Concept map example for question 6

This may lead to

This may lead to

This may lead to

Research and development to identify **other suitable materials** to replace REEs, new deposits, purification processes, environmental impacts of extraction, purification, and use, etc.

New environmental issues arising from improper mine tailing disposal, and/or unsustainable mining practices

Economic growth, job creation, infrastructure, diffusing international tension, etc.

This may lead to

**Increased supply for REEs**

**New mining ventures** worldwide

**Less demand for REEs**

The REE deposits that were not profitable before will become profitable with increased prices (**mineral resources will become mineral reserves**)

Consumers looking for other materials to use instead of REEs

(For example, Ford is going to use Li-ion batteries in their new 2013 Ford Fusion C-Max Hybrid models instead of batteries with REEs to make the cars more affordable)

This may lead to

Continued dependence on conventional fossil fuels instead of alternative energy sources such as wind turbines

This may lead to

This may lead to

This may lead to

This may lead to

Consumers changing their consumption patterns and not using the commodities with REEs (people did survive without MP3 players not too long ago)

This may lead to

Increased price for the commodities

This may lead to

Demand for REE exceeds supply (supply–demand imbalance)