Word Study

D **Learn** Antonyms

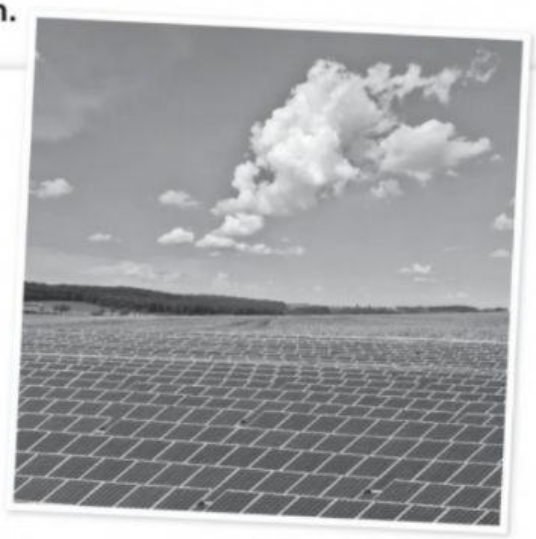
Antonyms are opposites. **Hot** and **cold** have opposite meanings. So do **reduce** and **increase**.

Scientists hope that green energy will **reduce** pollution.
The use of green energy will **increase** in the future.



Read the article again. In your own words, say some of the advantages of using solar energy. Remember, repeating or putting new information into your own words will help you remember what you learn.

Energy for Today: Solar Power



Solar energy comes from the sun. When the sun shines down on solar panels, the panels collect the power from the sun. Then the solar energy can be converted into other forms of energy, like heat and **electricity**. We can use solar energy to light our houses and run our appliances, such as refrigerators.

Solar energy is a renewable energy source because there will always be sunshine. Sunshine cannot get used up like **coal**, **oil**, or **natural gas**. And it doesn't cause air **pollution**. Just the opposite: We all enjoy a sunny day!

Think Put what you learned about solar energy in your own words.

The sun could make enough energy for all of our needs, but the sun does not always shine. We cannot get much solar energy when it is dark or cloudy. So it's important to be able to store solar energy to use when we need it.

Solar thermal **power plants** can store solar energy. First, the solar panels collect energy from the sun and turn it into heat. This is called thermal energy. We can use this thermal energy to make steam. Then the steam is used to run a generator. The generator makes electricity. We can use the electricity right away or store it for use at a later time.

How much solar energy might we need to make enough electricity for everyone? If we cover only a small area of the world's deserts with solar panels, we could make enough electricity for everyone in the world. Just the Gobi Desert could make almost all the electricity that the world uses today.

Think Write or say what you learned from the text in your own words.

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