

The Major Causes of Global Warming

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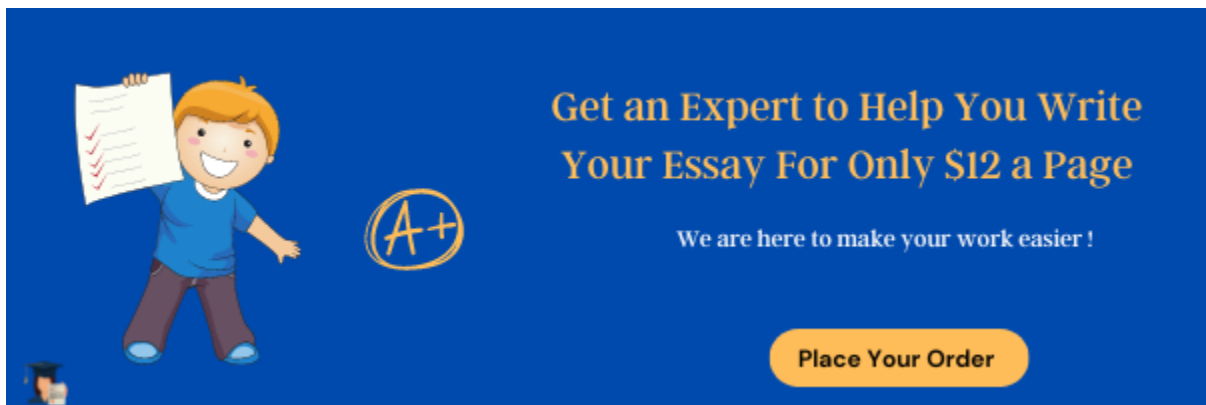
Course

Date

Instructor

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Since the industrial revolution, our planet has been facing an unprecedented future due to global warming. All over the world, catastrophic climatic events are being experienced. For instance, there are prolonged droughts, frequent wildfires, and more intense tropical storms than ever before (Shaftel, 2022). Scientists argue out that these catastrophic incidents can be attributed to global climate change, which is one of the major consequences of global warming. One of the greatest questions of the 21st century regarding global warming is, “how can global warming be mitigated?” This is primarily because, to mitigate global warming, it is imperative to understand some of its major causes.

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In response to the question about the causes of global warming, the burning of fossil fuels stands as one of the major causes. According to Bird (2005), the combustion of fossil fuels leads to the emission of carbon dioxide (CO₂) into the atmosphere. Here, the primary concern is that CO₂ is a greenhouse gas, which means that it traps heat in the earth’s atmosphere, thereby causing an increase in the average global temperature. With this in mind, it is arguable that using green energy instead of fossil fuels can address the problem.

Further, deforestation can also be blamed for global warming. The European Commission (n.d) points out that trees play the role of regulating the concentration of CO₂ in the atmosphere

through photosynthesis. Without trees, the level of CO₂ in the atmosphere continues to rise, which in turn causes global warming. Therefore, reforestation and afforestation can help resolve the damage caused by deforestation.

Additionally, increased livestock farming leads to an increase in the amount of methane emitted into the atmosphere. According to the Environmental Defense Fund (2022), methane has more than 80 times the warming power of CO₂. Therefore, controlling livestock farming can help reduce methane emissions, which will in turn address global warming.

In conclusion, understanding the causes of global warming is key to addressing the global climate change crisis. As discussed above, the combustion of fossil fuels, deforestation, and uncontrolled livestock farming cause global warming. This means that although global warming is to a greater degree caused by human activities, certain measures can be put in place to help address the problem.

References

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