

Extend Your Listening

What's for English

Global Warming... or Cooling?

Comprehension Questions

1. A global warming skeptic believes the Earth is getting warmer. T F
2. If you are skeptical about global warming, you probably do not accept that CO₂ in the atmosphere is responsible for heating up the planet. T F
3. Gerald has always accepted that global warming is happening. T F
4. Animals that usually hibernate are now not sleeping during the winter. T F
5. Glaciers are getting smaller. T F
6. Since 1998, global temperatures have become warmer. T F
7. In geological time, ten years is very short. T F
8. Many global warming skeptics suggest that the sun's energy may be causing global warming. T F
9. Scientists now believe that solar activity is not causing global warming. T F
10. Ocean currents have caused the Earth to become steadily warmer. T F
11. There is evidence from ocean currents that the climate has often become cooler and often become warmer. T F

New research shows that global temperatures have been **risen / rising** steadily for centuries. In fact, the research shows that temperatures **fluctuate / fluctuation**. Temperatures have been **fluctuating / fluctuate** in 30-year cycles for many centuries. This data is causing some people to become **skeptic / skeptical** about global warming. They say that global warming is too **complex / complicate** to model on a computer. But others say they have included data about the **fluctuating / fluctuation** temperatures in their climate models, and they still **believe / believer** that the evidence shows that global warming **is occurring / occurred**. Is the Earth getting **hotter / hot** or cooler? Time will tell.

Answers:

1. F; 2. T; 3. F; 4. F; 5. T; 6. T; 7. T; 8. T. 9. T; 10; F; 11. T.

New research shows that global temperatures have been **rising** steadily for centuries. In fact, the research shows that temperatures **fluctuate**. Temperatures have been **fluctuating** in 30-year cycles for many centuries. This data is causing some people to become **skeptical** about global warming. They say that global warming is too **complex** to model on a computer. But others say they have included data about the **fluctuating** temperatures in their climate models, and they still **believe** that the evidence shows that global warming **is occurring**. Is the Earth getting **hotter** or cooler? Time will tell.