

POLLUTION OF ENVIRONMENT

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Pollution is probably the most important problem in the world today. One of the reasons it is so important to human beings is that we know that we brought about pollution. Pollution is a human creation. Since the beginning of time, whenever human beings changed their environment, they were greatly affected.

Pollution itself is a very broad category, and there are many different kinds of pollution. One of those is air pollution. Air pollution is probably the longest lasting type of pollution there is. Air pollution occurs when wastes make the air dirty. People produce most of the waste that cause air pollution. Such waste can be in the form of gases or be particulates (particles of solid or liquid manner). These substance results chiefly from burning fuel to power motor vehicles and to heat buildings. Industrial processes and the burning of garbage also contribute to air pollution.

A further result of air pollution is acid rain. Acid rain basically appears when factories release high levels of sulfur into the air. The sulfur then combines with rainwater to form a weak sulfuric acid. Acid rain itself cannot harm humans, but it can harm our environment and our quality of life. Over time, the acid rain will kill plants, weaken structures and homes used by humans, and can even kill life in entire lakes and rivers. And since studies have yet to be completely conclusive, nobody knows how it affects us physically in the long run. Since acid rain can be prevented by government regulation, stopping the release of sulfur into the air is a definite first step to curbing acid rain.

The greenhouse effect is a benign feature of the ecosystem. Certain gases in the atmosphere, such as CO_2 , CH_4 , N_2O , O_3 allow the sunlight reach the earth but prevent the heat from escaping and thus the temperature of the earth remains stable. The sensitivity of the climatic system to greenhouse gases is such that the equivalent of a doubling of CO_2 could ultimately increase the average global temperature by somewhere between 1°C and 5°C .

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