

Climate Change

In recent decades, scientists have observed a significant increase in global temperatures, a phenomenon widely known as climate change. Unlike past climatic variations, which happened naturally over thousands of years, the current warming is occurring at an unprecedented pace due mainly to human activities. The burning of fossil fuels, such as coal, oil, and gas, releases large amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. This gas traps heat, creating the so-called greenhouse effect, which intensifies global warming. As temperatures rise, glaciers melt more rapidly, causing sea levels to increase and threatening coastal communities. Additionally, extreme weather events such as stronger hurricanes, prolonged droughts, and unusually heavy rainfall have become more frequent. These changes pose serious risks to ecosystems, agriculture, and human health. To slow down the process, experts recommend reducing emissions, investing in renewable energy, and protecting natural environments like forests, which absorb carbon dioxide. While scientists agree that climate change is real, global efforts to address the issue remain uneven, and many countries struggle to balance economic growth with environmental protection.

5 Multiple-Choice Questions

1. What is the main cause of the current rapid climate change?
 - a) Natural shifts in the Earth's orbit
 - b) Human activities such as burning fossil fuels
 - c) Increased volcanic activity
 - d) Changes in ocean currents

2. What is one of the main consequences of rising global temperatures mentioned in the paragraph?
 - a) The expansion of deserts only
 - b) Slower glacier melting
 - c) Rising sea levels
 - d) Fewer weather events

3. What role do forests play in reducing climate change?
 - a) They produce fossil fuels
 - b) They absorb carbon dioxide
 - c) They speed up glacial melting
 - d) They create stronger storms

4. According to the paragraph, what makes recent climate change different from past changes?
 - a) It is happening more slowly
 - b) It is caused mostly by natural factors
 - c) It occurs gradually over thousands of years
 - d) It is happening much faster due to human actions

5. What is one challenge countries face when addressing climate change?
 - a) Lack of scientific information
 - b) Balancing economic growth with environmental protection

- c) Too much access to renewable energy
- d) Rapid natural cooling of the planet

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

Environmental pollution has become one of the most serious problems affecting our planet today. Every year, millions of tons of waste are released into the air, water, and soil. One of the biggest contributors to pollution is plastic, which takes hundreds of years to decompose. As a result, oceans are now filled with plastic waste that harms marine animals, who often mistake it for food. Another major source of pollution is the burning of fossil fuels, such as coal and oil. This process releases harmful gases into the atmosphere, contributing to climate change and respiratory diseases in humans. Many scientists warn that if we don't reduce pollution soon, future generations will face even more severe environmental consequences. However, there is still hope: recycling, using renewable energy, and reducing our consumption of single-use plastics can make a real difference.

Fill-in-the-Blank Question.

Plastic takes hundreds of years to _____.

Oceans are filled with plastic waste that _____ marine animals.

Burning fossil fuels releases harmful _____ into the atmosphere.

These pollutants contribute to climate change and _____ diseases.

Scientists say that using renewable energy and recycling can make a _____ difference.

GLOBAL WARMING

Experts in climatology and other scientists are extremely concerned about the changes to our climate. Admittedly, climate changes have occurred on our planet before. For example: there had been several ice ages or glacial periods. These changes were different from the modern ones because they occurred gradually and naturally. The current changes aren't the result of natural causes, but of human activity. Furthermore, the changes are occurring alarmingly rapid. The major problem is perhaps, that the planet is warming up. According to some experts, this warming, known as global warming, has been occurring in the last 10,000 years. The implications for the planet are very serious. Rising global temperatures could give rise to such ecological disasters such as floods and droughts. This could have a harmful effect on agriculture. This unusual warming of the earth has been caused partly by so- called greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, being emitted into the atmosphere by car engines and modern industrial processes, for example . Such gases not only add to the pollution of the atmosphere, but also create a greenhouse effect, by which the heat of the sun is trapped. This leads to the warming up of the planet. Politicians are also concerned about climate change and there are now regular meetings on the subject, attended by representatives from many of the world's industrialized countries. In Kyoto, Japan in 1997, it was agreed that the most industrialized countries would try to reduce the volume of

greenhouse gas emissions and were given targets for their reductions. It was also suggested that more forests should be planted to create so- called "sinks" to absorb greenhouse gases. At least part of the problem of rapid climate change has been caused by too drastic deforestation. Sadly the targets are not being met. Even more sadly, global warnings about climate changes are often still being regarded as scaremongering.

Answer these questions.

What climate changes have taken place before the present time?

What are the main differences between modern climate changes and the ones that occurred in the past?

What were the agreements reached in the summit in Tokyo?

Which suggestions were made and why?

Express your opinion : Is global warming true or false? Give reasons.