

NAME: _____

You are going to read a text about how different countries are experiencing and responding to global warming. For questions 1–10, choose **from the sections (A–D)**. The sections may be chosen **more than once**.

A Planet in Trouble: Understanding Global Warming

Lately, Mia has noticed something strange in her hometown. The winters are shorter, the summers are hotter, and wildfires have become more common. Her parents say the weather has changed a lot since they were teenagers. But what's causing all this?

Scientists call it **global warming**, and it's a serious problem for our planet. It happens when gases like carbon dioxide (CO₂) trap heat in Earth's atmosphere. These gases come from cars, factories, airplanes, and even the electricity we use every day. The more CO₂ we release, the hotter our planet becomes. But global warming isn't just about temperature. It brings floods, droughts, extreme weather, and disappearing ecosystems. Let's look at how different countries around the world are being affected—and how they are responding.

A. Brazil: The Amazon in Danger

In Brazil, the Amazon rainforest plays a key role in keeping Earth's climate stable. It absorbs large amounts of carbon dioxide and produces oxygen. But in the past years, millions of trees have been cut down for farming, cattle raising, and mining. Deforestation not only destroys habitats, it also releases stored CO₂, making global warming worse. Entire animal species are losing their homes, and forest fires have become more common during dry seasons. This affects not only Brazil, but the whole world. In response, Brazil has increased the use of satellite technology to detect illegal logging in real time. The government is also working with Indigenous communities and environmental groups to create protected zones, where nature cannot be harmed. Some farmers are being trained to use more sustainable techniques, like planting trees alongside crops or raising cattle on smaller plots of land.

B. Australia: Fighting Fires and Heat

Australia is known for its beautiful beaches and unique animals, but in recent years it has also become known for massive wildfires. The 2019–2020 bushfire season, called “Black Summer,” burned over 12 million hectares—an area larger than Portugal. Thousands of homes were destroyed, and animals like kangaroos, koalas, and birds lost their habitats. Scientists say that climate change is making heatwaves and droughts more extreme. In some parts of Australia, temperatures have reached over 45°C, making it hard for people, animals, and plants to survive. To fight back, Australia is investing in renewable energy such as solar and wind farms. Some regions have built early warning systems for fires and emergency shelters for families. Schools now teach students about climate safety, and more Australians are installing solar panels on their rooftops. In big cities like Melbourne and Sydney, more bike lanes and electric buses are also helping reduce pollution.

C. Bangladesh: Living with Water

Bangladesh is one of the countries most affected by rising sea levels, even though it produces very little pollution. Around two-thirds of the country is less than five meters above sea level. Every year, heavy rains and storms cause serious flooding, especially in villages near rivers and the coast. Climate change is making these floods stronger and more frequent. In some areas, salty seawater is entering the land, making it harder to grow food. Many families have lost their farms and had to move inland, creating climate refugees. However, the people of Bangladesh are also showing great creativity. Engineers have built floating schools, farms, and hospitals that can continue working during floods. Communities plant mangrove trees, which protect the land by slowing down waves and strong winds. The government is also building stronger riverbanks and sea walls, and helping farmers learn new ways to grow food in salty soil.

D. Sweden: A Model for Green Living

Unlike the other countries, Sweden is not suffering extreme weather—but it is leading the way in climate solutions. Sweden has made protecting the environment a national goal. Around 60% of its electricity comes from renewable sources like wind, solar, and hydroelectric power. Sweden also has one of the lowest CO₂ emissions per person in Europe. People walk, bike, or use electric buses to get around. In fact, in cities like Stockholm, public transportation runs on biofuels made from food waste or forest products. The government supports green actions by giving money back (incentives) to people who buy electric cars or improve their home's energy efficiency. Swedish children learn about climate change in school and many participate in “Fridays for Future” events—marches started by young activist Greta Thunberg, who is from Sweden. Sweden proves that a country can grow its economy while still reducing pollution and protecting the planet.

Which country...

1. ___ is experimenting with clean public transport options powered by waste or natural materials?
2. ___ has had to move people inland because of repeated environmental disasters affecting their homes?
3. ___ protects forests using technology that can identify illegal activity from above?
4. ___ experienced a fire season that caused damage to wildlife on a scale never seen before?
5. ___ gives financial support to residents who take eco-friendly steps at home or when buying a vehicle?
6. ___ builds important buildings that remain functional even when the land is covered by water?
7. ___ is known for producing very little pollution but still suffers serious effects from climate change?
8. ___ works with local and Indigenous communities to preserve natural spaces and teach better land use?
9. ___ is helping children prepare for natural emergencies by teaching them how to respond at school?
10. ___ takes advantage of rivers and waterfalls to create a large percentage of its electricity?