

# 16 WHO CARES?



## VOCABULARY Climate change

- 1 Put the letters in the correct order to make climate change phrases.
- 1 boncaridediox sionsemis \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2 nobrca ootrintff \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3 rgyene cienteffi \_\_\_\_\_
  - 4 tallyronme nenvi dlyefrin \_\_\_\_\_
  - 5 eustxha usfme \_\_\_\_\_
  - 6 silfos elsfu \_\_\_\_\_
  - 7 balglo mingwar \_\_\_\_\_
  - 8 useenhgreo gsase \_\_\_\_\_
  - 9 wablerene rgyene rcessou \_\_\_\_\_
  - 10 arsol woper \_\_\_\_\_
  - 11 ndwi werpo \_\_\_\_\_

- 2 Complete the table with the phrases in Exercise 1.

Good for the planet	Bad for the planet
	<i>carbon dioxide emissions</i>

- 3 Choose the correct options to complete the text.

We've just had a lesson on climate change at school. Mr Green explained how using forms of transport which produce a lot of <sup>1</sup>carbon dioxide emissions / carbon footprint isn't environmentally friendly, and is causing <sup>2</sup>fossil fuels / global warming. Not only that, but <sup>3</sup>exhaust fumes / renewable energy sources in cities are causing a lot of ill-health in the population. But he said things were getting better. Cars are becoming much more energy efficient, and electric cars are becoming more popular. They use less <sup>4</sup>global warming / fossil fuel – and the electricity they use is increasingly being produced by <sup>5</sup>renewable energy sources / exhaust fumes in the form of <sup>6</sup>carbon dioxide emissions / solar power. So it's not all bad news!

## READING

- 1 Read the first two paragraphs of an article and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

### SIX surprising results of climate change

- 1 Most people have a general idea about what global warming <sup>0</sup>involves. After all, the data that shows rising temperatures and <sup>1</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ ice caps is there for all to see. Sea <sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ are rising at a rate of about four millimetres per year. That may not sound like much, but the Earth's changing climate is already <sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ problems.
- 2 Not <sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ is global warming shrinking glaciers and creating more powerful hurricanes, but it also seems to be causing more forest fires than ever before. Recent wildfires in the western USA have both covered more ground and <sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ for longer. Their increased size and frequency mean that firefighters have a much harder time putting them <sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_. What is more, there is a <sup>7</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ relationship between the warmer temperatures and the early arrival of spring. When the snow disappears, forest <sup>8</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ become drier and stay dry for longer, which increases the chance that they might catch fire.

- 0 A includes B involves C requires D concerns  
 1 A melting B dropping C fading D dissolving  
 2 A heights B measures C lengths D levels  
 3 A causing B making C resulting D proving  
 4 A just B only C really D alone  
 5 A stayed B taken C lasted D rested  
 6 A off B out C over D down  
 7 A clear B straight C simple D clean  
 8 A fields B parts C places D areas

### 3 PHOTO

All over the world, temples, ancient monuments and other statues stand as **reminders** of civilisations past, which until now have survived the tests of time. However the immediate effects of global warming may finally destroy them. Rising seas and extreme weather have the potential to damage these unique sites. Floods caused by global warming have already damaged Sukhothai – the 600-year-old site which was the ancient capital of a Thai kingdom.

### 4 PHOTO

The average climber probably wouldn't notice, but the Alps and other mountain ranges have experienced **gradual** growth over the past century or so thanks to the melting of the glaciers on top of them. For thousands of years, the weight of these glaciers has pushed the mountains down into the earth, squeezing them down like a cushion. As the glaciers melt, this weight is decreasing, and the surface is slowly rising. Global warming speeds up the melting of these glaciers, so the mountains are growing faster!

### 5 PHOTO

One hundred and twenty-five lakes in the Arctic have disappeared in the past few decades, giving **support** to the idea that global warming is working extremely fast nearest the Earth's poles. Research into the missing water points to the probability that frozen earth underneath the lakes warmed up and became soft – or thawed. As this normally permanently-frozen ground thaws, the water in the lakes can escape through the soil, draining the lakes. One researcher compared it to pulling the plug out of the bath.

### 6 PHOTO

While melting ice in the Arctic might cause problems for plants and animals further south, it's creating a bright and sunny situation for Arctic vegetation. Arctic plants are usually trapped in ice for most of the year. Now in spring, when the ice melts earlier, the plants start growing quickly. There has been an **explosion** of plant growth in the Arctic in recent decades!

### 7 PHOTO

Have those **itchy** eyes and sneezing fits that bother you every spring got worse in recent years? Global warming may be partly to blame for that, too. Over the past few decades, an increasing number of people have started suffering from seasonal allergies and asthma. Just like in the Arctic, early springs mean plants come into flower more quickly, so your allergy season can last longer. Better buy some more tissues!



2 Read the rest of the article and match paragraphs 3–7 to photos A–E.



3 Answer the questions about the article.

- 1 Why do early springs make forest fires more likely?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 What caused the damage to an ancient site in Thailand?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Why are mountains getting higher?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 What is the cause of the 'explosion of plant growth' in the Arctic?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5 How does climate change affect people with allergies?  
\_\_\_\_\_



4 Match the **highlighted** words in the text to the definitions.

- 1 having an uncomfortable feeling on the body which makes you want to scratch \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 when something increases suddenly by a large amount \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 something that makes you remember something else \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 agreement with an idea, group or person \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 happening slowly over a period of time \_\_\_\_\_