

GLOBAL WARMING

Please reflect on the following questions:

What is at least one **STRENGTH** of this essay?

What is **ONE** way the writer could improve this essay?

What would you say to the writer to help them improve their essay?

What is **ONE** grammar/editing issue to work on?

Topic 5 - Global Warming

Most people today have accepted the idea that global warming is a reality. As temperatures slowly rise, there are consequences for all of us. Many people, though, feel helpless about addressing the situation. Read the following two texts and write an informational essay describing ways in which a warmer Earth affects us on a daily basis, as well as ways we as individuals can help reduce the effects of global warming.

The texts are *How Does Global Warming Affect Daily Life?* and *What Are Ways to Stop Global Warming?*

In your informational essay, be sure to:

- use information from both texts in your essay
- introduce the topic clearly, provide a focus, and organize information in a way that makes sense
- develop the topics with facts, definitions, details, quotations or other information and examples related to the topic
- use appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion
- clarify the relationship among ideas and concepts
- use clear language and vocabulary to inform about the topic
- provide a conclusion that follows the information presented

How Does Global Warming Affect Daily Life?

by Suzanna Didier

www.homeguides.sfgate.com/effects-global-warming-human-body

Earth's climate is changing. In the past 50 years, the average temperature in the United States has gone up by 2 degrees Fahrenheit, precipitation has increased by roughly 5 percent, and extreme weather events have become more frequent and intense, according to a recent report by the U.S. Global Change Research Program. Global warming doesn't just impact nature; your daily life is affected, too.

Food prices are rising as climate change makes it trickier to maintain the specific conditions crops need to thrive. As the climate warms, the air holds more moisture and rainstorms become more intense, damaging crops. Overall precipitation patterns are also changing, bringing droughts to some areas of the world and floods to others. A recent study published by Stanford University showed that global wheat production decreased by 5.5 percent as a result of an unstable climate, and world corn production was down by nearly 4 percent. So far, North

American farmers haven't seen the same drop in productivity, but that is expected to change. The EPA reports that an additional increase of 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit in the global temperature could decrease production of American corn by 10 to 30 percent.

Fresh water is becoming scarcer in some regions. Many mountainous states rely on snowmelt to replenish their water sources, and snowpack is declining as well as melting earlier in the season. Severe droughts, increased evaporation and changes in precipitation patterns are impacting water levels in streams, rivers and lakes. Nearly 18 percent of the world's fresh water is found in the Great Lakes, which supply drinking water to a large region. Scientists expect lake levels to drop as the climate continues to warm up. Lake Superior --- the largest of the five Great Lakes --- is 4.5 degrees F warmer than it was in 1980, and water levels in all of the Great Lakes have generally declined since 1986.

Rising ocean levels will cover some of the coastline used for recreation and human habitation. Sea ice is melting at an accelerated rate, according to the National Wildlife Federation. Arctic sea ice has shrunk by 30 percent since 1979. As it melts and ocean levels rise, coastlines and low-lying areas like New Orleans, Miami and New York are threatened. If the Earth's climate warms by 2 or 3 more degrees by 2100, global sea level will rise 3 feet, displacing almost 56 million people around the world.

More wildfires are breaking out as droughts become increasingly common. Fires that go through drought-stricken land spread more quickly and burn longer, destroying forests and homes, public recreation spaces and grasslands. The University of Arizona reported that from 1987 to 2003, seven times more forested land burned in the western United States than during the preceding 17 years, and large fires were four times as frequent. The EPA predicts that if the earth warms another 3.6 degrees F, wildfires in that part of the country will burn four times more land than they currently do.

What Are Ways to Stop Global Warming?

Adapted from an article by Benna Crawford, Demand Media
www.homeguides.sfgate.com/ways-stop-global-warming

The remedies for global warming are in the big picture, but also in the details. In order to change the circumstances that are melting the ice caps and creating climate chaos, people have to adopt new behaviors. Science and technology have to step up to the challenge, as well.

Although several greenhouse gases contribute to global warming, carbon dioxide is the main culprit. By 2008, scientists recommended that carbon dioxide in the atmosphere be reduced to no more than 350 parts per million, from highs of at least 385 parts per million, to prevent catastrophic warming, rising sea levels, freshwater shortages, widespread destruction of marine

life and the spread of deadly mosquito-born diseases. They advise we must stop using coal and other fossil fuels unless we capture and sequester the carbon dioxide emissions.

