

1. Full citation:

Saad, Lydia, and Riley E. Dunlap. "Americans Are Environmentally Friendly, but Issue Not Seen as Urgent Problem." Americans Are Environmentally Friendly, but Issue Not Seen as Urgent Problem. Gallup, 17 Apr. 2000. Web. 10 May 2013.

2. Where did/does the author work, what else has s/he written about, and what are her/his credentials:

Lydia Saad is the senior editor at the Gallup Organization in Princeton, NJ. She focuses primarily on polls and other things that the Gallup organization focuses on. Her credentials include a master's degree in political science from UConn. Riley Dunlap is a professor at Oklahoma State University. He has written about environmental sociology, social movements, and survey research methods. His credentials include a PhD from the University of Oregon.

3. What are the topics of the text:

The topic of the text is that while Americans aren't necessarily against the environment, it is not seen as an urgent problem.

4. What is the main argument of the text:

The main argument of the text is that even though Americans would consider themselves to be environmentally friendly, concern is decreasing because it is not seen as an urgent problem.

5. Describe at least three ways that the argument is supported:

- a) The poll asked Americans if they agree with the goals of the environmental movement.
- b) The poll asked Americans if they thought the problem was serious.
- c) The poll asked Americans if they were optimistic about environmental progress.

6. What three quotes capture the message of the text:

- a) "83% of Americans agree with the goals of the environmental movement, including 43% who "strongly agree.""
- b) "55% describe current environmental problems as serious, including 17% who describe them as "extremely serious.""
- c) "The flip side of the decline in concern about the environment since 1989 is that Americans are now more optimistic about gains made in environmental protection. In 1990, only 14% felt a "great deal" of progress had been made in dealing with environmental problems, compared to 26% who feel this way today."

7. What three questions about environmental risk and precaution does this article leave you with:

- a) How has this poll changed? What would it look like today?
- b) What makes Americans optimistic about the environment?
- c) Is this misplaced optimism?

8. What three points, details or references from the text did you follow up on to advance your perspective on environmental risk and precaution:

- a) I was unable to find a similar Gallup poll for 2013 but would imagine that it would say that more people feel that environmental issues are a serious problem.
- b) I could not find specific articles about what drives Americans to be so optimistic about the environment but I would imagine that the marketing done by environmental groups as led there to be a belief that things are getting better.
- c) Again, I could not find specific articles but thought that this optimism is misplaced because things aren't really getting better but if that optimism is there, it might actually stall positive progress.