Greenhouse effect

International Baccalaureate · IB Diploma · Physics · HL · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
radiative equilibrium	In **radiative equilibrium**, the Earth gives out as much energy as it takes in.
solar constant	The **solar constant** is about 1360 W/m^2. $1360\ W/m^2$
albedo	Snow has a high **albedo**: it reflects most sunlight.
emissivity /ɪmɪ'sɪvɪti/	A black surface has an **emissivity** close to 1. 1
greenhouse effect /'gri:nhaʊs ɪ'fekt/	The **greenhouse effect** keeps the Earth warm.
greenhouse gas /'gri:nhaʊs gæs/	Carbon dioxide is a **greenhouse gas**.
photon /'fəʊtɒn/	A **photon** is a small packet of light energy.
natural frequency /'nætʃərəl 'fri:kwənsi/	A swing has its own **natural frequency**.
resonance /'rezənəns/	**Resonance** makes the swing go very high.
enhanced greenhouse effect /en'hænst 'gri:nhaʊs ɪ'fekt/	Burning fossil fuels adds to the **enhanced greenhouse effect**.

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