Unit 7: Climate change = le changement climatique

* Réchauffement climatique = global warming

**A ‣ The problem**



**WHAT IS THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT = effet de serre?**

Many **greenhouse gases**, e.g. carbon dioxide, methane and ozone, **exist**1 naturally and are needed to **create**2 **the greenhouse effect** that keeps the Earth warm enough to **support**3 human life (=permettre la vie). However, the use of **fossil fuels (=énergie fossils)**, e.g. **oil (=pétrole)**, natural gas and coal, has produced **excessive**4 amounts of greenhouse gases, and the **result**5 is **global warming**: an increase in the average temperature on Earth. Of the 15 warmest years **on record (=enregistré)**6, 14 have **occurred (=to happen 🡪 se produire/passer)**7 since 2000.

The **effects**8 of **climate change** can already be seen in our everyday lives. Summers are getting hotter and winters are getting wetter, so **drought (= sécheresse)**9 and **floods (=inondation)**10 are becoming more common. With it, animal and plant life is **suffering (to suffer FROM)**11 – some species will disappear altogether – and certain illnesses, e.g. hay fever, asthma and skin cancer, are becoming more common.

To stop global warming from **destroying**12 our **environment**13, we need to act now.

1 are real or present  
2 make something happen or exist  
3 help (human life) to continue  
4 more than you want or need  
5 something that happens because of something else that has happened  
6 If information is *on record*, it has been written down or kept on a computer.  
7 happened; fml  
8 a change or result that is caused by something  
9 a long time without rain when people do not have enough water  
10 when water covers an area that is usually dry, often from too much rain  
11 experiencing something which is unpleasant  
12 damaging something so badly that it does not exist or cannot be used  
13 the air, land and water around us

**B ‣ The solution\* – or part of it**

To **reduce**global warming [make it less], the nations of the world will have to **act (=agir)**together [do something to solve a problem; *syn***take action**]. In the meantime, individuals can also help.

**SIX WAYS TO REDUCE GLOBAL WARMING:**

* 1. Don’t throw things **away (=jeter) – recycle** paper, glass, plastic, etc. so that it can be used again.
  2. **Save (=économiser)**1 **energy**2 e.g. **switch off** lights when you leave a room.
  3. Don’t **waste(=gaspiller)**3 water, e.g. turn off the **tap (=le robinet 🡪 a sink = version AmE)**when you are brushing your teeth.
  4. Change light bulbs for more **energy-efficient (= efficacité énergétique)**4 ones.
  5. Drive less and walk more.
  6. **Plant trees**5 because trees reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, and so reduce greenhouse gases.

\* the answer to a problem  
1 don’t waste  
2gas and electricity  
3 use it badly  
4 working well and not wasting energy  
5 put a new tree in the ground

**VOCABULARY**

* 1. **create**
  2. **act [do sth]**
  3. **climate change**
  4. **destroy**
  5. **drought**
  6. **effect**
  7. **efficient**
  8. **energy**
  9. **environment**
  10. **excessive**
  11. **exist**
  12. **existence**
  13. **flood**
  14. **fossil fuel**
  15. **global warming**
  16. **greenhouse effect**
  17. **greenhouse gases**
  18. **oil [fuel]**
  19. **on record**
  20. **plant v**
  21. **reduce**
  22. **result [consequence]**
  23. **save [keep]**
  24. **solution**
  25. **suffer**
  26. **switch sth off**
  27. **take action**
  28. **tap**
  29. **throw sth away**
  30. **waste**

**Exercises**

**58.1 ‣ How do you pronounce the underlined letters? Use the index to help you.**

* 1. global    Is it like go or got? 
  2. flood    Is it like foot or fun? 
  3. fuel    Is it like food or few? 
  4. drought    Is it like no or now? 
  5. suffer    Is it like son or soon? 
  6. climate    Is it like educate or comfortable? 

**58.2 ‣ Match the words on the left with the words on the right.**

* 1. the greenhouse 
  2. global 
  3. fossil 
  4. greenhouse 
  5. climate 

a) warming

b) change

c) effect

d) fuels

e) gases

**58.3 ‣ How can we help with global warming? Cover the opposite page and complete the text.**

• Don’t 1 paper, glass and plastic; 2  it.  
• Don’t 3  water: turn off the 4  when you brush your teeth.  
• 5  energy by 6  off lights when you leave a room.  
• 7  trees in order to 8  the amount of carbon dioxide.  
• 9  action now, before it’s too late.

**58.4 ‣ Complete the explanations.**

* 1. We don’t have to create greenhouse gases; they  naturally.
  2. Greenhouse gases in the atmosphere  the greenhouse effect.
  3. Global warming is the  of an increase in the amount of greenhouse gases.
  4. Two  of climate change have been hotter summers and wetter winters.
  5. A  is often the result of too much rain when the rivers are full.
  6. A  is a long period without rain, and they are  more frequently now.
  7. The  is the air, land and water around us.
  8. If you  something, it is so badly damaged, it cannot be used again.
  9. If something is , it works well and doesn’t waste energy.
  10.  is the power that comes from gas, electricity, etc.

**58.5 ‣ Complete the tables. Use a dictionary to help you.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **verb** | **noun** |
| recycle |  |
| waste |  |
| destroy |  |
| exist |  |
|  | solution |
| reduce |  |
| support |  |
| suffer |  |

**58.6 ‣**

Over to you

**Answer the questions. If possible, talk to someone else about the problems.**

* 1. Can you see the effects of global warming and climate change in your country? What do you see?
  2. What things do people recycle every week?
  3. Do you think you often waste water and energy? How?
  4. What more could you do to solve the problem? Does it worry you?