Our Environment

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We use natural resources like plants, animals and minerals to make our lives comfortable. These resources are gifts of God. They are either living or non-living. **All these living and non-living things around us form environment**. Air, water, land, plants and animals all are the parts of our environment. Plants and animals do not interfere the environment. Man is the only organism that interferes with the environment. He is cutting down trees for making furniture and other articles.









POLLUTION

We know that addition of harmful substances in the environment is called pollution. The harmful toxic substances that cause pollution are known as pollutants. There are mainly four types of pollution.



Air pollution



Sound pollution



Land pollution



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Water pollution

GREENHOUSE EFFECT

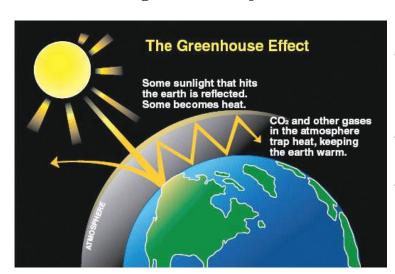
Everyday we read in the newspaper about greenhouse effect and global warming. What is the greenhouse effect? Let us understand it like this:

Greenhouse is a term given to a glasshouse constructed to keep delicate and rare plants that require warmth and protection from weather. The house is constructed by panels of glass. Glass panels allow sunrays and heat to pass through the glasshouse. The heat that enters the glasshouse cannot escape because the glass panels sent back the heat to the inside of the glasshouse. This makes the glasshouse warmer than the outside environment. This process is called **greenhouse effect**.



Green Glasshouse

In the similar way, you can observe that the car parked in the sun with all doors and windows closed gets heated up. This is also because of greenhouse effect.



Greenhouse Effect

Our earth's atmosphere also acts as a greenhouse. There is a layer of carbon dioxide around the earth. Rays from the sun fall on the earth causing it to get heated. The hot earth sends back the heat. The layer of carbon dioxide traps this heat energy. This keeps the atmosphere warm. The heating of the earth's atmosphere due to the trapping of heat energy reflected from the earth's surface by carbon dioxide and other gases in the atmosphere is called greenhouse effect.

Human activities like burning of fossil fuels by automobiles and industries and cutting and burning of forest release a lot of carbondioxide which has increased greenhouse effect.

IMPACT OF GREENHOUSE EFFECT

1. As a result of increasing greenhouse effect, the temperature around the world is increasing. This is called **global warming**. Scientists expect the temperature to increase by 3°C-4°C during the next 100 years because of human activities.

2. Melting of glaciers and ice will take place at a faster rate as a result of global warming. This will raise the sea level leading to floods in low lying areas.





Melting of glaciers

Floods

MEASURE TO CHECK GLOBAL WARMING

- Reduction in the use of fossil fuels.
- Developing renewable sources of energy like solar energy, wind energy etc.
- Increase in forest areas to utilise carbon dioxide by plants during photosynthesis.

Global warming may cause serious damages to the environment and ultimately affect human lives. It is high time when serious steps need to be taken to control the phenomenon of global warming.

Know the Keywords:

Toxic : Poisonous. Renewable : Begin again.

Anything appearing or observed Phenomenon

Point to Remember

- Pollutants: substances that spoil the environment.
- Environment: living and non-living thing around us form environment.
- Pollution: spoiling of environment

EXERCISE TIME

Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs).

Tick (\checkmark) the correct word :

- 1. Which of the following may be a result of global warming?
 - a. melting of glaciers () b. rain

ci. both

- 2. Global warming can be reduced by increasing
 - a. industries
- b. forest areas
- c. population
 - during one next 100 years.
- 3. The temperature will increase by _____ a. 7C - 8C
 - b. 3C 4C
- c. 2C 6C

	4.	Natural resources like plants, animals and minerals make our life	
		a. comfortable b. miserable c. none of these)
	5.	Who is the only organism that integers environment	
		a. man b. animal c. plants)
В.	Fill	in the blanks :	
	1.	Addition of harmful substances in the environment is called	
		There are mainly types of pollution.	
	3.	Our atmosphere also acts as a greenhouse.	
	4.	There is a layer of around the earth.	
	5.	The earth sends back the heat.	
C.	Wri	te 'T' for true and 'F' for false statements :	
	1.	Air, water, land, plants and animals all are the parts of our environment.	>
	2.	Glass panels allow sun rays and heat to pass through the glasshouse.)
	3.	The layer of oxygen traps this heat energy.	>
	4.	There are five types of pollution.	5
	5.	Plants and animals do not interfere the environment.	5
D.		atch the following:	
		Air, water, land etc. a. furniture	
	2.	Cutting down trees b. environment	
	3.	Harmful substances c. as a greenhouse	
		Earth's atmosphere d. part of environment	
	5.		
E.		swer the following questions :	
	1.	Who interferes with the environment?	
	2.	Give one effect of greenhouse.	
	3.	What do you mean by greenhouse effect ?	
	4.	Give one impact of global warming.	
	5.	Which human activities are responsible for increasing greenhouse effect?	
	6.	What measures (any two) can we take to check the global warming?	
J.		Croativa Mark	
		Creative Work	
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Keep a watch on the waste that is produced for some days in your house. Look into the dustbins. Make a list of three things each that could have been recycled, reused and reduced..