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Comprehension Test Questions for RBI Assistant Pre, SBI Clerk Pre, IBPS Clerk Pre, LIC Assistant Pre and IBPS RRB Assistant Pre Exams.

Passage No. 159

Direction: Read the following passage carefully and answer the following questions.

A new analysis has determined that the threat of global warming can still be greatly diminished if nations cut emissions of heat-trapping greenhouse gases by 70% this century. The analysis was done by scientists at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR). While global temperatures would rise, the most dangerous potential aspects of climate change, including massive losses of Arctic sea ice and permafrost and significant sea-level rise, could be partially avoided.

“This research indicates that we can no longer avoid significant warming during this century,” said NCAR scientist Warren Washington, the study paper’s lead author. “But, if the world were to implement this level of emission cuts, we could stabilize the threat of climate change”, the Average global temperatures have warmed by close to 1 degree Celsius since the pre-industrial era. Much of the warming is due to human-produced emissions of greenhouse gases, predominantly carbon dioxide. This heat-trapping gas has increased from a pre-industrial level of about 284 parts per million (ppm) in the atmosphere to more than 380 ppm today. With research showing that additional warming of about 1 degree C may be the threshold for dangerous climate change, the European Union has called for dramatic cuts in emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

To examine the impact of such cuts on the world’s climate, Washington and his colleagues ran a series of global studies with the NCAR based Community Climate System Model (CCSM). They assumed that carbon dioxide levels could be held to 450 ppm at the end to this century. In contrast, emissions are now on track to reach about 750 ppm by 2100 if unchecked. The team’s results showed that if carbon dioxide were held to 450 ppm, global temperatures would increase by 0.6 degrees Celsius above current readings by the end of the century. In contrast, the study showed that temperatures would rise by almost four times that amount, to 2.2 degrees Celsius above current readings, if emissions were allowed to continue on their present course. Holding carbon dioxide levels to 450 ppm would have other impacts, according to the climate modeling study.

Sea-level rise due-to thermal expansion as water temperatures warmed would be 14 centimeters (about 5.5 inches) instead of 22 centimeters (8.7 inches). Also, Arctic ice in the summertime least shrink by about a quarter in volume and stabilize by 2100, as opposed to shrinking at least three-quarters and continuing to melt, and Arctic warming would be reduced by almost half.

Questions :

1. Why has European Union called for dramatic cuts in carbon dioxide and greenhouse gas emissions?

- A. As global warming is not an issue of concern.
- B. As the temperatures may rise almost by an additional one degree and this may lead to severe climate changes.
- C. As the NCAR has forced the European. Union to announce, the cuts.
- D. As all the nations have decided to cut emissions of carbon dioxide.
- E. None of these

2. What would be one of the positive impacts of cutting greenhouse gas emissions?

- A. Temperature will stop soaring.
- B. Ice in the Arctic sea would melt at a slower pace.
- C. The rise in sea level would be lesser.
- D. All of the above would be key positive impacts.
- E. None of these

3. As per the passage, what would be the impact of unchecked greenhouse gases and carbon dioxide emissions?

- A. The temperature would rise from the current temperature by 2.2 degrees Celsius.
- B. The sea-level would rise by about 5.5 inches.
- C. The arctic ice would stabilize by 2100.
- D. The arctic ice would reduce by one-fourth.
- E. None of these

4. What can be the most appropriate title of the above passage?

- A. A study of the rise in water level.
- B. A study of rise in temperatures.
- C. A study of the effects of greenhouse gas emissions.
- D. A study of the Arctic region.
- E. A study of change in seasons.

5. Which of the following statements is true in context of the passage?

- A. At present the carbon dioxide emission is about 284 ppm.
- B. The carbon dioxide emissions will be about 450 ppm at the end of this century if unchecked.
- C. The carbon dioxide emission was about 380 ppm during the pre-industrial era.
- D. The carbon dioxide emissions will be about 750 ppm at the end of this century if unchecked.
- E. None of these



6. What does the scientist Warren Washington mean when he says “We could stabilize the threat of climate change”?

- A. Climate change can be stopped completely.
- B. Climate change can be regularized.
- C. Climate change and its effects can be studied extensively.
- D. The ill-effects of the change in climate can be minimized.
- E. None of these

7. Why did Washington and his colleagues conduct a series of studies?

- A. Because they realized that the temperature increase was almost about 1 degree.
- B. So that they could analyse the impact of cuts in CO₂ and greenhouse gases emissions on the world's climate.
- C. So that they could help the European Union in cutting the carbon dioxide emissions.
- D. Because they found out that the greenhouse gas emissions could be cut by 70%.
- E. None of these

8. What would be the impact of holding the carbon dioxide level at 450 ppm by the end of this century?

- I. Global temperatures would increase by 0.6 degrees Celsius.
- II. Arctic warming would be reduced by half.
- III. Thermal expansion will stop completely.

- A. Only I B. Only I and II C. Only II and III D. All I, II and III E. None of these

Correct Answers :

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
B	D	A	C	D	D	B	A

Explanations:

1. Refer to:

With research showing that **additional warming of about 1 degree C may be the threshold for dangerous climate change**, the European Union has called for dramatic cuts in emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

The highlighted part confirms what's been stated in the statement given as option B.

Hence, option B is correct.

2. Refer to:

While **global temperatures would rise**, the most dangerous potential aspects of climate change, including **massive losses of Arctic sea ice** and permafrost and **significant sea-level rise**, could be partially avoided.

As we can see the impacts of emissions of greenhouse gases from the highlighted parts above, the opposite of them could be considered as positive impacts of cutting these emissions.

Clearly, all the options A, B and C would be the key positive impacts.

Hence, option D is correct.

3. Refer to:

... the study showed that **temperatures would rise by almost four times that amount, to 2.2 degrees Celsius above current readings, if emissions were allowed to continue on their present course**. ...

As per the reference taken above, only the statement given as option A is true as per the passage.

Hence, option A is correct.

4. In the whole passage, the writer talks about emissions of CO₂ and greenhouse gases and their impact on the world.

Among all the options, only the title mentioned in option C seems to be most appropriate one for the passage.

Hence, option C is correct.

5. Refer to:

... **emissions are now on track to reach about 750 ppm by 2100 if unchecked.**

The highlighted part above corroborates the data given in option D.

Evidently, only the statement mentioned as option D is true.

Hence, option D is correct.

6. Refer to:

... But, if the world were to implement this level of emission cuts, **we could stabilize the threat of climate change.**

The highlighted part above implies that the ill-effects or threats of climate change can be stabilized or minimized. Only the statement given as option D confirms the same.

Hence, option D is correct.

7. Refer to:

To examine the impact of such cuts on the world's climate, Washington and his colleagues ran a series of global studies with the NCAR based Community Climate System Model (CCSM).

Clearly, only the statement given as option B supports what's been referred from the highlighted part above.

Hence, option B is correct.

8. Refer to:

The team's results showed that **if carbon dioxide were held to 450 ppm, global temperatures would increase by 0.6 degrees Celsius above current readings by the end of the century.**

Clearly, only statement I is true as per the passage.

Hence, option A is correct.





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