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|  |  | Excellent (4) | Proficient (3) | Developing (2) | Beginning (1) | Not Present  | N/A or cannot be rated |
| **C1** | **Understanding of pillars of sustainability****(Resource exploitation, social equity and economic development)** | In addition to demonstrating understanding of the human interaction with nature in relation to at least one of the pillars of sustainability, and noting the uneven economic development, resource exploitation, *or* social inequality that underpin ongoing environmental crises, also demonstrates inquiry, insight, or poses questions. | Demonstrates understanding of the human interaction with nature in relation to at least one of the pillars of sustainability, noting the uneven economic development, resource exploitation, *or* social inequality that underpin ongoing environmental issues. | Refers explicitly the human interaction with nature in relation to one of the pillars of sustainability with little evidence of understanding the nature of that pillar that underpins ongoing environmental issues. | Refers implicitly the human interaction with nature in relation to one of the pillars of sustainability, but may do so only in passing, or with little evidence of understanding the nature of that pillar that underpins ongoing environmental issues. | No evidence of learning objective. | N/A or cannot be rated |
| **C2** | **Awareness of interconnection of pillars of sustainability** | In addition to establishing and explaining connections between at least two pillars, also demonstrates understanding of evolving relationships between/among the pillars. | Establishes and explains connections between at least two pillars of sustainability.  | Begins to establish connections between at least two pillars, but connections may be superficial or not adequately explained.  | Attempts to establish connections between at least two pillars, but explanation of connections is poor or inaccurate. | No evidence of learning objective. | N/A or cannot be rated |
| **C3** | **Knowledge of human/environment interaction** | In addition to demonstrating knowledge of *both* human impacts on the environment *and* environmental impact on humans, also incorporates understandings of mutual influences and complex non-linear relationships. | Demonstrates knowledge of *both* human impacts on the environment *and* environmental impact on humans. | Demonstrates knowledge of human impacts on the environment *or* environmental impacts on humans. | Demonstrates surface knowledge of human impacts on the environment *or* environmental impacts on humans but display only a limited perspective or inaccurate understanding of this interaction. | No evidence of learning objective. | N/A or cannot be rated |
| **C4** | **Use and application of sustainability-related evidence** | Uses a robust amount of relevant, and credible evidence to effectively support sustainability-related claims/arguments. | Uses some relevant and credible evidence to support sustainability-related claims/arguments.  | Uses minimal credible or relevant evidence to support sustainability-related claims/arguments. | Uses no credible evidence to support sustainability related claims/arguments. Only personal opinion-based evidence used. | No evidence of learning objective. | N/A or cannot be rated |
| **C5** | **Knowledge of sustainability-related action/policy** | In addition to demonstrating understanding of multiple intersecting policies and/or courses of action necessary to address ongoing environmental issues, also recognizes multiple scales or agents through which such action takes place (e.g., governments, NGOs, community groups, individuals, and industry). | Demonstrates understanding of multiple intersecting policies and/or courses of action necessary to address ongoing environmental issues.  | Demonstrates understanding of at least one policy and related course of action necessary to address ongoing environmental issues. | Demonstrates limited understanding of at least one policy related to ongoing environmental issues. | No evidence of learning objective. | N/A or cannot be rated |