

ANSWER KEY

Graphic Organiser A

Title: Gore's Mission: Planet Earth

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Social Issue: global warming

How would you define this issue based on the information in the article? [Answers may vary]

Global warming refers to the warming of the Earth as a result of human activities such as the burning of fossil fuels and the clearing of forests. These activities increase greenhouse gases in the Earth's atmosphere (such as carbon dioxide) that trap the sun's heat.

Causes:

- *burning fossil fuels such as coal, oil and petrol.*
- *clearing forests for wood and to create more farmland.*
- *as the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere increases, the atmosphere absorbs more heat.*

Effects:

- *mountain glaciers are melting very quickly.*
- *polar ice caps and shelf ice are melting at a very fast rate.*
- *sea levels will rise.*
- *low-lying coastal areas around the world will be submerged.*
- *weather patterns are becoming more unpredictable.*
- *hurricanes, floods, heatwaves, droughts and wildfires are on the increase.*
- *coastal flooding may result in a massive refugee crisis.*
- *Coastal flooding may cause the extinction of many species of animals*

Possible Solutions:

People can...

- *Use more efficient electrical appliances*
- *Drive smaller cars that get higher mileage*
- *Take mass transit more frequently*

Governments can...

- *Invest in renewable sources of energy like solar and wind power*