

## Skills Worksheet

**Active Reading****Section: Global Warming**

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

Many scientists think that the increasing greenhouse gases in our atmosphere result in increasing the average temperature on Earth. The result, they believe, will be a warmer Earth. This predicted increase in global temperature is known as **global warming**. Earth's average global temperature increased during the 20th century. Many scientists project that the warming trend that began in the 20th century will continue throughout the 21st century. However, not all scientists agree that the observed global warming is due to greenhouse gases. Some scientists believe that the warming is part of natural climatic variability. They point out that widespread fluctuations in temperature have occurred throughout geologic time.

**IDENTIFYING MAIN IDEAS**

One reading skill is the ability to identify the main idea of a passage. The main idea is the main focus or key idea. Frequently, a main idea is accompanied by supporting information that offers detailed facts about main ideas.

In the space provided, write the letter of the term or phrase that best completes each statement.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Earth's average temperature \_\_\_\_\_ during the 20th century.
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| a. increased | c. stayed the same |
| b. decreased | d. fluctuated      |
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Scientists predict that the Earth's average temperature will \_\_\_\_\_ throughout the 21st century.
- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. stabilize            | c. begin to decrease      |
| b. continue to increase | d. fluctuate more sharply |
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Many scientists blame the presence of \_\_\_\_\_ in the atmosphere for Earth's increased average temperature.
- |           |                     |
|-----------|---------------------|
| a. CFCs   | c. ozone            |
| b. oxygen | d. greenhouse gases |

**VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT**

Read each question and write the answer in the space provided.

4. The predicted increase in Earth's average temperature is known as
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Active Reading** *continued*

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5. What is another key term for this chapter that appears in this passage?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. *Global* can mean “worldwide.” Given this definition, whom would you say is affected by global warming?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**RECOGNIZING SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES**

One reading skill is the ability to recognize similarities and differences between two phrases, ideas, or things. This is sometimes known as comparing and contrasting.

**Read each question and write the answer in the space provided.**

7. What do those scientists who believe the Earth is experiencing global warming use as evidence to support their claims?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. What do these scientists say is the cause of global warming?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9. What do those scientists who do *not* believe the Earth is experiencing global warming use as evidence to support their claims?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. What do these scientists say is the cause of the increase in temperature throughout the 20th century?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_