

CUC100 Academic Literacies through Exploring Sustainability



Herremans, I. M., & Reid, R. E. (2002). Developing awareness of the sustainability concept. *The Journal of Environmental Education*, 34(1), 16-20.

The article talks about the sustainability, its definition, and how it can be achieved through education and practical perspective. The article stipulates that the idea of sustainability began way back in 1970 when there was a need to incorporate the sustainability education in schools and other learning institutions; a practice that was greatly driven by the sustainability leaders and the universities. The article stipulates that the academic institutions have a sole responsibility of educating students to have a clear understanding of the sustainability measures as well as obtain environmental stewardship. The universities therefore have models and procedures that can be applied to link the classroom work and the real world sustainability practices.

The sustainability triad is applied by the study mentioned in the article for case analysis because it has numerous advantages. With this model, students can understand the links among the three aspects of the sustainability; they are then able to apply what they have learnt to facilitate sustainability issues in the environmental conservation. The model provides an avenue for understanding the barriers with the aim of

attaining sustainability and lastly, the application of the model facilitates advanced learning levels like synthesis, analysis, evaluation and judgment. From the article, the environmental education enables the learners to apply the sustainability measures in varied ways; a complete focus is based on how the educators can influence the curriculum in two major ways. Developing contents that motivates the search of knowledge in various sustainability variables is one of the major ways that the educators can use to influence their knowledge in sustainability aspects.

The integration of the sustainability research in the college and school programs enables the students to have a grasp of the requirement of the environmental conservations as well as the sustainability requirements in the global perspectives. According to the article, sustainability is conceptual; it can be defined as the capability of being controlled or maintained over a long period of time; in the environmental terms, the term can be used to describe the protection of the environment by considering the pollution or other factor that can lead to the damage of the environment.

Brueckner, M., Durey, A., Mayes, R., & Pforr, C. (2013). The mining boom and Western Australia's changing landscape: Towards sustainability or business as usual?. *Rural Society*, 22(2), 111-124.

In this article, the authors point out the roles of mining in Western Australia; they present different dimensions of the mining sectors and their contributions towards the sustainable development in the country. The sustainability measures presented in this article are borrowed from

the community-based investigation and other academic research journals. The data used in the paper was taken from the government database and non-profit organizations. The research article indicates that although there is an improvement in the mining industry, the problems facing economy, social status and the environment still persist. The authors of the articles suggest that even though there will be a growth in the future, the areas that are still facing problems need to be considered by the business and governmental institutions to facilitate sustainability.

From the articles, the writers suggest that social responsibility and sustainability are just the additional measures acquired lately in the mining sector. The companies have been having poor performance record in terms of environmental and social factors. The writers also try to include the economic benefits of the mining in the Western Australia. Some of the benefits mentioned include economic growth, increase of the employment opportunities, increased income and sales for the mining companies and creation of the markets through development of urban centers that has been facilitated by the increased human activities.

A discussion on the effects of mining to the environment is also presented in the article. The writers confirm that there has been an increased sustainability measures due to the increased mining activities. The environmental protection has been the major factor under consideration since mining activities introduces most chemical pollutants to the environment. The change in the mining procedures, for instance a shift to the open cut mining from the underground methods of mining has led to the introduction of chemical pollutants to the surrounding environments.

Cavendish, R. (2000). Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act. *History Today*, 50(7), 54.

The authors of this journal provide definition of sustainability and its aspects. The writer suggest that sustainability involves perceiving and appreciating the interdependent, cyclical, and dynamic nature of different ecological systems on earth right from the soil to the entire parts of the environment. Sustainability also involves the interaction of both human and all other creatures which leads to a self-sustaining system.

The writer defines sustainability in two different ways; as a profession as well as an idea. As an idea, the writer elaborates that sustainability refers to the dynamism in the interaction of the environmental systems while as a discipline; sustainability can be defined as the rapid evolution of human activities in correspondent with the planetary setbacks that we are all facing. It can be perceived as the emerging discipline in schools and colleges. Another definition given by the writer is that sustainability is the interaction of processes and systems that are able to coexist naturally amidst the challenges that may arise; systems are coherent set of elements that supports each other in an attempt to achieve self sustainability. Systems may include environments such as deserts, forests etc.

There is further definition of the sustainability as a discipline. It is a scientific discipline that tries to look the processes which creatures undergo to ensure the persistent growth and evolution. Science is an area of knowledge where keen observations are made from the observable data. Measures are taken to bring out the realities of the study. As a

discipline the writer furthers his concept by reinstating that the subject requires high skilled individual who have problem-solving ability; those who are able to measure the intricate changes in the patterns of changes that occur in different ecosystems. The writer also defines the requirement of a sustainability student; it requires an individual whose dream is to work towards sustainable development of the environment.

Summary

The idea of sustainability began way back in 1970 when there was a need to incorporate the sustainability education in schools and other learning institutions; a practice that was greatly driven by the sustainability leaders and the universities. With the sustainability model, students can understand the links among the three aspects of the sustainability; they are then able to apply what they have learnt to facilitate sustainability issues in the environmental conservation. The integration of the sustainability research in the college and school programs enables the students to have a grasp of the requirement of the environmental conservations as well as the sustainability requirements in the global perspectives.

Commentary

The articles “Developing awareness of the sustainability concept” covers a lot of sustainability issues that is majorly discussed in the article. The

sustainability issues as stipulated by the articles involve preserving the conditions to ensure persistent and uniform growth.