

Chapter 12 Geography of Natural Resources Answer four of the following questions for 25 points each.

1. In 1974, when the US imported 35% of the oil it consumed, President Richard Nixon in his State of Union Address said, "Let this be our national goal...The US will not be dependent on any other country for the energy we need to provide our jobs, to heat our homes, and to keep our transportation moving." The aim of his Project Independence was to be independent of foreign energy sources by 1980. How do you account for the fact that, more than 35 years later, the US imports more than 60 % of the oil it consumes?
2. Why has the proportion of US energy supplied by coal increased since 1961? What ecological and social problems are associated with the use of coal?
3. Discuss three ways of reducing demands on resources.

4. What are some types of wetlands? Why are they important, and why have so many disappeared? How could an estuary have changed the outcome of Katrina for New Orleans?
5. What, in general, are the leading mining countries? What role do developing countries play in the production of critical raw materials? How have producing countries reacted to the threatened scarcity of copper?