

PROBA: CLIMATE CHANGE

Read the text and the instructions for the questions very carefully. Answer all the questions in English.

CLIMATE CHANGE

1 In the past decade, warmer-than-average temperatures have been recorded around the globe, and
 2 scientists warn that temperatures will soar by 1.8–4°C before the close of the century. It is believed
 3 that this recent climate change has been caused by human activity, and especially by the emission of
 4 greenhouse gases.

5 The effects of this are being felt worldwide. In equatorial countries, the hot weather is creating barren
 6 wastelands, and putting natural resources under tremendous pressure. In Spain, nearly a third of the
 7 country may be lost to desert in the future, and six per cent of Spanish soil has already become dry and
 8 arid. In some of the world's poorest countries in Africa, desertification has cost lives and, with
 9 insufficient water, thousands may die as a result of drought and famine.

10 Climate change is affecting the coldest extremities of the world, too, melting the ice at the poles. This is
 11 currently having a deleterious impact on local animal populations, such as polar bears, and it is not yet
 12 known what the wider repercussions might be. It has been speculated that rising sea levels may lead to
 13 more tidal waves and tsunamis, and could result in severe flooding in coastal regions. The icy
 14 temperature of the water could also wreak havoc: another gloomy prediction suggests that the warm
 15 ocean currents, which now preserve a temperate climate in northern countries, could cool. Thus the UK
 16 and the USA could paradoxically experience global warming as a deep freeze.

17 One thing is certain. If we do not act now, the earth will continue to heat up, perhaps irreversibly. We
 18 must take better care of our planet – before the problem gets too hot to handle.

Questions

1. **Write a summary of the text in English, including the most important points, using your own words whenever possible. (approximately 50 words; 1 point)**
2. **Indicate whether the following statements are true or false (T / F), according to the text, and copy that part (and ONLY that part) of the text which justifies your answer. (1 point, 0.25 points each)**
 - i) People have created the current climate change.
 - ii) People in northern countries aren't happy about any of the side effects of global warming.
 - iii) Polar bear numbers are increasing.
 - iv) We can afford to wait a while before we deal with the issue of climate change.

3. Find words or phrases in the text that correspond in meaning to the following.
(1 point: 0.25 points each)

- i) end
- ii) harmful, negative
- iii) consequences
- iv) too difficult to deal with

4. Pronunciation (1 point: 0.5 points each)

- i) Write two words from the text that include the same vowel sound as “see” /i:/
- ii) Write two words from the text that include the same diphthong sound as “try” /aɪ/

5. Complete the second sentence of each pair so that it has the same meaning as the first one.
(1.5 points: 0.5 points each)

- a) Temperatures will soar by 1.8–4°C before the close of the century.
By the close of the century, ...
- b) I think you should do more to help the environment.
If I ...
- c) The businessman really regretted the fact that his factories had emitted so much pollution.
The businessman wished ...

6. Do you think that there is anything we can do to help the environment?
(approximately 120 words; 3 points)

