sanctioned infrastructure projects have led to habitat loss and displacement of communities. Some states have argued these actions were necessary for national development. Civil society groups say that the environmental damage and human rights abuses should be treated as both green crimes and state crimes.'

Using Item B, identify two ways the NGO report links green harm to state responsibility.

(Total for Question 2 is 4 marks)

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3 State one way international organisations can help to identify or punish state crime, and give a brief limitation of this role.

(Total for Question 3 is 4 marks)

4 Outline two examples of green crime in the contemporary global context, naming one that is a primary green crime and one that is a secondary green crime.

(Total for Question 4 is 4 marks)

5 State one reason why corporate actors may be involved in secondary green crimes such as illegal dumping or falsifying environmental reports.

(Total for Question 5 is 2 marks)

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Mark scheme · 3.4 Green Crime and State Crime as Categories of Harm: Test Pack

Question 1

B (green criminology studies environmental harm, including legal but harmful acts against ecosystems) **B1**

Answer: B

Question 2

identifies one way, e.g. states sanction industrial projects that cause habitat loss or displacement **B1**

brief development of the first way, e.g. state policies or approvals enable large scale environmental damage **B1**

identifies a second way, e.g. states justify actions on grounds of national development, which can be used to excuse rights abuses **B1**

brief development of the second way, e.g. the state's appeal to development can align ecological harm with official policy rather than criminality **B1**

Answer: The report links green harm to state responsibility by saying states sanction industrial agriculture and infrastructure projects that cause habitat loss and displacement, and by noting states justify these actions as necessary for national development, which can be used to excuse or conceal human rights abuses.

Question 3

states one way, e.g. international courts or tribunals can investigate and prosecute war crimes or genocide, or UN bodies can issue reports **B1**

development of the first point **B1**

states one limitation, e.g. enforcement depends on state cooperation and powerful states can block action **B1**

brief development of the limitation, e.g. political interests and sovereignty often hinder effective international punishment **B1**

Answer: International organisations can investigate and prosecute state crimes via international courts or issue reports through UN bodies, but their effectiveness is limited because enforcement often depends on state cooperation and powerful states may block or ignore international action.

Question 4

a correct example of a primary green crime, e.g. an industrial oil spill that kills marine life or large scale deforestation causing habitat loss **B1**

brief development of the primary example, linking it to direct environmental harm **B1**

a correct example of a secondary green crime, e.g. a corporation illegally falsifying emissions data or a state ignoring pollution laws to favour industry **B1**

brief development of the secondary example, linking it to regulatory failure or deliberate lawbreaking by institutions **B1**

Answer: Primary example: an industrial oil spill that kills marine life and damages habitats. Secondary example: a corporation falsifying emissions tests, or a state allowing illegal dumping by industry, which shows regulatory failure enabling environmental harm.

Question 5

identifies a genuine reason, e.g. profit motive and cost cutting to avoid expense of proper waste disposal or pollution controls **B1**

brief development, e.g. companies may falsify reports to avoid fines or to gain competitive advantage **B1**

Answer: Companies may illegally dump waste or falsify reports to cut costs and protect profit margins; falsifying data can help them avoid fines and gain competitive advantage.

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