

## **NOW TRY THE TASK**

*Do the following statements agree with the claims of the writer in the passage below? Write*

**YES**

*if the statement agrees with the information*

**NO**

*if the statement contradicts the information*

**NOT GIVEN**

*if there is no information on this*

- 23 It can be understood why people take their energy supplies for granted.
- 24 Some quite ordinary towns are developing green energy supplies.
- 25 Most people in need of electricity supplies live in poor countries.
- 26 The new high-tech industries will add to levels of unemployment.

## **Blowing in the wind**

When all it takes is the flick of a switch to illuminate a house or to activate a television set, it is perhaps not surprising that most people pay little attention to where their energy comes from or what impact using it is having on the environment. But though the comfort and convenience of our modern energy supply is easy to accept, attitudes are beginning to change, partly because many people are starting to realise the scale of the impact we are having.

The potential for greener and cleaner energy sources is still greater than either demand or official backing, but momentum is gathering. Some two billion people are still without electricity, the majority of whom live in poor countries and in remote areas. In these conditions, local energy supplies based on renewable sources such as the wind or sun are the ideal solution. In richer countries, emerging energy sources could mean the foundation of new high-tech industries that employ hundreds of thousands of people.