**APES- Case Study**

*“The Wealth of Water: The Value of an Essential Resource”*

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

**Part I: Spring Break**

1: The people of Cochabamba were protesting the privatization of their water system because they felt that water is a basic human right. *Do you agree with this belief or do you think water is a commodity that can be bought and sold?*

Keep in mind that even if it is a human right, there are costs associated with obtaining, purifying and distributing water. *Who do you think should pay for these costs? Where should the money come from?*

2: How should developing countries deal with the problems associated with a lack of clean, fresh water?

3: Bechtel is a multinational corporation and, like all corporations, the main goal is profit. Do you think Bechtel should *profit from the management* of a water system? *If not, what should their incentive be? If so, what restrictions, if any, should be imposed?*

4: Do you think Cochabamba’s conflict is **foreshadowing the future** with more wars being fought over water? *Can you think of other examples where access to water is being contested?*

**Part II:**

1: *Aguas del Tunari*, the Bechtel subsidiary, claims that increased water consumption explains the price increase that Bolivians noticed in their water bills post-privatization. **Compare the water bills.** *Does the amount of water use match Aguas del Tunari’s claim?*

2: What was the **percent increase** in the cost of water for this household? **Show your math.**

3: Based on the average income for a Bolivian, what percent of their salary is dedicated to obtaining clean, fresh water? **Show your math.**

4: Considering that the median U.S. salary for a dual-income household is $58,472, how much would you spending on water? *(Use the percent from above).* *What would be your reaction if this happened to you or your family?*

**Assignment:** Create a water saving campaign *(poster, brochure, flyer, video, etc.)* to show fellow students, family members and members of your community. Encourage them to make changes in their own lives to save water on a daily basis. *(Hint: Give statistics, reasons and solutions- try to pick a few things so that you are not overwhelming them)*