



Sample Paper 4

Score for Ideas _____

Energy—A Problem

The world's population cannot keep on using energy sources like gas made from fossil fuels, oil, and coal. If we do, we will not be able to drink our water or breathe our air. These things cause all kinds of pollution.

Traffic is getting worse all the time. But mostly, people worry about the price of crude oil and the price of gas at the pump. It might actually be a good thing if gas prices were higher. People might actually decide to drive less, which would help reduce at least one kind of pollution. The average American, in particular, drives far too many miles in a given year.

Energy conservation goes beyond the gas pump. Turning off lights and appliances would help, as would turning off computers when they are not in use.

Solar power could help because it does not create the same pollution as oil or gas, and it is free (the sun's rays are free though the solar equipment needed to capture this energy is not free). We could also use wind power. This is a good solution in many parts of the world.

Some day, we might have cars that efficiently use other kinds of fuel, such as hydrogen.

It is important to work together to solve the Earth's energy problems. If we don't, these problems will only grow worse. No one wants that.

Sources

Smil, Vaclav. *Energy: A Beginner's Guide*. Oxford, UK: Oneworld Publications, published in 2006.

Christine Peterson. *Alternative Energy*. Danbury, CT: Children's Press, 2004.

<http://earth911.com/reduce/energy-costs-and-conservation-facts/>