

# Climate change **quiz 1**

Do you really know the facts from the fiction?

level **small** / regular / large

How much do you know  
about Climate Change?

The answers are on the back of this page.



- 1 Current climate change is part of a natural cycle  
True  False
- 2 Global temperatures are continuing to rise  
True  False
- 3 A small temperature change isn't going to affect people in the UK  
True  False
- 4 There's little we can do to stop climate change  
True  False
- 5 Living more environment-friendly could save you money  
True  False

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### **1 False**

Although the Earth has experienced natural climate changes in its history, ice core records show that over the last 100 years CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations have increased by 30% because of humans burning fossil fuels.

[www.metoffice.gov.uk](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk)

### **2 True**

The rise in global surface temperature has averaged more than 0.15C per decade since the mid-1970s. The 17 warmest years have all occurred in the last 20 years. This does not mean that next year will necessarily be warmer than this year, but the long-term trend is for temperatures to rise.

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### **3 False**

Scientists say the impacts will be far reaching. Water is likely to be a big issue, with increases in rainfall, rising sea levels, and more risk of flooding. There may also be more heat waves and droughts.

Rising temperatures mean that diseases may migrate to areas that were previously too cold for them to survive. Mosquitoes carrying malaria have already been found moving north in recent years. Farming will be affected too. A change in temperature means that different crops can be grown in different areas, sunflowers and soya may well be grown in the UK. However, an increase in wet summers or prolonged draughts will cause more crops to fail.

[www.bbc.co.uk/climate/impact](http://www.bbc.co.uk/climate/impact)

### **4 False**

Every thing you do makes a difference! Almost half of the UK's carbon dioxide emissions come from our everyday actions. Things like leaving lights on unnecessarily, or overfilling the kettle all waste energy.

Eating meat also contributes to global warming. Worldwide livestock farming generates 18% of greenhouse gas emissions. By comparison, transport accounts for 13%. Much of livestock's contribution to global warming comes from deforestation; trees are being cut down to make space for animal feed crops. Trees absorb CO<sub>2</sub> while they're alive, when they're burned or cut down, the CO<sub>2</sub> is released back into the atmosphere. Also, cows produce a lot of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas. Chickens have the lowest CO<sub>2</sub> and methane emissions.

[www.guardian.co.uk/environment](http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment) [www.energysavingtrust.org.uk](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk)

### **5 True**

Being environmentally friendly need not cost more – in fact, it could save you money. It takes a bit of work at first to work out what your options are, and what makes best environmental sense, but once you get started, it becomes second nature. As an example, UK homes throw away 6.7m tonnes of food every year. That is nearly a third of all of the food we buy.

[www.wrap.org.uk](http://www.wrap.org.uk)

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