

GLOBAL WARMING

POWER



“Why should we be concerned about Global Warming?”

Many people consider that Global Warming is the greatest environmental threat of the 21st Century.

However, during the 80s and early 90s scientists argued about the causes and effects of global warming.

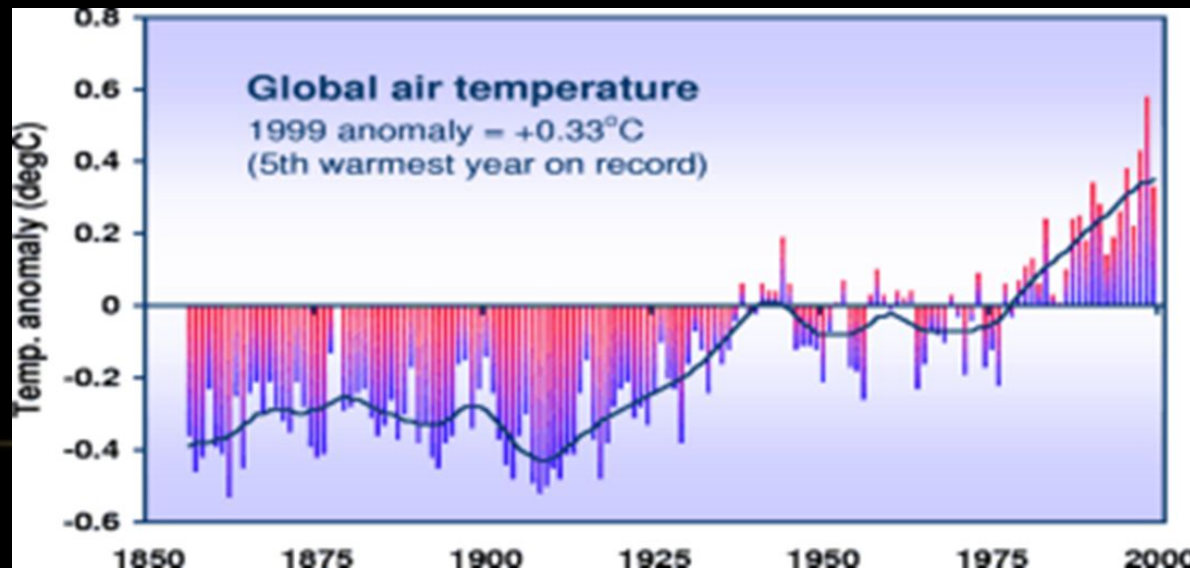
In the late 1990s scientists reached a consensus that global warming was a cause for concern.

So, why should you be concerned about global warming?



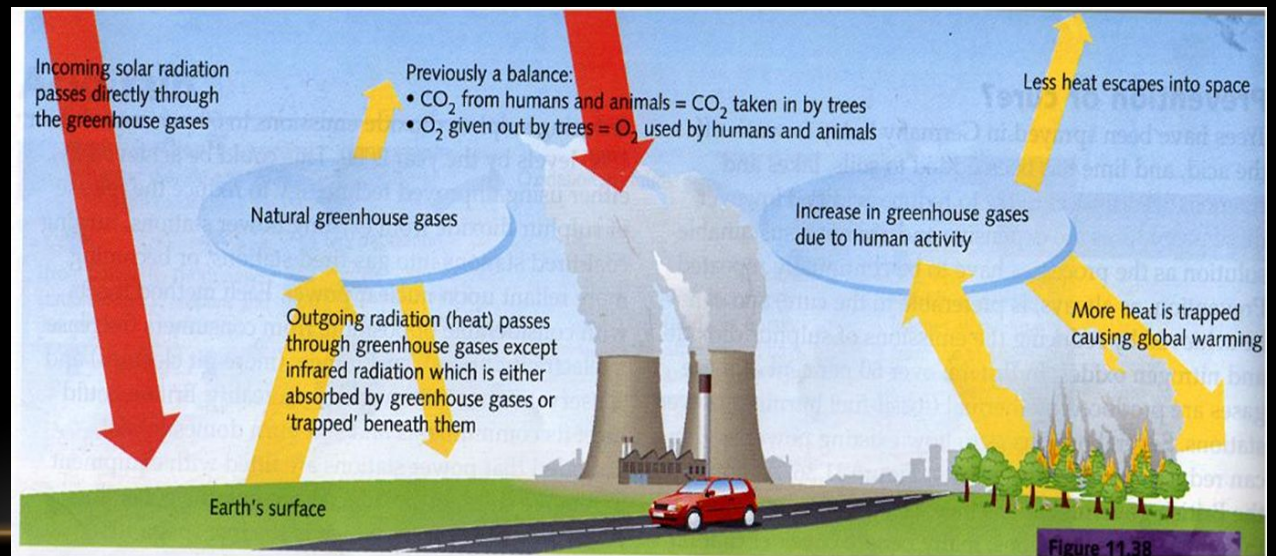
1. WHAT DOES GLOBAL WARMING MEAN?

- Global warming is the increase in the average temperature of Earth's near-surface air and oceans since the middle of the 20th century and its projected continuation. According to the 2007 Fourth Assessment Report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), global surface temperature increased 0.74 ± 0.18 °C during the 20th century.



