

Unit 6: Connecting theory to practice

Fact Sheet Grading Rubric

Fact sheets will be scored using the criteria indicated below. Refer to the Assignment Handout for an overview of the assignment and a more detailed description of expectations. NOTE: your information does not need to follow the order in this rubric.

	Nonperformance	Poor	Basic	Good	Exemplary	Score
Content (80 pts)						
Soil sustainability defined (10 pts)	Soil sustainability is not defined.		Soil sustainability is defined, including 1-2 factors that contribute to it.		Soil sustainability is defined, including at least three factors that contribute to it.	
Physiographic region identified (2 pts)	Physiographic region is not correctly identified.		-		Physiographic region is correctly identified.	
Regional importance of soil sustainability (8 pts)	Significance of soil sustainability is not addressed.		Presents an argument for the significance of soil sustainability.		Presents a thorough argument for the significance of soil sustainability in their physiographic region.	
Local soil properties (10 pts)	Local soil properties are not described.		1-2 local soil properties are described.		All relevant local soil properties are described.	
Climate change and precipitation (4 pts)	Predicted effects of climate change on precipitation during the summer growing season are not described.		Predicted effects of climate change on precipitation during the summer growing season are described with some errors.		Predicted effects of climate change on precipitation during the summer growing season are correctly described.	
Climate change and erosion rates (6 pts)	Impact of predicted changes in precipitation on erosion rates in their region are not described.		Describes the impact of predicted changes in precipitation on erosion rates in their region with some errors.		Correctly describes the impact of predicted changes in precipitation on erosion rates in their given region.	
Erosivity and land management (10 pts)	No linkages between soil erosivity and land management practices are identified.		Identifies one correct linkage between soil erosivity and land management practices.		Identifies at least two correct linkages between soil erosivity and land management practices.	

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Cont.	Nonperformance	Poor	Basic	Good	Exemplary	Score
Recommendations (10 pts)	No recommendations are made for agricultural practices that can minimize soil erosion.		Recommendations for agricultural practices that can minimize soil erosion are made, but are not evidence-based and/ or are not specific to their region.		Makes evidence-based recommendations for agricultural practices that can minimize soil erosion in their physiographic region.	
Need for action (10 pts)	Does not address need for action.		Presents an argument for taking action that is not compelling and/or evidence-based. Social or economic factors are not discussed.		Presents a compelling, evidence-based argument for taking action that addresses both social and economic factors.	
Feasibility (10 pts)	Feasibility is not discussed.		Feasibility is discussed, but does not account for stakeholder perspectives.		Feasibility of recommendations is discussed from the perspective of stakeholders.	
Format (20 pts)	Nonperformance	Poor	Basic	Good	Exemplary	
Citations (10 pts)	Factual information is not cited or is not cited correctly.		Some factual information is cited correctly.		All factual information is cited correctly.	
Length (2 pts)	Longer than two pages.		n/a		Two pages or less.	
Readability (2 pts)	Major grammatical and/or spelling errors. Document is disorganized and difficult to follow.		Minor grammatical and/or spelling errors. Document is somewhat difficult to follow.		Document is well organized, easy to read, and free of grammatical and spelling errors.	
Visual balance (2 pts)	Document has poor balance of text, images, and white space and is not visually interesting.		Some visual interest, but document is not well balanced.		Document is visually interesting with a good balance of text, images, and white space.	
Presentation of technical material (4 pts)	Technical terms are not defined and information is not accessible to a lay audience.		Some technical terms are defined and information is communicated somewhat effectively for a lay audience.		All technical terms are defined correctly and information is communicated effectively for a lay audience.	