

ANSWER KEY
An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power Worksheet – Part I
Instructor: Tony Del Vecchio

- 1. Between the years 2001 and 2015, how many of the hottest 15 years ever recorded occurred?**

Fourteen out of 15

2016

- 2. In the 1990s, what happened to the average temperature curve? What effect does this have on the climate?**

In the 1990s, the average temperature curve shifted further. And in the last ten years, the extremely hot days have become more numerous than the cooler-than-average days. We still have cool days. We still have cold days. But these extremely hot days are becoming much more numerous.

- 3. Since the year 2000, what dramatic change has occurred at the Swiss Camp Climate Station in Greenland? What does this demonstrate?**

Since 2000 to now, the Swiss Camp Climate Station has lost 12 meters of ice.

This demonstrates that the land-based ice in Greenland is melting at an accelerated rate.

- 4. What causes the moulins to push their way under the ice sheet? What effect does this have on the ice sheet as friction is reduced?**

Moulins push through the ice sheet because water is heavier than ice. They burrow to the bottom of the ice and reduce friction between the ice sheet and the land upon which it sits, causing the flow of the ice sheet to the ocean to speed up.

- 5. What is happening in Miami and Fort Lauderdale? What are city engineers doing to combat the problem?**

Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and all of South Florida are experiencing increased flooding events due to climate change. They are trying to fight the problem by raising roads and putting in water pumps. Currently, the engineers are raising the roads to account for a one foot (.304 meters) level of sea rise.

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6. How much sea level rise is projected for South Florida in this century?

South Florida is projected to see a rise in sea level of seven feet (2.134 meters) or more in this century.

7. How many of the top 10 cities at risk from sea level rise are in Asia?

Nine of the top 10 cities at risk from sea level rise are located in Asia: Kolkata (1), Mumbai (2), Dhaka (3), Guangzhou (4), Ho Chi Minh City (5), Shanghai (6), Bangkok (7), Rangoon (8), and Hai Phong (10). Only Miami (9) is located outside of Asia.

8. What drastic measure has the nation of Kiribati taken as a result of continued sea level rise?

Anticipating the inevitable devastating rise in sea level which will drown their country, the Pacific island nation of Kiribati has purchased land in other countries to move its entire population. The citizens of Kiribati are becoming environmental refugees as a result of climate change.

9. In order to solve the environmental crisis, what does Al Gore think has to be fixed first? Why does he think this is so?

Gore says that in order to solve the environmental crisis, the “democracy crisis” has to be fixed first. In other words, he asserts that big money has so much influence now that democracy has been “hacked” (i.e., subverted), and large political contributors are now calling the shots (i.e., getting to decide on government policy and law by giving money to politicians).

10. What happened to the DSCOVR climate satellite program? What opportunity does Gore think was lost as a result?

When President George W. Bush got elected in 2000, he cancelled the program for political reasons having to do with resistance to the fact of climate change.

Gore thought that as a result of the program being cancelled, they lost the opportunity to build enough public support to get on track to solving the climate crisis.