**Silent Spring: Chapter 12**

**The Human Price**

**Vocab Sheet: \_\_\_\_\_/20 points**

On a separate sheet of paper, you need to create a vocabulary list of words that you run into while reading that you are unsure of. Also write the page number and feel free to underline them lightly with a pencil in the book. You need to **write down at least 10 and find their definition.**

**Questions: \_\_\_\_\_\_/ 44 points**

1. The word “cumulative” comes up many times in this chapter. What is its significance?

Page 188

1. Where do pesticides fit into the picture of environmental disease?
2. Rachel Carson also asks on this page if you think “man can escape a pollution that is now so thoroughly distributed throughout our world”, what pollution is she talking about?
3. If single exposures to chemicals are not the major problem, what is?

Page 189:

1. Rachel Carson says that it is “human nature to shrug off what may seem to us as a vague threat of future disaster”, what does she mean by this?
2. What is interdependence? How does it play a role in the chemical contamination of the environment?
3. What do scientists call the web of life, or the web of death?
4. Carson says, “when one is concerned with the mysterious and wonderful functioning of the human body, cause and effect are seldom simple and easily demonstrated relationships”, what does she mean by this?

Page 190:

1. Where do toxic materials become lodged in the body? What threat does it impose? Explain the example given.
2. What is adipose tissue? (you will have to look this up)

Page 191

1. List all the functions of the liver. (there are at least 9 listed)

Page 192

1. In connection with the nearly universal use of insecticides, what diseases, connected with poisoning of the liver, saw a sharp rise?
2. What two major types of insecticides directly affect the nervous system?
3. What two areas of the brain are chiefly affected?
4. What does the higher motor cortex control? (you must look this up)

Page 193

1. What symptoms did the investigators of the British Royal Navy Physiological Laboratory describe after deliberately exposing themselves to DDT?
2. Despite this evidence, what did American investigators dismiss these symptoms as? What does this mean? (You will have to look this up)

Page 194

1. Why does not everyone handling and using insecticides develop the same symptoms?
2. Who is the most vulnerable or sensitive to these toxins?
3. Are allergies still a medical mystery? (You must look this up)
4. Why is the whole problem of pesticide poisoning enormously complicated?

Page 195-198

1. As you read about the different types of insecticides used throughout history and their effects that they had on those poor souls that came into close contact with, list some of the side effects that Carson warns us about on these pages. List and explain at least 5.