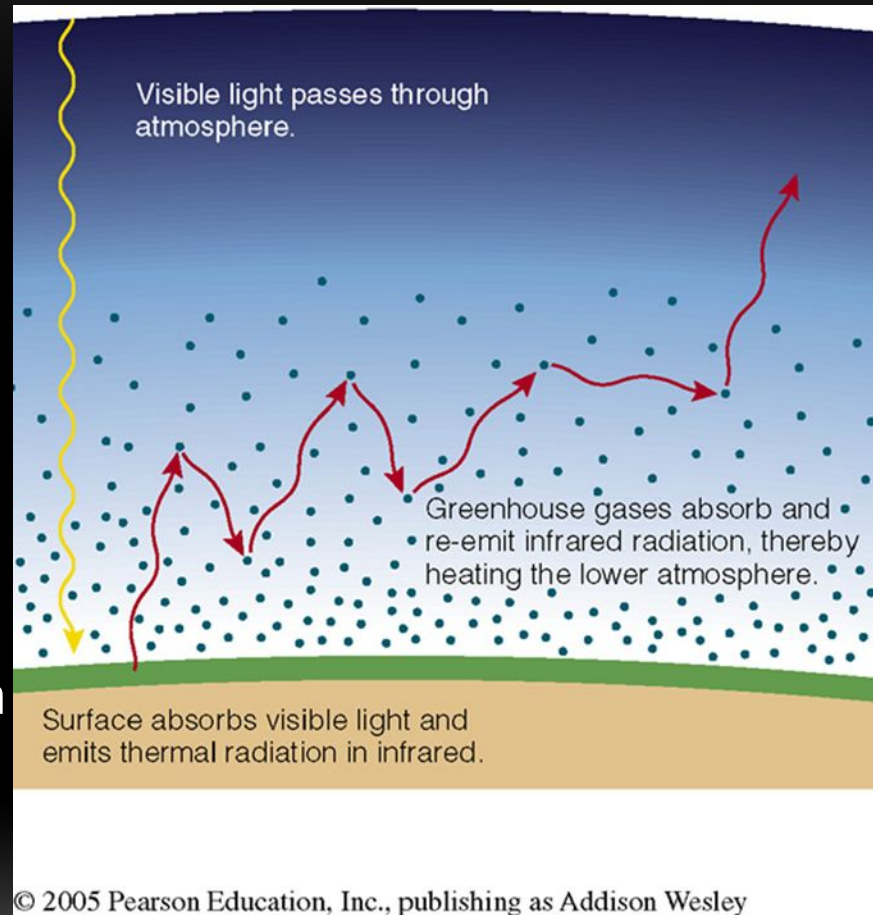
THE CAUSES OF GLOBAL WARMING

- Most of the observed temperature increase has been caused by **increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases**, which result from **human activity** such as
 - **the burning of fossil fuel**
 - **deforestation.**



WHAT ARE THE GREENHOUSE GASES?

- Greenhouse gases are efficient in absorbing IR light and they protect from superheating the Earth's surface
- The most important greenhouse gases are:
 - H₂O – Water vapor.
 - CO₂ – Carbon Dioxide
 - CH₄ – methane
- The process by which absorption and emission of infrared radiation by gases in the atmosphere warm a planet's lower atmosphere and surface is called the greenhouse effect



THE FUTURE EFFECTS OF GLOBAL WARMING

- 1. melting of the ice caps. This melting could increase the oceans height by up to 2 feet in only one century! This would mean many heavily populated cities would flood causing millions maybe billions of dollars of damage and the potential loss of life in these cities.
- 2. natural disasters would increase which influence spreading of diseases more rapidly, and animals have been found migrating towards the poles due to the increase in heat.
- 3. Deaths from global warming will double in just 25 years, to 300,000 people a year.
- 4. Heat waves will be more frequent and intense
- 5. Droughts and wildfires will occur more often
- 6. More than a million species could be driven to extinction by 2050.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

- By doing things like
- using recycled products
- supporting local business' carpool
- planting more trees we can help our planet.
- None of these are overnight solutions but if we all work to do some of these things we can drastically help our planet.



BUT! SKEPTIC'S VIEWS

- Unlike the alarmist's view the skeptic's views vary but the two main ideas are that either this warming is part of Earth's natural cycle (the Earth has been warming and cooling ever since its beginning) - Earth's Natural Cycle Theory
- Or that this is all an effect from solar activity and the temperature of the Earth –Sun Theory

SUN THEORY

- As supplier of almost all the energy in Earth's climate, the sun certainly has a strong influence on climate change. Consequently there have been many studies examining the link between solar variations and global temperatures.



EARTH'S NATURAL CYCLE THEORY



- This theory is essentially saying that there has been human interference but nothing to the extent of what the alarmist fear. This theory also states that the Earth has warmed and cooled before as well as had rises in the levels of CO₂ and has always got through it.

SKEPTIC'S REASONS TO BE SKEPTIC

- Skeptics say that global warming is just another way for scientists to get significant funding for their experiments.
- By making global warming out to be a apocalyptic disaster of sorts the government has been throwing money at scientists to find a solution to this problem and learn more about it.

- Should we believe and begin saving our planet or continue to be indifferent and passive?

REFERENCES:

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VOCABULARY

- To concern – заботиться, беспокоиться
- A consensus – согласие
- The average temperature – средняя температура
- Assessment – оценка, оценивание
- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) – Межгосударственная группа экспертов по изменению климата
- The burning – сгорание
- Efficient – действенный, результативный
- To absorb – поглощать
- Superheating – перенагревание
- Water vapor – водяной пар
- Carbon dioxide – углекислый газ
- Methane – метан
- Infrared radiation – инфракрасное излучение
- The ice cap – ледниковый покров
- Height - повышение
- Drought – засуха
- to occur – случаться
- Carpool – сокращение автомобилей
- Drastically – решительно, радикально
- To vary – различаться
- Supplier – поставщик
- Interference – вмешательство
- Get through – справляться