

SMART *JUNIORS* 1

A Burning Planet

Lesson 44
Read for Main Idea



PREPARE TO READ

Academic Vocabulary

Read the definitions and fill in the blank with the correct word.
Change its form if necessary.

urgent



adj. very important and needing attention immediately

atmosphere



n. the mixture of gases around the Earth

carbon emission



n. carbon dioxide that vehicles or factories produce/release



Have a try!

01

The mountain top had a peaceful and relaxing _____ that made people feel calm and amazed.

02

It is important to take _____ action to protect nature from the harmful impacts of climate change.

03

We need to reduce _____ by using public transportation and conserving energy to preserve the beauty of our natural environment.

Academic Vocabulary

Read the definitions and choose the correct word that has the same meaning as the highlighted word or phrases.

accumulate



v. to gather something little by little over a long period of time

hurricane



n. a violent wind that has a circular movement

drought



n. a long period when there is little or no rain



Have a try!

1. The lack of rainfall for an extended period of time led to a water shortage and **dry conditions** in the region.
2. During the fall season, the fallen leaves and twigs **collect**, forming a thick layer on the ground.
3. The coastal area was hit by a **massive tropical storm**, with powerful winds and heavy rainfall.

PREPARE TO READ

Think Before Reading

Describe how our planet has changed over time.



- **What can we do to bring back our world to its original condition?**

A Burning Planet



Global warming has become an urgent and pressing issue in recent years, with many people referring to the planet as a "burning planet." The temperature of the Earth's atmosphere continues to rise at an alarming rate, and many scientists believe that it is mainly caused by human activities.

Human activities, such as burning fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrial processes, have contributed to the large increase in carbon emissions. These gases, like carbon dioxide (CO₂), water vapor, and methane, act as a blanket, trapping heat from the sun within the Earth's atmosphere, leading to global warming issues.

Once our Earth starts "burning", all the results will build on one another, leading to a vicious cycle. Let's check an example to see how this chain reaction works: as human activities create more carbon emissions into the atmosphere, global temperatures begin to rise. The rising temperatures result in drier and less rainy weather. The hot and dry weather without enough rainfall causes the forests to dry out. When the forests dry out in hot weather, they become more and more flammable and finally lead to forest fires. Forest fires, in turn, release more carbon emissions, making the problem of global warming worse.

Of course, the effects of global warming extend far beyond the forest fires. As the Earth's temperature continues to rise, we will see more severe weather events such as hurricanes, droughts, and floods. The melting of polar ice caps will eventually cause sea levels to rise, causing homeless situations for millions of people living in coastal areas.

In conclusion, global warming is a very serious problem that is caused by human activities and has far-reaching consequences for our planet. Understanding the entire cause-and-effect chain can help us find the key to the problem and take action. We must act quickly and firmly to cut carbon emissions to safeguard our planet from harm, as well as create a healthier future for younger generations.

Predict From the Title

Look at **the title** of the essay.

Which statement do you think best conveys the meaning of the title?

- A** a planet with rising temperatures, marked by the destruction of ecosystems as a result of serious environmental issues
- B** a burning planet due to some solar problems in the galaxy

- **Listen and read the essay. Think about the main idea of the essay.**

A Burning Planet

- ▶ Global warming has become an urgent and pressing issue in recent years, with many people referring to the planet as a "burning planet." The temperature of the Earth's atmosphere continues to rise at an alarming rate, and many scientists believe that it is mainly caused by human activities.
- ▶ Human activities, such as burning fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrial processes, have contributed to the large increase in carbon emissions. These gases, like carbon dioxide (CO₂), water vapor, and methane, act as a blanket, trapping heat from the sun within the Earth's atmosphere, leading to global warming issues.



READ FOR MAIN IDEA



- ▶ Once our Earth starts "burning", all the results will build on one another, leading to a vicious cycle. Let's check an example to see how this chain reaction works: as human activities create more carbon emissions into the atmosphere, global temperatures begin to rise. The rising temperatures result in drier and less rainy weather. The hot and dry weather without enough rainfall causes the forests to dry out. When the forests dry out in hot weather, they become more and more flammable and finally lead to forest fires. Forest fires, in turn, release more carbon emissions, making the problem of global warming worse.



