Nuclear energy is the process of creating energy via controlled nuclear reactions. The substance used is uranium but only a small amount of it is required to make this reaction happen, so the supplies are not likely to run out in the near future, unlike supplies of coal and oil. Many people think nuclear energy is renewable, but actually it is not, it will eventually run out. France is a big producer of nuclear power with many power stations situated around the country. Other countries that use nuclear power for energy include Lithuania, Japan, Belgium, Sweden, Ukraine and South Korea and countries that do not use or produce that much nuclear energy include the Netherlands, Canada, the USA and China. Approximately 16% of the world’s energy comes from nuclear power. Popularity of nuclear energy around the world is increasing but there are still numerous safety concerns.

Nuclear energy has many benefits in that it is clean and experts say that standing in your home produces more radiation than standing next to a power plant. It produces a very small amount of greenhouse gas and uranium is not likely to run out in the near future. One small nuclear reaction produces a large amount of energy.

There are considerable disadvantages to nuclear energy. The waste produced has to be safely transported and even if we do bury it in the sea bed or send it up into space, it can always come back and we cannot keep doing that. The radiation produced can also be harmful to health and if ever there was a radiation leak, it could spread to the water and infect us. Some people who have been exposed to radiation have suffered deformities. It is also very expensive to build a nuclear power station and ensure that it is secure, you cannot just open and run a nuclear power station, it takes years to make the closed down power stations operational again and, as they have to be shut down and never used again after a period of about five years of production, the costs of building new ones every five years could be put to better use, in my opinion, by investing in cleaner, safer, renewable energy sources.

In conclusion, I think above all that nuclear power is not good because there are many more disadvantages than advantages, in my view, such as where to dispose of the waste. We should look towards cheaper, renewable, more reliable and safer sources of energy for the world’s energy supply such as solar, geothermal or wind energy.