Global Change

AP Environmental Science · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
ozone layer /ˈəʊzəʊn ˈleɪə/	The **ozone layer** absorbs much harmful ultraviolet radiation.
ultraviolet /ˌʌltrəˈvaɪəlɪt/	**Ultraviolet** light from the Sun can burn your skin.
CFCs /ˌsiː efˈsiːz/	**CFCs** damage the ozone layer.
Montreal Protocol /ˌmɒntrɪˈɔːl ˈprəʊtəkɒl/	The **Montreal Protocol** banned CFCs to protect the ozone layer.
greenhouse effect /ˈgriːnhaʊs ɪˈfekt/	The **greenhouse effect** keeps the Earth warm.
greenhouse gases /ˈgriːnhaʊs ˈgæsɪz/	Carbon dioxide and methane are **greenhouse gases**.
methane /ˈmiːθeɪn/	Cows give off **methane**.
global warming potential (GWP) /ˈgləʊbl ˈwɔːmɪŋ pəˈtenʃl/	Methane has a higher **global warming potential (GWP)** than carbon dioxide.
global climate change /ˈgləʊbl ˈklaɪmət tʃeɪndʒ/	**Global climate change** brings hotter summers and stronger storms.
sea levels /siː ˈlevlz/	Melting ice raises **sea levels**.
permafrost	**Permafrost** is ground that stays frozen all year.
albedo	Snow has a high **albedo**: it reflects most sunlight.

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positive feedback loops	Melting ice causes **positive feedback loops** that speed up warming.
coral bleaching /ˈkɒrəl ˈbliːtʃɪŋ/	Hot seawater can cause **coral bleaching**: the coral turns white.
ocean acidification /ˈəʊʃn əˌsɪdɪfɪˈkeɪʃn/	Carbon dioxide dissolving in the sea causes **ocean acidification**.
calcium carbonate /ˈkælsɪəm ˈkɑːbəneɪt/	Sea shells are made of **calcium carbonate**.
invasive species /ɪnˈveɪsɪv ˈspiːsiːz/	Rabbits became an **invasive species** in Australia.
endangered species /enˈdeɪndʒəd ˈspiːsiːz/	The giant panda was an **endangered species**.
selective pressure	Warmer seas put **selective pressure** on corals that cannot handle heat.
habitat fragmentation /ˈhæbɪtæt ˌfrægmənˈteɪʃn/	Roads cause **habitat fragmentation** by splitting forests.
ozone hole	The **ozone hole** over Antarctica lets in more ultraviolet light.
glacier	The **glacier** is melting faster each year.

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