

SMART *JUNIORS* 1

A Burning Planet

Lesson 45
Read for Detail



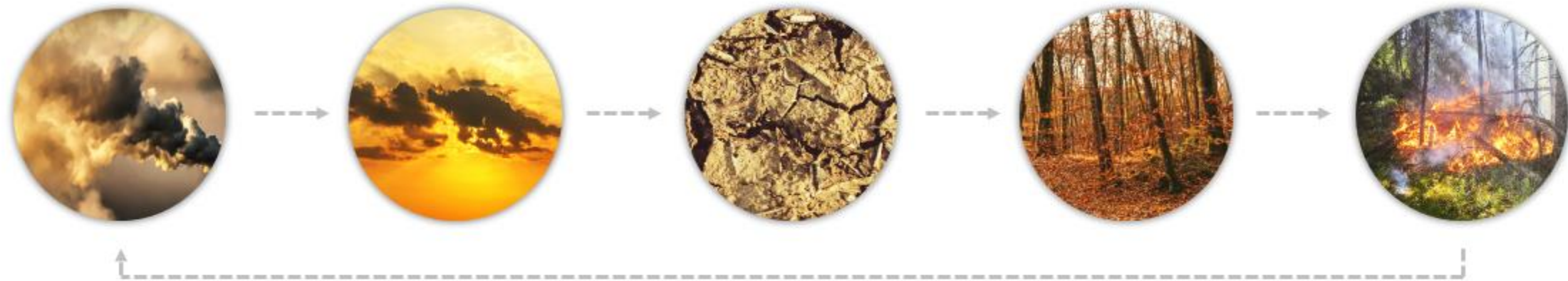
Listen and review the essay we learned last time.

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 (CO_2), water vapor, and methane, act as a blanket, trapping heat from the sun within the Earth's atmosphere, leading to global warming issues.



LISTEN AND REVIEW



- ▶ 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.



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.

- What is believed to be the primary reason behind the 'burning planet'?
-

Words & Expressions

Many scientists believe that it is mainly **caused by**...



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.

- What is the main cause and effect of the issue?

Words & Expressions

Human activities, **such as** burning fossil fuels... have **contributed to** the...



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.

■ Number the process in the correct order.

- _____ carbon emissions are released into the atmosphere
- _____ forest fires release more carbon emissions
- _____ forests are drying out
- _____ global temperatures rise
- _____ lesser rain and drier weather
- _____ forest fires occur due to flammable conditions

Words & Expressions

Look for sequence words like **result in**, **cause**, **finally**, etc.



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.

■ Correct or Incorrect?

- _____ 1. The effects of global warming are limited to forest fires only.
- _____ 2. The melting of polar ice caps will lead to rising sea levels, potentially affecting coastal areas.

TIP

Beware of tricky statements: Pay attention to **misleading** or **ambiguous words** (e.g. limited to, except, not, might, probably, only, etc.)



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.

- According to the passage, how are we able to find the key to the problem and take action?

Words & Expressions

In conclusion, global warming is a very serious problem that is caused by human activities and has **far-reaching** consequences for our planet.



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.

Working Out Meanings

- **Underline the sentence that shares a similar idea as the statement below.**

"Climate change is no longer a distant threat; it is happening now. The choices we make today will shape the world we leave for future generations."

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.**

Making Inferences

- **Read the highlighted sentence.**

What do you think would happen if we don't act quickly and firmly to cut carbon emissions to safeguard our planet from harm?

- **Discuss with your teacher.**

Taking Action for a Sustainable Future

1. What should the government do about the environmental problems we are facing?
2. What are you doing to help preserve the environment?





- **Complete the summary of the essay.**

Global warming is a pressing issue caused by **(machineries, human activities)** that lead to a rapid rise in the Earth's temperature. Burning fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrial processes contribute to increased carbon **(emissions, dioxide)**, trapping heat in the atmosphere and resulting in a **(chain, water)** reaction. **(Rising, Falling)** temperatures cause drier weather, forest dry-outs, and more severe wildfires, releasing additional carbon emissions. The consequences extend to extreme weather events and rising sea levels, posing challenges for coastal communities. Understanding the **(cause-and-effect, air-tight)** chain is crucial to taking action. By **(increasing, reducing)** carbon emissions, we can protect the planet and create a **(threatening, healthier)** future.





WHAT'S NEXT...

In the next lesson, we're going to learn a critical thinking skill: "Analyzing Cause and Effect."

See you next time!