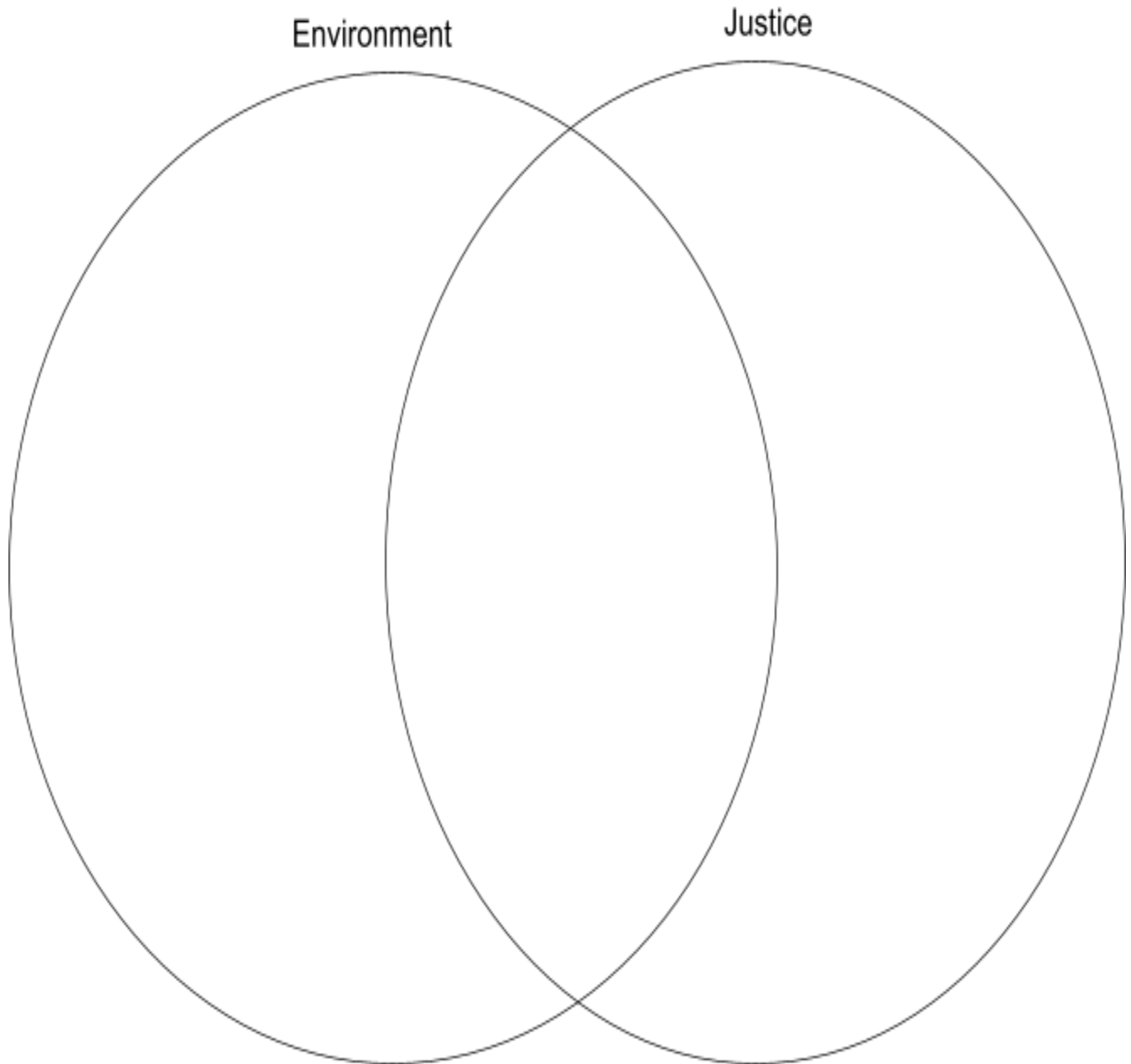


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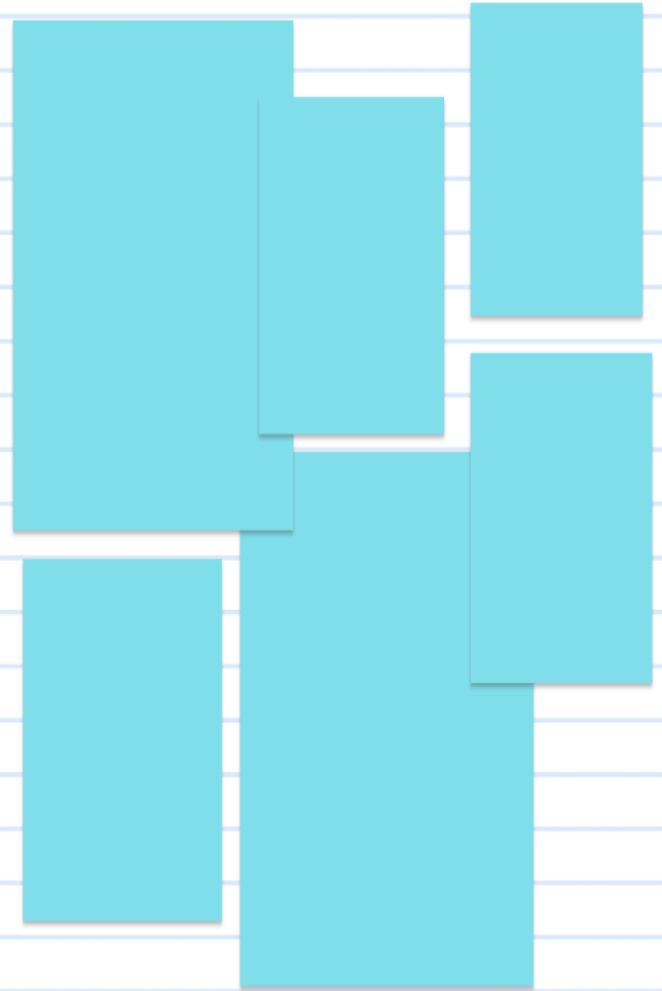
Lesson 1: What is Environmental Justice?

Warm-up: Write down what comes to your mind when you think of the words "environment" and "justice" in the Venn-Diagram. Use synonyms and/or definitions of the words. In the middle, write similarities of "environment" and "justice".



What is environmental
justice?

What is NOT environmental
justice?



Environmental Justice Podcast: Answer the following questions about your podcast and fill out the BINGO board.

