**Global warming**

Global warming is an issue that affects us all, regardless of where we live or what we do. It refers to the gradual increase in the Earth's average temperature due to the rise of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. These gases, like carbon dioxide and methane, trap heat from the sun, preventing it from escaping back into space. This process is often referred to as the "greenhouse effect."

The primary cause of global warming is human activity. Since the Industrial Revolution, we have been burning fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas to power our factories, homes, and vehicles. This has led to a significant increase in carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere. Deforestation also contributes to global warming, as trees play a crucial role in absorbing carbon dioxide.

The effects of global warming are both widespread and concerning. One of the most noticeable impacts is the change in climate patterns, leading to more frequent and severe weather events, such as hurricanes, droughts, and floods. Rising global temperatures also contribute to the melting of polar ice caps and glaciers, resulting in rising sea levels. This poses a threat to coastal communities and could lead to the displacement of millions of people.

Moreover, global warming affects biodiversity. Many species are struggling to adapt to the changing climate, leading to a loss of habitats and a decrease in wildlife populations. The delicate balance of ecosystems is being disrupted, which could have long-term consequences for the planet.

Addressing global warming requires global cooperation and action. Governments, businesses, and individuals all have a role to play. Reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, improving energy efficiency, and investing in renewable energy sources are essential steps. Additionally, protecting and restoring forests can help absorb excess carbon dioxide. By making informed choices, we can help mitigate the effects of global warming and protect our planet for future generations.

***Choose the right variant***

1. What is the primary driver behind the gradual increase in the Earth's average temperature?

A. Deforestation

B. The greenhouse effect

C. Natural climate cycles

D. Human activity

2. Which of the following is not a greenhouse gas mentioned in the passage?

A. Carbon dioxide

B. Methane

C. Nitrous oxide

D. Oxygen

3. Which of these is identified as a consequence of rising sea levels due to global warming?

A. Improved biodiversity

B. Reduced weather extremes

C. Displacement of millions of people

D. Decreased reliance on fossil fuels

4. What role can individuals play in mitigating the effects of global warming?

A. Reducing energy consumption

B. Investing in renewable energy

C. Advocating for policy changes

D. All of the above

5. How do trees help to address the problem of global warming?

A. They trap heat in the atmosphere

B. They emit greenhouse gases

C. They absorb carbon dioxide

D. They increase the Earth's average temperature

6. Which of the following is not mentioned as an impact of global warming?

A. Disruption of ecosystem balance

B. Melting of polar ice caps and glaciers

C. Increased frequency of severe weather events

D. Reduced reliance on fossil fuels

7. What is the "greenhouse effect" as described in the passage?

A. The gradual increase in the Earth's temperature

B. The process by which heat from the sun is trapped in the atmosphere

C. The burning of fossil fuels to power our daily lives

D. The loss of biodiversity due to climate change

***Identify if the statement is true or false. Correct false statements***

Statements:

1. Global warming is caused solely by natural processes.

2. The increase in greenhouse gases is primarily due to human activities.

3. Deforestation has no impact on global warming.

4. Climate change can lead to more extreme weather conditions.

5. Rising temperatures contribute to the melting of ice in polar regions.

6. Global warming has a positive effect on biodiversity.

7. Taking action against global warming requires cooperation from various sectors of society.