

**CONNECTORS AND LINKING WORDS**  
**Level 3**

**PRACTICE**

**1. Listen the audio and complete the text with corresponding relative pronoun or linking word.**

**Climate change meets American agriculture**

*Scientists say in a new government report that global warming is already affecting U.S. water and land resources.*

This is the VOA Special English Agriculture Report.

A government report says climate change is already affecting American agriculture. The new report is from the Climate Change Science Program, \_\_\_\_\_ brings together the research efforts of thirteen federal agencies. President George Bush launched the program six years ago. Here are some of the findings by scientists:

The growing season has increased by ten to fourteen days in northern parts of the United States over the last nineteen years. Much of the East and South now get more rain than a century ago. \_\_\_\_\_ the report says there is some evidence of increased drought conditions in the West and Southwest. Western states have less snow and ice on the mountains and earlier melting in the spring.



Grain and oilseed crops are likely to develop faster with increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. But higher temperatures will increase the risk of crop failures. \_\_\_\_\_, horticultural crops \_\_\_\_\_ tomatoes, onions and fruit are more easily affected by climate change than grains and oilseed crops. Fewer animals will die during warmer winters, but greater numbers will die during hotter summers. \_\_\_\_\_ temperature extremes reduce animal production of meat or milk products.

Forests in the West, the Southwest and Alaska already have increases in fires, insect outbreaks and dead trees. But young forests on good soil will be more productive because of increased carbon dioxide levels. \_\_\_\_\_, invasive plants will also grow faster and are likely to move northward. Recent research also suggests that weeds might get harder to kill with glyphosate, the most widely used plant killer in the United States.

The Department of Agriculture was the lead agency for the new report. Thirty-eight scientists from universities, national laboratories, nongovernmental organizations and federal service wrote it. They considered more than one thousand scientific publications. The report was the strongest statement yet by the Bush administration \_\_\_\_\_ human activity is the main cause of climate change in the last fifty years. Carbon dioxide from the burning of oil, natural gas and coal is the main gas blamed for trapping heat in the atmosphere. The report says warming is very likely to continue in the United States during the next twenty-five to fifty years. And it says this is so even \_\_\_\_\_ future greenhouse-gas emissions are reduced.

And that's the VOA Special English Agriculture Report, written by Jerilyn Watson. I'm Bob Doughty.

2. Complete the sentences with correct connector.

- a. I'll keep the dictionary until tomorrow \_\_\_\_\_ you need it now.
- b. Dan says he won't accept the position \_\_\_\_\_ they raise the salary.
- c. Jack is good as sports \_\_\_\_\_ his brother is artistic.
- d. You can borrow my newspaper \_\_\_\_\_ you bring it back before lunch.
- e. The banks are closed \_\_\_\_\_ we can't get any money.
- f. The ad was excellent. \_\_\_\_\_, the product didn't sell very well.
- g. I thought the documentary was interesting. \_\_\_\_\_, I would have liked to see more interviews.
- h. \_\_\_\_\_ she is beautiful, everybody hates her.
- i. Some people believe in ghosts and supernatural phenomena \_\_\_\_\_ others are skeptical about all that.
- j. She didn't get the job \_\_\_\_\_ her brilliant qualifications.

3. Complete the text with an appropriate connector.



The first thing to clarify is the reason for such a widespread concern about global warming and the threats it poses to future generations. (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of climate change, the average temperature on Earth is changing. Currently, the global temperature has already increased by about 1°C compared to the pre-industrial era.

The reason for this is primarily greenhouse gas emissions. The main source of thereof is human activity and exhaustion of the natural unrestorable resources. It is the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere that leads to an increase in the average temperature on Earth. (2) \_\_\_\_\_, glaciers are melting and the sea level is rising, the number of droughts and natural disasters, (3) \_\_\_\_\_ hurricanes, floods, mudflows, etc., increases.

(4) \_\_\_\_\_, the area of seasonal sea ice in the Arctic decreases and so does its biodiversity.

(5) \_\_\_\_\_, above all, the very humanity suffers from its own activities. Some people have to migrate from the traditional habitat, some have a shortage of food and water resources. (6) \_\_\_\_\_, the negative effects of climate change can be listed indefinitely. (7) \_\_\_\_\_, the change in average temperatures in only a minor inconvenience compared to the resource shortage caused by the imbalance in flora and fauna caused by climate change.

4. Classify them. Based on the list of connectors given, write what type they belong.

#	CONNECTOR	TYPE
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