What event or problem caused people to start taking action?	
Who took action?	
What was the solution, if any? Who decided on the solution?	
How is this story related to the environment?	
How is this story related to justice?	
What is environmental justice?	

Environmental Justice BINGO

water waste discharge	community members	EPA investigation
activist groups	basement flooding	No solution
environmental justice advocates	FREE	sewage flooding
storm water runoff	listening sessions	community meetings

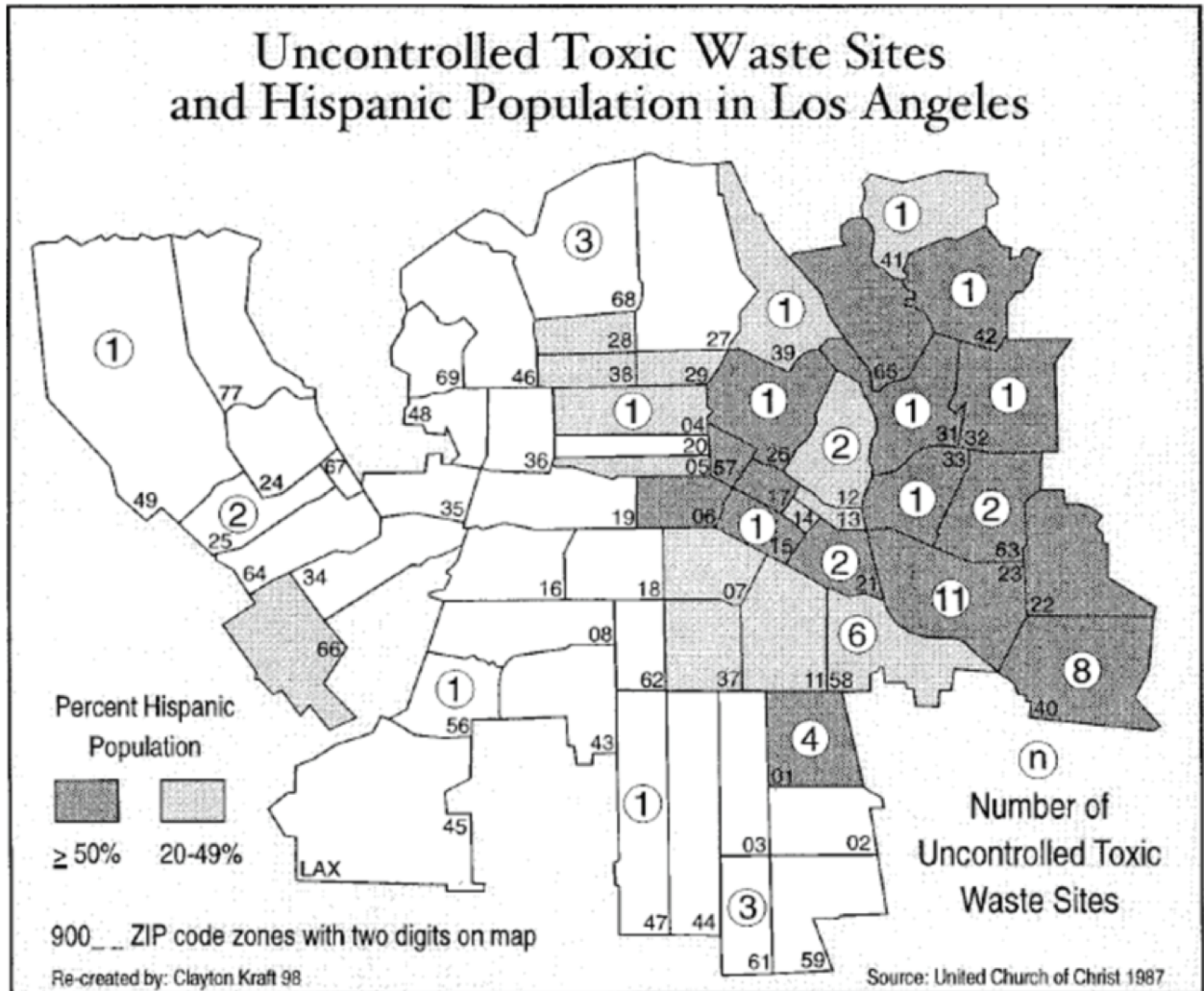
In your own words, define environmental justice.

