**FYS207 Earth Corps Reading Review Questions Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Mollison Chapter 2 Concepts and Themes**

<https://people.wou.edu/~taylors/FYS207_WOU_Earth_Corps/text/Text_Ch2_Concepts.pdf>

Read the chapter and answer the following review questions. Provide sketches or images, as required. Use your favorite internet search tools to augment your readings, and answer the questions below.

1. Describe the concept of a “closed system” in thermodynamics, provide an example. State the second law of thermodynamics.
2. Using two or three sentences, share what’s on your mind right now…first thought that you think of…
3. List the two fundamental principles of the scientific method discussed by the author; how does the author’s philosophy align with traditional scientific method?
4. In terms of design principles, state the basic tenets of the “Life Intervention Principle” and the “Law of Return”. How does the author relate these concepts to the responsibility of human society to live in a sustainable way?
5. List and briefly discuss with one or two sentences, the 5 design principles in the reading, that have been distilled for use with permaculture.
6. Cite the author’s statement on the “policy of resource management” and “principle of disorder”.
7. Examine Figure 2.2 on p. 17 showing a permaculture-design based homestead living unit. List the key elements illustrated in the diagram. Is this system simple or complex in terms of variables on the landscape? Based on your reading, will this system likely yield productive resources to support human life and the ecosystem?
8. Using 2 or 3 sentences, define and/or describe the following terms:
   1. Product Yield
   2. Energy Yield
   3. System Yield
9. List and briefly describe 6 of the 10 permaculture-based strategies that are used to create positive resource yields on the landscape.
10. Using 3 to 4 sentences discuss the limitations associated with the “Big Pumpkin” fallacy in terms of agricultural food production.
11. Describe the concept of “cycles” in nature, provide three examples discussed by the author.
12. Compare the illustrations on Figure 2.3 and 2.4, showing the materials and energy resources used in producing a chicken egg for breakfast. Discuss the differences in material and energy resource consumption required for industrial-based egg production vs. permaculture-based egg production. Based on the illustration, which methodology requires greater cost and investment on the front end of production?
13. Examine the food pyramid figure illustrated in Figure 2.6. What is the ultimate source of energy in food production for the human species?
14. Based on the author’s discussion of the human food web, what are the views presented on food lifestyles of vegetarian vs. carnivorous diets.
15. Cite the “principle of stability” and describe its relationship to diversity of systems.