

Pre-Assessment: Carbon & Climate

Instructions: For each statement or question, circle the best answer. Do not skip any questions; be honest and do your best.

True or False?

- 1 Weather and climate are two words for the same thing.
True **False**
- 2 The carbon cycle is the flow of carbon through living things and the environment.
True **False**
- 3 A single carbon atom always travels through the same processes, in the same order as it moves through the carbon cycle.
True **False**
- 4 All carbon dioxide found in the atmosphere (air) is unnatural.
True **False**
- 5 Some actions humans take increase the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, and some actions decrease it.
True **False**
- 6 Until recently, Earth's climate has always been the same.
True **False**

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Multiple Choice



- 7 How do scientists know how much carbon dioxide was in the Earth's atmosphere 800,000 years ago?
- A. Studying tree rings
 - B. Studying air bubbles in ice cores
 - C. Carbon dioxide readings from Mauna Loa Observatory in Hawaii
 - D. All of the above
- 8 How can we use forests to study climate and climate change?
- A. The type of forest found in a region is directly related to the climate.
 - B. Changes in forest regions can help us understand the effect of climate change.
 - C. Changes in the plant and animal species found in forests can provide insight into broader changes in climate that may be occurring.
 - D. All of the above
- 9 What is one change that scientists have seen in plant species that they believe is related to changing climates?
- A. Plants are holding more water in their stems.
 - B. Plants are developing a natural sunscreen in their leaves to block the sun's rays.
 - C. Plants are blooming earlier in the spring and continuing to grow later in fall.
 - D. All of the above
- 10 Which of the following describes the most reliable source you might use to research climate change?
- A. The first article that comes up after a Google search
 - B. Recent article by a university professor that cites the sources of its information
 - C. A blog site sponsored by a political group
 - D. An academic article published several years ago