**greenhouse effect**

The greenhouse effect is a natural process that plays a crucial role in maintaining the Earth’s temperature. It works like a blanket, trapping heat from the sun and keeping our planet warm enough to support life. The process begins when sunlight reaches the Earth, and its surface absorbs this energy, converting it into heat. As this heat radiates back into space, certain gases known as greenhouse gases trap some of this heat, preventing it from escaping.

These greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide, methane, and water vapor. While they are essential for keeping our planet warm, human activities have greatly increased their levels in the atmosphere. Burning fossil fuels, deforestation, and farming practices release more of these gases, enhancing the greenhouse effect and causing global temperatures to rise.

This increase in temperature leads to a number of environmental changes. Glaciers and ice caps are melting, causing sea levels to rise. Extreme weather events, like hurricanes and heatwaves, are becoming more frequent and severe. Wildlife and ecosystems are also affected, as species struggle to adapt to rapidly changing conditions.

To address these challenges, reducing greenhouse gas emissions is critical. This can be done by using renewable energy sources, like solar and wind, improving energy efficiency in our homes and buildings, and protecting and restoring forests that absorb carbon dioxide.

Understanding and addressing the greenhouse effect is vital for the health of our planet. By taking action now, we can slow down the impacts of climate change and create a sustainable future for ourselves and coming generations.

***Choose the right variant***

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1. According to the passage, what is the primary function of the greenhouse effect?

A. To trap heat and maintain the Earth's temperature

B. To cool the Earth's surface

C. To absorb sunlight and convert it to energy

D. To prevent the escape of greenhouse gases

2. Which of the following activities is NOT mentioned as a cause of increased greenhouse gas emissions?

A. Deforestation

B. Burning of fossil fuels

C. Farming practices

D. Extreme weather events

3. What is one of the key consequences of rising global temperatures mentioned in the passage?

A. Improved adaptation of wildlife

B. Decreased frequency of hurricanes

C. Melting of glaciers and ice caps

D. Reduced sea level rise

4. Which of the following measures is NOT suggested in the passage to address the challenges of the greenhouse effect?

A. Increasing the use of renewable energy sources

B. Improving energy efficiency in homes and buildings

C. Reducing the production of greenhouse gases

D. Expanding industrial activities

5. What is the main message the passage aims to convey?

A. The greenhouse effect is a natural and beneficial process

B. Human activities are the primary cause of climate change

C. The consequences of climate change are irreversible

D. Addressing the greenhouse effect is crucial for the planet's future

6. Which of the following skills is NOT emphasised as important for understanding the information in the passage?

A. Skimming

B. Scanning

C. Critical thinking

D. Mathematical reasoning

7. Which of the following greenhouse gases is NOT mentioned in the passage?

A. Carbon dioxide

B. Methane

C. Nitrogen

D. Water vapour

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

1. The greenhouse effect is an artificial process created by human activities.

2. Greenhouse gases are necessary for keeping the Earth warm.

3. Human actions have decreased the levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

4. Melting glaciers contribute to rising sea levels.

5. Extreme weather events are becoming less frequent due to climate change.

6. Using renewable energy can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

7. The author believes that taking action against climate change is unimportant.