

SUSTAINABILITY

Key Revision Facts: GCSE Technology

Sustainability means meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. In addition to natural resources, we also need social and economic resources. Three pillars of Sustainability are:

1. Environmental Sustainability

Environmental Sustainability is maintained by ensuring all of the earth's ecological systems are kept in balance. Simultaneously, humans consume natural resources within them at a rate where they can replenish themselves.

2. Economic Sustainability

Human communities across the globe can maintain their independence and access the resources that they require, financial and other, to meet their needs. Economic systems are intact, and activities are available to everyone, such as secure sources of livelihood.

3. Social Sustainability

Universal human rights and basic necessities are attainable by all people who have access to enough resources to keep their families and communities healthy and secure. Healthy communities have just leaders who ensure personal, labor, and cultural rights are respected, and all people are protected from discrimination.

The resources that we consume have an impact on the planet. When selecting products, we should consider the materials' ecological and social footprint of the product.

Finite

A non-renewable resource is a natural resource that cannot be readily replaced by natural means quickly to keep up with consumption. An example is a carbon-based fossil fuel.

Non-finite

Non-finite resources are found naturally and can be replaced. Examples include wood, cotton, and renewable energy sources such as solar and wind.

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VERSION INFORMATION

Date	Arthur	Comment
31-Jan-2021	Andrew Seaford	Initial release.