



Activity 49: Our consumption in numbers

QUESTION SHEET

This sheet is solely for the person leading the group who is not participating in finding the answers, as they have the answer key.

The group/ participant with the closest answer wins.

1 How many million garments/ clothes are thrown out and go to waste each year?

Answer: 92 millions annually

2 How many plastic bags per year do we use?

You can give the participants the chance to guess higher, should all guess too low.

Answer: 5 trillion plastic bags

Bonus point: How many are these per second?

Answer: 160.000 per second

3 How much ice is melting on planet Earth each year?

Answer: 1.2 trillion tons of ice

4 On the topic of ice: When was the last ice age?

Answer: 12.000 years ago

5 Let's go to the opposite side: heat! How much of the heat accumulated by the planet has the ocean absorbed between 1971 and 2010?

Answer: 90%. This is one of the reasons the ocean is growing warmer, which, among other reasons, endangers species living in it and our whole ecosystem and climate.

6 Talking about heat: We are living in the hottest decade in the last...how many years?

Meaning, our planet has never had this much heat and hot temperatures since how many years ago?

Answer: 125.000 years

7 Which was the hottest year ever recorded (taking averages per year)?

Hint: It is a year after 2010.

Answer: 2024 which year average was higher even than the average from the 20th century, and beat the record previously set by 2023.





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8 Which was the hottest day ever recorded?

Hint: The day was in 2024.

Answer: July 22, 2024. Also June 2024 (its average) was the hottest June ever recorded since the recording started in 1940.

9 One of the main goals of the 2015 Paris Agreement is for countries to implement measure to limit global warming to well below 1.5 to 2°C pre-industrial levels. By how many percent must greenhouse gas emissions decline by 2030 to make this happen?

Answer: Under the assumption that they do not rise higher after 2025, the greenhouse gas emissions must decline 43% by 2030.

Bonus point: How many parties/ countries agreed to adhere to the 2015 Paris Agreement?

Answer: 195 countries.

10 In a 2023 study, participants were asked whether they believe in climate change, whether it was humans causing it, and whether it was a threat to humanity and a global emergency. How many percent of the global survey, confirmed their belief in climate change and their awareness that something urgent needs to be done?

Hint: 86% believe in climate change. Even in the countries with the lowest score among all 63 surveyed countries, 73% believed in climate change and it being a global emergency.





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ANSWERING SHEET

Put your guesses and answers into the respective boxes. At the end, answers can be compared. The answers closest to the correct answer, win.

1 Question 1: Garment/ Clothes wasted

2 Question 2: Plastic bags

Bonus question

3 Question 3: Ice melting

4 Question 4: Ice age

5 Question 5: Heat accumulated

7 Question 7: Year

6 Question 6: Hottest decade

8 Question 8: Day

9 Question 9: Paris Agreement

Bonus question

10 Question: Belief in climate change

