

\_\_\_/50 points possible

## AP Biology Summer 2021 Reading Assignment

**Title:** *The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History* by Elizabeth Kolbert

**Directions:** Read *The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History*. After you finish reading each chapter summarize the main points in a concept map. Later, these summaries will provide a great foundation for writing your report. A one-page concept map for each of the 13 chapters (26 points) and a hard copy of your report (24 points) are due on the first day of class on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Title each section of your paper (Introduction, Analysis and Evaluation, and Conclusion). See below for details.

**Format of report:** Body of report must be double-spaced, Calibri, size 11 font, with 1-inch margins on all sides. Note that your paper must be YOUR original work. To verify originality of the work, you will be expected to submit the paper to turnitin.com to receive credit. Expected length of your report is 4-5 pages (please try to print on both sides of your paper if possible). Be sure to include:

- Heading (centered at top of page 1) for paper with title (italicized) of book and author
- Your first and last name, date, and class (RHS A.P. Biology)
- Cite work of others in MLA format and use parenthetical citations where appropriate.

**1. Introduction (8 points):** Type about 1 page to explain the main themes of the book.

- What is the thesis?
- What are the important conclusions?
- Provide a general overview of the author's topic, main points, and argument. Don't try to summarize each chapter or every angle, the concept maps provide that. Choose the ones that are most significant and interesting to you.

**2. Analysis and Evaluation (12 points):** In this section you analyze or critique the book. Type 2.5 - 3.5 pages while organizing your writing into multiple paragraphs. You can write about your own opinions; just be sure that you explain and support them with examples (this is that essential part of science...providing evidence, ex. page numbers). Some questions you need to consider:

- Did the author achieve her purpose?
- What applicability does the book have to your life and the actions that you take each day?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of the book?
- Since this is non-fiction, what are the author's qualifications to write about the subject?
- What is your overall response to the book?
- Did you find it interesting, informative, etc.?
- Would you recommend it to others? Why or why not?

**3. Conclusion (4 points):** In about 0.5 pages and within one paragraph, briefly conclude by pulling your thoughts together. Describe what impression the book left you with or emphasize what you want your reader to know about it.

**Remember:** On the first day of school turn in your report on top with the concept maps of each chapter in order (1-13) stapled below.

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Paper submitted to Turnitin.com:     YES                     No

Component	Excellent	Fair	Poor	Absent
<b>Concept Maps</b> ____/26 Points	Detailed/thoughtful full-page concept map of each chapter.	Is not detailed/thoughtful or is not one full page of each chapter.	Lacks detail and is not a full page of each chapter.	None included.
<b>Introduction</b> ____/8 Points	One page that clearly explains the main themes of the book.	Is shorter than one full page or does not clearly explain the main themes of the book.	Both shorter than one full page and does not clearly explain the main themes of the book.	None included.
<b>Analysis and Evaluation</b> ____/12 Points	Is 2.5 – 3.5 pages in length and includes thoughtful analysis supported by multiple references to the text.	Is shorter than 2.5 pages in length or does not include thoughtful analysis supported by multiple references to the text.	Is shorter than 2.5 pages in length and does not include thoughtful analysis supported by multiple references to the text.	None included.
<b>Conclusion</b> ____/4 Points	Is at least 0.5 pages in length and clearly describes what impression the book left you with or emphasizes what you want your reader to know about it.	Is less than 0.5 pages in length or does not clearly describe the impression the book left you with or does not emphasize what you want your reader to know about it.	Is less than 0.5 pages in length or does not clearly describe the impression the book left you with and does not emphasize what you want your reader to know about it.	None included.
<b>Total Score</b> ____/50 Points				