

Name:

Group:

Time : 45 mints

19th March 2014

COMPREHENSION

Our Fragile Planet



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Tornadoes, sometimes called 'twisters', are whirlwinds with speeds of up to 400 km per hour. In the USA, there are 1,000 tornadoes every year. They look fascinating and dramatic when we are watching them on TV, but they can kill. In Britain, there were very few tornadoes in the past. Now, there are more than 50 tornadoes a year.

Tornadoes are only one sign of the world's climate changes. There are many others. The number of thunderstorms is increasing and there are more hurricanes*. There are more floods* in some parts of the world, and there's much less rain in others. We know that these things happen because global temperatures are rising and many people believe the weather will get worse in the future. The problems of climate change won't go away unless we do something about the causes.

Scientists still do not know enough about the reasons for these temperature changes. Some say that these types of climate changes are natural, but most scientists think human activity is the problem. Cutting down trees, burning too much oil, and the increase in the number of cars and planes are some of the things that cause the problems.

Scientists believe that if the temperatures continue to rise, the ice at the poles will melt*. If the ice melts, sea levels will rise. Some islands might disappear completely, and there might be floods in coastal cities*. All this means that unless we do something to stop global warming* now, there may be many other dramatic changes in the future.

**Hurricane: a violent storm with extremely strong winds and heavy rain * floods: a large amount of water that covers an area*

**melt: become liquid *global warming: when the temperature of the Earth is increasing *coastal cities: cities beside the sea*

A. Read the text and Match the two parts of the sentences: (2pnts)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The weather is changing around the world | a. if we don't do something now. |
| 2. Most scientists think | b. sea levels will go up even more. |
| 3. If the ice at the poles continues to melt | c. because temperatures are rising. |
| 4. There might be even more problems in future | d. the climate changes are not natural. |

B. Write "True" or "False": (1pnt)

- Tornadoes are very fast twisters.
- Tornadoes, thunderstorms, floods and hurricanes are signs of the world's climate change.

C. Answer from the text: (1pnt)

- Why do most scientists think that human activity is the responsible for the rise of the temperature?
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.....

- Give some statistics about the tornadoes in the USA and in Britain from the text?
.....
.....

VOCABULARY

A. Match (2pnts)

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Were you really scared of the tornado? | a. The paramedics will help you |
| 2. Don't panic ! | b. In traditional jars |
| 3. Mum keeps the pure honey | c. I'm freezing |
| 4. The temperature is below -9°C | d. Yes, I was |

