**Human Impact on the Environment**

**Introduction**

Humans modify ecosystems through population growth, consumption of goods, and technology. As human populations grow, they take up more space, consume more resources, and produce more wastes. The expansion of technology also increases the quantity of resources people use. All these activities lead to changes in ecosystems, including the way that they function. The equilibrium of ecosystems can be upset by human actions.

In this project, you and a partner will research a specific topic that has a harmful effect on the ecosystem. You will then present your findings to the rest of the class. By gaining knowledge of the hazards that affect our environment, we can help alleviate some of the damage and help prevent it from occurring in the future.

**Topics of Research**

You and your partner will be responsible for conducting research and presenting information about one of the following topics:

* Habitat destruction
* Air pollution
* Environmental poisons
* Animal rights
* Exploitation of natural resources
* Biodiversity

Each topic has different information and questions to consider when conducting your research. Once topics have been assigned, your teacher will provide you with the extra information in the form of a rubric.

**Academic Integrity and Conducting Research**

When conducting research it is very easy to simply copy and paste the information that you find. However, when you present this information to other people, you are essentially claiming that those words are yours, when in fact you stole them from somebody else. In order to avoid plagiarism and academic dishonesty, you must either put the information in quotations and cite it accordingly or put the information in your own words.