

**Learning Objectives:**

1. “Illustrate how one’s perception of time and place impacts attitudes and behaviors toward the natural world.”
2. “Analyze the past, assess the present, and plan for the future with respect to time and sustainability through critiques of literary works.”
3. “Demonstrate critical thinking skills to writing . . . that evaluate[s] and synthesize[s] information in a logical manner.”

**Due Date:** February 18.

**Grade-Point Value:** 100 points, 10% of final grade (see scoring rubric on reverse side)

**Instructions:** After reading *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss, write a 750-1,000 word essay that answers the following questions, drawing textual support from both the story and the course materials referenced. Time permitting, we will read the book together in class, but you may be able to access an e-book version posted on youtube at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=soRbNIPbHEo>

1. Identify and explain the combination of worldview and time-perception elements that prompted the Once-ler’s extirpation of the truffula trees, and suggest some members of U.S. American society whom the Once-ler and the Lorax may represent. Refer specifically to these handouts posted in Canvas:
  - a. Introduction to Culture, Activity Orientation, & Worldviews
  - b. Cultural Perspectives on Time
2. Based upon class discussion and the handout excerpted from Cunningham & Cunningham *Principles of Environmental Science: Inquiry and Application* 7<sup>th</sup> Edition (posted in Canvas) of these environmental science, economic and societal concepts, discuss how they are addressed in the story, using supporting examples from *The Lorax*:
  - a. Sustainable use of natural resources
  - b. Point source pollution
  - c. Habitat disruption/depletion
  - d. Internalizing external costs
  - e. Extirpation (which may ultimately result in extinction)
  - f. Environmental stewardship
3. Lesson learned: “Analyze the past, assess the present, and plan for the future.” Given the current state of environmental and economic collapse depicted in *The Lorax*, discuss two practices that the Once-ler might have incorporated to ensure future environmental and economic stability.

**MLA Formatting Requirements, Including:**

1. Times New Roman 12-point font, with 1-inch margins.
2. Heading at upper left of page one: Your name, professors’ names, course number, date.
3. Header at upper right of all pages: Your last name and the page number.

4. Quotations and in-text citations of author last name and page number, e.g., (Gardner 35), corresponding to:
5. Works Cited listing at the end of the essay, in alphabetical order, under authors' last names.

Preferred formatting for *The Lorax* talking e-book is this:

Dr. Seuss. *The Lorax*. Talking e-book. YouTube. Google. 11 Nov. 2010. Web. [plug in your access date].

Preferred formatting for print version circulated in class is:

Dr. Seuss. *The Lorax*. New York: Random House, 1971. Print.

SCORING RUBRIC	Points Possible (100 total)
Accurate identification of worldview, time-perception elements, and contemporary representatives of the Once-ler and the Lorax; critical thinking evident.	25
Accurate explanation of environmental science, economic, and societal concepts; critical thinking evident.	35
Sensible discussion of two practices that the Once-ler might have employed to prevent environmental and economic collapse; critical thinking evident.	15
Meets minimum length requirement and quotes supportive detail from all required sources, evaluating and synthesizing information in a logical manner.	15
Exhibits college-level expression in all regards: Quotation, MLA documentation format, sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, word choice.	10