

## Rare Earth Elements Notes & Questions

1. **Rare Earth Elements (REEs):** A group of \_\_\_\_\_ elements with similar properties that have valuable uses in \_\_\_\_\_ industry, especially \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. REEs are not actually \_\_\_\_\_, they are very common. But they are usually found in very \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ amounts, \_\_\_\_\_ ore deposits ARE somewhat rare and hard to mine.
3. China produces over \_\_\_\_\_ of the world's current supply of REEs.
4. The US, and other countries around the world, also have sizeable REE \_\_\_\_\_ that are unexploited at this time as they are difficult to mine safely and efficiently.

**60 Minutes (CBS): Modern Life's Devices under China's Grip?** (13:03 min) <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/rare-earth-elements-china-monopoly-60-minutes-lesley-stahl/>

5. List as many uses for REEs as you can find in the video!
6. Where is the Mountain Pass Mine, where REEs were first discovered?
7. Modern cars use REEs for many uses, what type of cars rely on REEs to even exist?
8. Does modern life depend on REEs? Why?
9. Why was the Mountain Pass Mine shut down in 1998?
10. Why has China become so successful at mining and processing REEs?
11. What happened in 2010 between Japan and China, that got the US worried about REE supply?

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