

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Natural Resources - Wind

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer the questions from the reading.



**Single Wind Turbine**



**Wind Turbine Farm**

Wind power is the conversion of wind into a useful form of energy, such as electricity, using wind turbines. Wind power is growing rapidly, and is a plentiful, renewable, and clean way to produce electricity. Wind is called a renewable energy source because the wind will blow as long as the sun shines. However, the construction of wind farms is not always welcomed due to their visual impact on the environment. In recent years, the United States has added more wind energy than any other country. Wind power consumes no fuel, and gives off no air pollution, unlike other power sources.

The energy consumed to construct and transport the materials used to build a wind turbine is equal to the new energy produced by the plant within a few months. Windmills work because they slow down the speed of the wind. The wind flows over the blades causing lift, like the effect on airplane wings, causing them to turn. The blades are connected to a drive shaft that turns an electric generator to produce electricity.

1. Which country has added the most wind turbines in recent years?
2. Is wind energy a renewable resource?
3. What does wind power produce?
4. Does wind power give off pollution?
5. Why are wind farms not always welcome?

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**United States**

**Yes**

**Energy**

**No**

**They are not visually pleasing**