

COURSE 10

READING ASSESSMENT

() A carbon footprint measures the total carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions produced by an entity, such as a person, building, corporation, or country, through their activities. This includes direct emissions from burning fossil fuels for manufacturing, heating, and transportation. It also accounts for indirect emissions from producing electricity for goods and services consumed.

() Understanding carbon footprints is vital because of the role carbon plays in the environment. Excessive carbon dioxide in the atmosphere contributes to the greenhouse effect, causing climate change and harming species. Analyzing carbon footprints helps identify activities that release significant emissions, enabling conservation efforts to reduce environmental impact and promote sustainability.

() A carbon footprint assesses the total carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions connected to an entity's activities, such as a person, building, company, or country. Various tools, like the *Greenhouse Gas Protocol* and *ISO 14064*, help calculate carbon footprints for individuals and organizations. Online carbon calculators also allow individuals to compare their footprints to national and global averages.

() Reducing your carbon footprint can help mitigate global climate change. This can be achieved by improving energy efficiency and changing lifestyles and purchasing habits.

Using public transportation, installing energy-efficient lighting, and using renewable energy sources can reduce carbon footprints. Additional lifestyle choices, like reducing meat consumption and purchasing products that require fewer carbon emissions to produce and transport, can also lower an individual's secondary carbon footprint.

() Solar, wind, and hydroelectric power play a crucial role in reducing carbon footprints by offering alternatives to fossil fuels. Unlike fossil fuels, renewable energy generation produces little to no direct carbon emissions, mitigating air pollution, acid rain, and global warming. Individuals and organizations can significantly lower their carbon footprint by adopting renewable energy sources to power homes, businesses, and transportation. Sustainable agriculture also benefits from the shift to renewable energy through the use of solar panels and wind turbines.

1. Match the question with its corresponding paragraph:

- A. What impact does decreasing a carbon footprint have on the environment?
- B. How can renewable energy help reduce carbon footprints?
- C. What is a carbon footprint?
- D. Why are carbon footprints important in ecology?
- E. How is a carbon footprint calculated?

2. Answer and/or complete:

A. Is the electricity we use to connect to the internet a direct or an indirect emission of CO₂?

B. What are the effects of too much CO₂ in the environment?

C. _____ to reduce our carbon footprint, we can use public transport.

3. Create two (2) additional questions based on the text, one open (WH-) and one closed (Y/N). Try to use the expressions practiced.

A.

B.