Climate change

1. Match the meanings to the words. Use a dictionary to help you.

1. the ice in the Arctic and Antarctic	☐	drought
2. cutting down a forest	☐	power stations
3. harmful chemicals in the air or water	☐	climate change
4. coal, oil and gas	1	the ice caps
5. carbon dioxide	☐	rainforests
6. when there is no rain for a long time	☐	CO2
7. the tropical forests	☐	pollution
8. tropical storms	☐	greenhouse gases
9. gases that trap the sun's heat	☐	deforestation
10. these produce electricity	☐	hurricanes
11. the Earth is getting hotter	☐	fossil fuels



2. Read and listen to the text. Complete the gaps with words a-k from exercise 1. There is one word you don't need.

Climate change:
its biggest cause



We hear a lot today about [1]_____. Thousands of articles are written about it in newspapers and magazines; TV programmes are made about it.

[2]_____, like [3]_____ (carbon dioxide), are released into the atmosphere. The sun's heat is trapped by these gases and gradually the world is getting warmer.

Scientists believe that, as a result, [4]_____ will melt, sea levels will rise and many islands and coasts will disappear under the water. We will also see more extreme weather, such as [5]_____, heavy rain, high temperatures and [6]_____.

A lot of greenhouse gases are produced when [7]_____ are burnt by [8]_____, factories, cars and aeroplanes.

However, the biggest cause is [9]_____. The world's forests – especially the tropical [10]_____ of South America, Africa and South-East Asia – are very important for the Earth's climate. But every year, over 200,000 square kilometres of forests are destroyed. That's an area the size of Britain.

In some cases, the trees are cut down and the wood is taken away. It's used for buildings and furniture. However, in many cases, the land is wanted for farms. The trees are just burnt down, and billions of tonnes of greenhouse gases are released into the atmosphere. Twenty-five per cent of all CO_2 is produced by deforestation. (Aeroplanes produce three per cent.)

If we want to save the planet, we must save the forests!







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