

词汇: *climate change* 气候变化

We are all aware of climate change and how it is **threatening** our **planet**. **Industrialisation**, our **disposable culture** and population growth are some of the reasons why we are seeing **average temperatures** rise and more **extreme weather** events. And scientists are finding more evidence that the situation is getting worse.

The rise in **global temperatures** is the most important thing that experts analyse. They say keeping it below 1.5 **centigrade** will avoid the worst **climate impacts**. But **The World Meteorological Organisation** says there's a 20% possibility the critical mark will be broken in any one year before 2024 – and there's a 70% chance it will be broken in one or more months in those five years.

This isn't great news for **the Arctic**, where the impact will be greatest: warming by twice the global average this year. Temperatures in **the Siberian Arctic** reached record averages in June – one area reached more than 30C. This **heat** helped to **fan** wildfires, which in turn released 59 million tonnes of **carbon dioxide**. Meanwhile, in Western Europe, experts predict over the next five years **rising sea levels** will cause more storms.

But these events should not surprise us. Professor Martin Siegert from Imperial College London told the BBC this is “in line with predictions of **global warming** going back decades now. We don't really need further confirmation of this problem, but here it is anyway.” He thinks if you change the weather in the Arctic you are likely to see the effects **ripple out** around the world.

We know that **carbon emissions** from human activities is partly to blame for our warming planet, but it seems measures to reduce this are not having much effect. The BBC's Justin Rowlatt writing about the effects of events in the Arctic, says: “Climate scientists simply don't know for certain what those effects are likely to be, but climate models suggest they will lead to more extreme weather events – **heatwaves** and **severe storms**.”

词汇表

| | |
|--|----------|
| threaten | 威胁 |
| planet | 地球 |
| industrialisation | 工业化 |
| disposable culture | 一次性文化 |
| average temperature | 平均温度 |
| extreme weather | 极端天气 |
| global temperatures | 全球气温 |
| centigrade | 摄氏度 |
| climate impacts | 气候变化的影响 |
| The World Meteorological Organisation | 世界气象组织 |
| the Arctic | 北极圈 |
| the Siberian Arctic | 西伯利亚北极地区 |
| heat | 热度, 高温 |
| fan | 引起, 激起 |
| carbon dioxide | 二氧化碳 |
| rising sea levels | 海平面上升 |
| global warming | 全球气候变暖 |
| ripple out | 蔓延 |
| carbon emissions | 碳排放 |
| heatwave | 热浪, 酷热期 |
| severe storm | 强烈风暴 |

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What is the critical temperature scientists say the planet should not go over?
2. Where is climate change being noticed most?
3. True or false? *Climate change is not getting worse.*
4. In Western Europe, what is thought will cause more storms to occur?
5. What happened to temperatures in the Siberian Arctic this year?

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. The surfer was in _____ danger and had to call for a lifeboat to rescue him.

| | | | |
|-------------|---------|------------|------------|
| threatening | extreme | sea levels | disposable |
|-------------|---------|------------|------------|

2. The whole town was in shock once the news about the murder had _____.

| | | | |
|-------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|
| ripples out | ripple at | rippled out | rippling out |
|-------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|

3. According to my _____, you are going to get very good grades in your exams.

| | | | |
|--------|-------------|----------------|---------|
| models | predictions | critical marks | impacts |
|--------|-------------|----------------|---------|

4. The policeman was _____ us with a parking fine unless we moved our car immediately.

| | | | |
|------------|----------|-----------|-------------|
| threatened | threaten | threatens | threatening |
|------------|----------|-----------|-------------|

5. Following _____, the whole town was under water and everyone had to travel by boat.

| | | | |
|---------------|-----------|---------|-------------------|
| severe storms | heatwaves | extreme | industrialisation |
|---------------|-----------|---------|-------------------|

答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What is the critical temperature scientists say the planet should not go over?

Scientists say keeping temperatures below 1.5 centigrade will avoid the worst climate impacts.

2. Where is climate change being noticed most?

It's in the Arctic where the impact of climate change is greatest.

3. True or false? *Climate change is not getting worse.*

False. Scientists are finding more evidence that the situation is getting worse.

4. In Western Europe, what is thought will cause more storms to occur?

In Western Europe, experts predict over the next five years, rising sea levels will cause more storms.

5. What happened to temperatures in the Siberian Arctic this year?

Temperatures in the Siberian Arctic reached record averages in June – one area reached 30C.

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. The surfer was in **extreme** danger and had to call for a lifeboat to rescue him.

2. The whole town was in shock once the news about the murder had **rippled out**.

3. According to my **predictions**, you are going to get very good grades in your exams.

4. The policeman was **threatening** us with a parking fine unless we moved our car immediately.

5. Following **severe storms**, the whole town was under water and everyone had to travel by boat.