

Name:

Date:

Mining: Worth it, or not?

Background

Consider for a minute that everything you own and use that is not plant based has come from a mine in some way, whether it be directly or indirectly. Mining has its benefits to local and global economies, providing job opportunities for people, and promoting the GDP of countries through trade and exports. In Canada, a vast number of people are employed directly through exploration and mineral extraction, and even more are employed indirectly through refining, processing and servicing.

Mining is however, not without its faults. Various health concerns have been documented in miners as well as populations in close proximity to mine sites due to heavy metals contamination in the atmosphere and water systems through sedimentation and contaminated run off. Humans are not the only who feel direct effects, either. Despite our best remediation practices, biodiversity loss and global climate change can also be exacerbated by the mining industry.

Objective

You will be required to research the pros and cons of the mining industry and form an opinion of whether you are in favour of, or against it. If you are in favour of certain aspects, but against others, you must specify and support such views.

Outline

- Your opinion must be supported by fact! That means that you must conduct **research** to prove and support your points.
- You must provide at least 3 arguments to support your opinions
- You must structure your opinion piece as a research paper with a clear introduction, body, and conclusion paragraphs
- You must provide at least 5 difference reference sources and attach a bibliography
- Your page should be submitted in 12 point font, double spaced and be at least 500 words (approximately 2 – 3 pages double spaced)

Helpful Resources

The following websites (search on Google) are excellent places to begin you research.

1. Yukon Government Department of Energy, Mines and Resources
2. Yukon Chamber of Mines
3. Natural Resources Canada – Mining

Grading

You will be scored on the following criteria:

1. Writing mechanics – Is the paper free of spelling and grammatical errors?
2. Research – Have sufficient and reliable resources been cited?
3. Data – Are figures and data that you mention current and accurate?
4. Opinion – Do you provide a compelling argument to support your opinion?
5. Overall flow – Is your paper sufficient in length and detail?

This assignment is due to be submitted on: _____