Argumentative text: climate change

Human activities have been damaging the environment for centuries now by burning fossil fuels, cutting down trees and farming livestock. This has become essential to the global economy and modern life. We are burning fossil fuels for electricity, heat, cosmetics and clothes and transportation. These actions emit different gases known as greenhouse gases, leading to the greenhouse effect. This happens when some gases block heat from escaping the atmosphere and the Earth's temperature rises. However, these human activities are part of our basic necessities and it is almost impossible to stop them.

The transportation sector generates the largest share of greenhouse gas emissions. These gases primarily come from burning fossil fuel for our cars, trucks, ships, trains, and planes. It is not only about the emissions they emit, but also about the emissions in producing new transportation and roads. People are clearly right worrying about this issue and trying to find solutions to reduce the amount of private transport is being used. Nevertheless, transportation and roads are needed. The moving of people to places of work, education, needs and recreation requires transportation. Moreover, the use of planes and boats is essential for goods transportation from where there are surpluses to where there are shortages. Transport has also integrated nations and made us reunite with our beloved ones. Therefore, the use of transport merits consideration and a deep analysis before trying to avoid it.

The problem mainly lays in the fact that many burning fossil fuels are burnt for heat and energy. This problem increases as nowadays more houses are being built in order to develop the low- and middle-income countries and modernise the cities. Electricity production generates the second largest share of greenhouse gas emissions. This issue is problematic as many people are not paying attention to the amount of electricity they are using, contributing to climate change without even realising. Nevertheless, electricity is crucial for lighting, heating, cooling, and refrigeration and for operating appliances, computers, electronics and machinery. It is important to keep our food in good shape and cook it, as well as to be able to use electronic devices to work or study, or even to wash our clothes. Moreover, winters and summers can be tough without a heating and cooling system. Thus, electricity will always be needed in our lives and we should bear in mind how to take advantage of it.

One of the most problematic causes of climate change is food. Greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture come from livestock such as cows, agricultural soils, and rice production. Overpopulation is increasing the demand for livestock production and the use of fertilisers. In order to produce food for everyone, thousands of gallons of water are being used. Moreover, for this production 45% of the land has become livestock grazing. The evidence is clear that these gas emissions are too high for our planet and it is understandable that people are worried about it. However, what can we do to change this situation? Everyone has to be fed and it is impossible to have zero-emissions food. Diary and meat are well-known to be a source of protein needed for our body and keep us

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healthy. For that reason, not eating meat and diaries could provoke the need for extra vitamins and health problems in some cases.

In conclusion, there are several causes that are provoking climate change, but all of them are basic necessities that are difficult to change. While we can mitigate climate change, these necessities should be borne in mind before actions are taken. Transportation, electricity and food are here to stay and it's important to start thinking on how to make the best of it attending climate change as well.

EXERCISES

1. **Look at the introduction:**

a) Which colour represents the thesis statement? Why have you considered that one as the thesis statement?

b) Which colour represents the hook? Why have you considered that one as the hook?

c) Which colour represents the background? Why have you considered that one as the background?

2. **Look at the second and fourth paragraph and match the colour with the function:**

Blue	Interpretation
Purple	Counter-evidence
Red	Final sentence
Green	Topic sentence
Orange	Evidence

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3. **Look at the third paragraph, the sentences are not in order. Order them according to the function they have.**
4. **Look at the conclusion:**

a) Which colour represents the significance? What is the function of the significance in this paragraph?

b) Which colour represents the summary? What is the function of the summary in this paragraph?

c) Which colour represents the closing statement? What is the function of the closing statement in this paragraph?

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