

A list of bullet points with important information is given to help you learn the subject matter of this chapter.

1. The *two* major contributing types of compounds believed causing acid rain are NO₂ and SO₂.
2. Relative to underground mining, open pit mining: (1) is generally more economical; and (2) has a greater environmental impact.
3. The room-like area where an ore is actually removed by underground is referred to as a stope.
4. The principal cause of acid mine drainage is the breakdown of pyrite.
5. Back-filling in underground mines: (1) reduces the surface impact of mining; and (2) is very expensive.
6. Very tall smokestacks are frequently constructed at smelters and power plants in order to disperse and dilute their emissions.
7. The "greenhouse effect" may be caused primarily by increased concentrations of CO₂ motor vehicles.
8. The loss of ozone from the Earth's atmosphere is believed to be due to its reaction with chlorofluoromethanes.
9. The gaseous radioactive element that has been found to build up in homes as it seeps *from* underlying rocks is radon-86.
10. SYNROC is being tested as a possible means of confining high-level nuclear waste.
11. The mineral commodity responsible for Minamata disease is mercury.
12. Proper disposal of common domestic trash requires: (1) isolation from ground water; (2) daily compaction and coverage; (3) coverage with a thick final cap; and (4) a vegetation cover to prevent erosion.
13. Incineration of municipal wastes: (1) reduces volume; (2) can provide heat for industrial use; (3) often generates noxious gases; and (4) can deeply corrode the incinerator linings.
14. Domestic household trash consists primarily of paper and cardboard.
15. "Overburden" is the term used to describe the waste material overlying an open pit mine.
16. "In situ leaching" is a method of recovering copper, gold and uranium from low-grade ores.
17. Manganese nodules are an important resource because they contain (1) manganese; (4) nickel; (5) copper; and (6) cobalt;
18. The waste material resulting from a mineral processing operation is called tailings.
19. The term "matte" refers to a mixture of metal sulfides produced by a smelter.
20. "Atmospheric inversion" is a situation in which a layer of warm air overlies a layer of cool air.
21. In 1952, several thousand deaths in London, England, were caused by severe

smog.

22. High-level radioactive wastes account for approximately 0.1% percent of waste generated by the nuclear industry.
23. An example of a "non-point" source of pollution is provided by pesticides.
24. The amount of solid waste generated in the U.S. every year is about 5000 million tons.
25. Standing water overburdened with dead and dying organisms leads to a degrading process called eutrophication.
26. Revulcanizing is a process used in the recycling of rubber.
27. Paper products use about 35%percent of the world's commercial wood harvest .
28. The location that the United States has selected as its primary high level nuclear waste disposal site is Yucca Mountain, Nevada.
29. For the same amount of metal produced from the ores, the environmental impact of open pit mines relative to that of underground mines is generally much greater.
30. Relative to open pit mining, underground mining is (1) more expensive; (2) smaller in scale; and (3) more dangerous.
31. The mineral contaminant most responsible for acid mine runoff is pyrite.
32. The principal compound formed when organic material decomposes in modern landfills is methane.
33. During photosynthesis, plants take in CO₂ and give off O₂.
34. Mountain top mining has been chosen by mining companies as the preferred means of coal extraction (over other well known methods) in some parts of West Virginia primarily because it is cheaper.
35. The most abundant gas in the Earth's atmosphere is nitrogen.
36. The principal compound formed when coal is completely burned is CO₂.
37. The primary cause of acid rain are (1) sulfur dioxide emission power plants, and (2) Nitrogen oxide emissions from farm plants.
38. The Exxon Valdez incident was the greatest oil spill in the u.s.