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The Objective

What is the purpose of the essay?

- A** to persuade people to plant more trees to help save the environment
- B** to present a report regarding the positive effects of global warming
- C** to raise awareness about the urgent issue of global warming and its harmful effects on the planet

A Burning Planet | Paragraph 1

Global warming has become an urgent and pressing issue in recent years, with many people referring to the planet as a "burning planet." The temperature of the Earth's atmosphere continues to rise at an alarming rate, and many scientists believe that it is mainly caused by human activities.

Main Idea for Paragraphs

- Skim the paragraph and choose the main idea.
 - A Global warming is a natural occurrence with no significant impact.
 - B The planet is in danger due to global warming.

SKILL

Pay attention to **introductory statements**. They may introduce the purpose/topic of the essay.



A Burning Planet | Paragraph 2

Human activities, such as burning fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrial processes, have contributed to the large increase in carbon emissions. These gases, like carbon dioxide (CO₂), water vapor, and methane, act as a blanket, trapping heat from the sun within the Earth's atmosphere, leading to global warming issues.

Main Idea for Paragraphs

- Skim the paragraph and underline the main idea.

SKILL

Pay attention to sentences expressing a **cause-and-effect relationship**.

They usually create the basis for the following sentences.



A Burning Planet | Paragraph 3

Once our Earth starts "burning", all the results will build on one another, leading to a vicious cycle. Let's check an example to see how this chain reaction works: as human activities create more carbon emissions into the atmosphere, global temperatures begin to rise. The rising temperatures **result in** drier and less rainy weather. The hot and dry weather without enough rainfall **causes** the forests to dry out. When the forests dry out in hot weather, they become more and more flammable and finally **lead to** forest fires. Forest fires, in turn, release more carbon emissions, making the problem of global warming worse.

Main Idea for Paragraphs

- Skim the paragraph and choose the main idea of the paragraph.
- A Global warming has a significant impact on the environment.
- B Various factors contribute to the worsening situation of global warming.

SKILL

Look for sentences that establish the **concept of a chain reaction**. These statements serve to link the interconnected factors.



A Burning Planet | Paragraph 4

Of course, the effects of global warming extend far beyond the forest fires. As the Earth's temperature continues to rise, we will see more severe weather events such as hurricanes, droughts, and floods. The melting of polar ice caps will eventually cause sea levels to rise, causing homeless situations for millions of people living in coastal areas.

Main Idea for Paragraphs

- Skim the paragraph and choose the main idea of the paragraph.
- Ⓐ Global warming has wide-ranging effects on many different areas apart from wildfires.
- Ⓑ Many households in coastal areas can experience homelessness.

SKILL

Compare the **potential main idea** with the **supporting sentences**. They should be logically connected.



A Burning Planet | Paragraph 5

In conclusion, global warming is a very serious problem that is caused by human activities and has far-reaching consequences for our planet. Understanding the entire cause-and-effect chain can help us find the key to the problem and take action. We must act quickly and firmly to cut carbon emissions to safeguard our planet from harm, as well as create a healthier future for younger generations.

Main Idea for Paragraphs

- Skim paragraph 5 and underline the sentence that tells the main idea of the paragraph.

SKILL

The main idea can be expressed as a **summary** of information.





Academic Vocabulary



urgent



atmosphere



carbon emission



accumulate



hurricane



drought

Read for Main Idea

SKILLS

1. Pay attention to **introductory statements**. They may introduce the purpose/topic of the conversation.
2. Pay attention to sentences expressing a **cause-and-effect relationship**. They usually create the basis for the following sentences.
3. Look for sentences that establish the **concept of a chain reaction**. These statements serve to link the interconnected factors.
4. Compare the **potential main idea** with the **supporting sentences**. They should be logically connected.
5. The main idea can be expressed as a **summary** of information.





WHAT'S NEXT...

In the next lesson, we're going to discuss the essay "A Burning Planet" in detail.

See you next time!