Petroleum Unit—Pre-Assessment

Directions: Before you begin working on ways to reduce the carbon footprint of transportation please answer the questions below. Don’t worry if you are not an expert on these subjects—just share your best answer!

1. What is the most common type of transportation in the United States? Explain your thinking.

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2. Name some types of fuel used by humans for transportation, that is, fuel that powers vehicles like cars, planes, and trains.

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3. Describe what happens to fuels in a vehicle engine.

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4. What is *petroleum* and where is it found?

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5. Compare and contrast renewable and nonrenewable natural resources. Give some examples of each type of natural resource.

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6. Put a ✓ next to each statement you think is TRUE. Explain your reasoning for whether or not you put a check by the statement.

___ Petroleum is a fossil fuel.

___ Fossil fuels are made from dinosaurs.

___ Burning fossil fuels produces carbon dioxide.

___ We will never run out of petroleum.

___ Transportation is responsible for over 25% of all U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.

___ Gasoline is produced from petroleum.

___ Plastics are produced from petroleum.