There are a number of changes you can make in your day-to-day life to reduce your personal carbon footprint. Although these measures alone will not be enough to curtail global warming, if undertaken by enough people, they do have the ability to significantly reduce the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere. Recycle your household waste. Try composting to recycle kitchen garbage, landscape trimmings and paper waste. Use the compost to grow your own organic vegetables -- plants remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Change to compact fluorescent bulbs to save on electricity. Turn off that light bulb when you leave the room and save even more. Walk, bike or take public transit instead of driving and save a pound of carbon dioxide for every mile that you don't drive. If you do drive and keep your tires inflated, you'll get better mileage -- every gallon of gas saved stops 20 pounds of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere.

Zero-energy buildings and bold, innovative clean-energy production can halt greenhouse gas increases and initiate their gradual decrease to safer levels. The U.S. Green Building Council administers green building certification for commercial, institutional, medical, residential and school buildings that adhere to green construction practices and operate energy-efficient buildings. The Union of Concerned Scientists urges people to push for energy-efficient buildings made with sustainable materials and practices. Support green-building initiatives in your town and try to incorporate their principles into your own projects. Contact elected representatives to ask them to vote for climate-control legislation. Demand action from state and local officials to build nonpolluting local transportation and offer supply incentives for wind and solar energy systems. Write to your energy company to ask for clean energy sources. Your vote and your voice can help to cool the planet.

The Union of Concerned Scientists says deforestation of the world's tropical rain forests accounts for at least 15 percent of all heat-trapping emissions -- more than every plane, train, ship, truck and car on the planet. Plants take in carbon dioxide and release oxygen. Cutting down and destroying the rain forest's verdant biosphere releases the considerable amount of carbon stored in those plants. Therefore, stopping deforestation is a consequential action. Deforestation clears the land for cattle grazing and growing crops, sometimes for biofuels. Commercial logging strips an entire habitat of its trees and complex environment. These are short-term, relatively low-income activities with a devastating long-lasting effect on climate. Supporting sustainable agriculture practices and purchasing only sustainably harvested lumber will help slow deforestation. Controlling sprawl and paying people in developing nations to protect their forests rather than cut them down are all urgent remedies.

A

Global Warming

Global warming is a reality today. How does Global Warming affect us on a daily basis? Also what are some of the effects of it?

According to Susan Didier, these are some of the effects that Global Warming has on us. It raises food costs because the weather changes that effects crops, such as droughts and floods. Worldwide wheat production is down 5.5% and corn 4%, which us as consumer sees the affects. The Global Warming is decreasing are fresh water supply which causes us to have less clear drinking water. Droughts caused by Global Warming causes wildfires that can destroy human and animal habitat.

However Benna Crawford, "What are ways to stop Global warming" she states that there are things we can do as individuals to reduce Global Warming. Some of the things we can do are stop using coal and other fossil fuels, start composting and recycling more. We can also grow are own veggies because it removes co2 from the air. Driving less use public transportation, keep tires inflated are just other ways to stop global warming? Also we can demand action from elected officials to support "GREEN."

In conclusion, Global warming does affect us daily. However by doing things to help with the global warming we can help are world be a better place.

B

Global Warming

Most people today have accepted the idea that global warming is a reality. As temperatures rise trouble will occur for us the people. How will a warmer Earth affect our daily lives and what will we as individuals do to help?

Over the last fifty years global warming has had numerous effects. In the United States the average temperature has gone up 2 degrees Fahrenheit. Precipitation has increased about 5 percent, along with more frequent and dangerous extreme weather events. With weather changing certain crops are becoming harder to maintain. With them being harder to maintain prices will rise. A recent study by Stanford University made us aware that global wheat production has decreased by 5.5 percent, along with corn crops decreasing by almost 4 percent. Along with these issues fresh water will be affected too. Nearly eighteen percent of our fresh water comes from the Great Lakes which scientists predict will decrease in water levels as climate increases.

We as people must adapt to new behaviors in order to begin the fight against global warming. Although many gases our effecting global warming carbon dioxide is our main problem. With that being said there is numerous ways to reduce your carbon footprint. For instance try composting, recycling, turn your lights off when not being used, and walk bike or take public transit over your personal vehicle. Every gallon of gas saved stops twenty pounds of carbon dioxide from entering our atmosphere.

Global warming is everyone's problem. We all play a part in adding to global warming so now we must help reduce. We can all fight global warming by