

Natural Resources and Civilizations – Quiz 1 prep - Friday Jan. 30, 2026

Example questions for Quiz 1 – There may be others from this week’s content...

From class activities

1. What are natural resources and/or civilizations?
2. What is Dr. Heinzl’s field of study and how does it relate to this class?
3. How does the Tragedy of the Commons relate to this course?
4. Provide specific examples of how economics relates to sustainability.
5. Be able to list and characterize at least 4 aspects of a wicked problem.

From the readings

End of Rome

1. Government ‘failure’ comes down to an...?
2. Why are people shifting their time and energy to local levels rather than federal... examples?
3. Increasingly political action toward efficiency, sustainability and resiliency are driven by...?
4. Bonus – What is out of date from this 2019 article?

Happiest country

1. The happiest country on the planet is...? Why? An example of the least happy?
2. What is the key supposition of our globalized and economic order?
3. How do the authors’ interpret their findings from the national composite flourishing index?
4. In summary, the authors suggest we need to figure out how to...? What are your thoughts?

From the videos

1. What can we learn from the past, to apply toward today, so our own society does not collapse?
2. What are the variables from his ‘5-point framework’ of historic reasons for past societal collapses?
3. What US – State did he use as a modern analogy to his 5-point framework?
4. How could societies not realize they were setting up their own downfall? Why do societies fail to perceive or address their problems?