

Contents

1. Advertising	Positives, negatives, opinions	Page 5
2. Animal Rights	Testing on animals, vegetarianism, zoos	6
3. Cities	Urbanisation, negatives of city life, pedestrian areas	8
4. Crime	Police and crime prevention, punishments/prisons, rehabilitation, capital punishment, community service, crime in the media	9
5. Education	Benefits, studying abroad, technology in education, education in developing countries higher education, home-schooling, bad behaviour in schools, corporal punishment, single sex education, streaming (grouping children according to ability)	11
6. Environment	Global warming, impact of humans on the environment, solutions to environment problems, waste/rubbish, litter, recycling, nuclear power	17
7. Family	Family size, working parents: negative effects on children, divorce, care for old people	20
8. Gender (Males and Females)	Gender and education, gender and work, women's and men's role in the family	22
9. Genetic Engineering	Positives, negatives, genetically modified foods	23
10. Global Issues	Problems in developing countries, how to help developing countries, immigration, multi-cultural societies, globalisation	24
11. Government and Society	What governments can do, public services, censorship, video cameras in public places, smart cards, disabilities	27
12. Guns and Weapons	Gun ownership and possession, police and guns, arms trade, nuclear weapons, armed forces	29

13. Health	Diet, exercise, governments' role, state health systems, private healthcare, alternative medicine, stress	31
14. Housing and Architecture	State housing, old buildings, modern/green buildings	34
15. Language	English as an international language: positives and negatives	35
16. Money	Money and society, consumerism	36
17. Personality	Happiness, success, nature or nurture	37
18. Sport and Leisure	Professional/competitive sport, sport salaries, sport and politics	38
19. Television, Internet, Phones	Positives, negatives, opinions, Internet compared to newspapers and books	40
20. Tourism	Positives, negative effects on environment, future of tourism	43
21. Traditional vs. Modern	Losing traditional skills, traditional customs	44
22. Transport	Traffic problems, traffic solutions, public transport, road safety	45
23. Water	Importance of clean water, water supply, water and politics, water should be free, bottled water	46
24. Work	Same job for life, self-employment, unemployment, unemployment benefits, work/life balance, technology and work, child labour	48

6. Environment

Global Warming

Gases such as carbon dioxide trap heat from the sun.

This causes global temperatures to rise.

This process is known as the greenhouse effect.

Human activity is a major factor in the rise of the greenhouse gases.

Factories and vehicles produce emissions and exhaust fumes.

Many developing countries are becoming industrialised.

The number of cars on our streets is growing.

Cheap air travel is allowing more people to fly.

Effects of Global Warming

Global warming will have a significant impact on our planet.

Rising temperatures will cause melting of the polar ice caps.

Sea levels will rise.

We can expect more extreme weather conditions.

Flooding and droughts may become more common.

Impact of Humans on the Environment

The increasing world population is putting pressure on natural resources.

Fossil fuels like oil and gas are running out.

We are destroying wildlife habitats.

We have cut down enormous areas of rainforest.

This has led to the extinction of many species of animals and plants.

Solutions to Environment Problems

Governments could introduce laws to limit emissions from factories.

They should invest in renewable energy from solar, wind or water power.

They could impose "green taxes" on drivers and airline companies.

Government campaigns should promote recycling.

Natural areas and wild animals should be protected.

Individuals should also try to be greener.

We should take fewer flights abroad for holidays.

We should take public transport rather than driving.

We should choose products with less packaging.

We should recycle as much as possible.

Waste / Rubbish

The amount of waste we produce has increased.

This problem is a result of our consumer culture.

Products are not made to last.

If something breaks, we throw it away and buy a new one.

Advertisers encourage us to buy the newest fashions.

Packaging is an important part of selling.

Most foods are sold in non-biodegradable plastic packaging.

The amount of household waste is growing.

This waste ends up in landfill sites.

Litter

People do not think about the consequences of dropping rubbish.

They assume that somebody is paid to clean the streets.

Plastic packaging does not break down easily.

Most of the litter seen on streets is fast food packaging.

Recycling and Other Solutions

Companies should make goods that last longer.

They should not use so much packaging.

Governments should be stricter about waste produced by companies.

They should put legal limits on packaging.

Consumers should avoid buying over-packaged products.

We should recycle and reuse useful materials.

There are collection banks for glass, paper and plastic bottles.

Households can use several rubbish bins to separate waste.

Recycling saves energy and raw materials.

Nuclear Power: Positives

There are several benefits to building more nuclear power stations.

Fossil fuels like oil and gas are running out.

Nuclear power is a sustainable energy source.

It can be used to produce electricity without wasting natural resources.

It could replace the use of natural resources like coal, oil or gas.

Nuclear power stations are cleaner than fossil fuel power stations.

They could help to reduce carbon emissions that cause global warming.

The risks of accidents are being reduced.

Nuclear Power: Negatives

Opponents of nuclear power worry about the safety of power stations.

The building of new nuclear power stations is unpopular.

Nobody wants to live near one.

Nuclear waste disposal is a significant problem.

There is currently no way to decontaminate radioactive material.

People worry that terrorists could steal radioactive materials.

It is safer to produce energy from solar, wind or water power.