

Lecture Questions: Acid Pollution

These questions are all taken from chapter 6 (about acid deposition). Note that our class lectures will be about the broader topic of acid pollution, including acid mine drainage, the effects of acid pollution, and acid neutralization.

1. What is an acid? What is a base?
2. Explain the pH scale of acidity.
3. What is the definition of acid deposition?
4. What are *acid anhydrides*?
5. Explain in detail how the emission of (a) SO_2 or (b) NO_x creates acid deposition.
6. Compare the main activities that release SO_2 and NO_x into the air.
7. What is the *acid-neutralizing* capacity of surface and ground waters? Describe the chemistry behind the ability of most natural water bodies to resist acidification.