Environmental Justice: means that all people should be treated fairly under environmental laws regardless of race, ethnicity, culture or economic status and should receive equal shares of both environmental benefits and burdens. ([State of Connecticut](#))

Exit ticket: Do you agree with this definition of environmental justice? Why or why not? OR What would you add to or change this definition? How does Connecticut's state definition of environmental justice compare/contrast to yours?

Lesson 2: What is Environmental Racism?

Warm up: Examine this map and answer the following questions.



- How many uncontrolled toxic waste sites are in zip codes with a Hispanic population greater than 20 percent (gray and light gray areas)? _____
- How many uncontrolled toxic waste sites are in zip codes with a Hispanic population less than 20 percent (white areas)? _____
- Why do you think that the companies dumped more toxic waste in these areas instead of others? _____

- This map is from 1987. Do you think that there are still toxic waste sites in these neighborhoods? Why or why not?

Video: Pick one of the following questions to answer:

- According to the video, what was the difference in the environmental conditions between wealthy white neighborhoods and low-wealth black/POC neighborhoods?
- How was redlining a form of systemic racism?
- What is something in the video that surprised you? What questions do you still have?

Exit ticket: Name an example of environmental racism.

Lesson 3: How to use the Environmental Justice Mapping Tool?

Mapping Tool Activity: Follow instructions and write down the ranks in the table.

1. Choose a census tract and click on it to open the pop-up information box.
2. Look at the rank above to see which of the four sub-categories (PPS, PPE, SF, or HS) has the highest rank. Write down which category has the highest rank.
3. Turn off the CT EJ Index layer and go to the icon for the category with the highest rank (PPS, PPE, SF, or HS). Click on this icon to open the menu of layers within this category, and turn on the top layer (which will show the main index rank for this category). For example, if Potential Pollution Sources has the highest rank, click on the icon for Potential Pollution Sources and click the check box to turn on the top layer. Then click on your chosen census tract again to open a new pop-up information box focused only on pollution sources with individual rank for different pollution indicators.
4. Look at the ranks for the individual indicators, and write down any indicators that have ranks above 8. These are the specific challenges faced by this community that are contributing the most to the overall Environmental Justice.

	Student 1	Student 2
Census Tract Name		
Town Name		
Main Index: CT EJ Index Score		
Composite Category: Pollution Burden Rank		
Composite Category: Sensitive Populations Rank		

Which composite category has the higher rank for this census tract?		
Sub-Category: Potential Pollution Sources Rank		
Sub-Category: Potential Pollution Exposure Rank		
Sub-Category: Socioeconomic Factors Rank		
Sub-Category: Health Sensitivity Rank		
Which composite sub-category has the highest rank for this census tract?		

Discuss your findings with other groups and compare neighborhood results. Answer the following questions:

1. How do the two neighborhoods you looked at compare to each other when it comes to the overall EJ Index Score and the category ranks?

2. Which specific indicators have high scores for this census tract (8 and above or highest available)? _____

3. How do the neighborhoods you looked at compare to the neighborhoods your classmates looked at? _____

4. Were you surprised by any of these results? _____

Exit Ticket: Why do scores vary in different neighborhoods/regions?

Lesson 4: How do Communities Fight for Environmental Justice?

Warm-up: Write examples of environmental injustices. _____

Video: Focus on how Katharine Morris (scholar activist) uses her voice to raise awareness. Answer the following:

- What environmental burden(s) did their community face? _____

- What actions did they take? (local volunteer work, community organizing, data collection, created an organization, shared their story on TV or in the news, protested, learned about pollution in their neighborhoods etc.) _____

- What was the outcome? _____

Fair Treatment

[illegible]

Exit ticket: what's one thing you can do to advance environmental justice?
