

Homework sheet (11-16s)

How much can you remember about the UK's energy mix and different power sources?

Name: _____

Give TWO pros and cons for each of the power sources listed below:

Wind	
Pros:	Cons:

Solar	
Pros:	Cons:

Nuclear	
Pros:	Cons:

Gas	
Pros:	Cons:

These questions appeared in the game. Circle the correct answer.

Q1. Which of the following is NOT a renewable power source?

- a) Wind
- b) Gas
- c) Hydro

Q2. In 2016, what renewable power source generated more electricity than coal?

- a) Solar
- b) Hydro
- c) Wind

Q3. Which of the following is TRUE about gas?

- a) It will run out
- b) It's an inflexible power source
- c) It's a renewable power source

Q4. Today's nuclear power stations create heat through a process called what?

- a) Nuclear fusion
- b) Nuclear bonding
- c) Nuclear fission

Q5. Which of the following is NOT a fossil fuel?

- a) Gas
- b) Uranium
- c) Coal

Q6. To produce 1TWh of electricity from wind, you need the equivalent space of how many football pitches?

- a) 1,000
- b) 5,000
- c) 7,000

Give a definition and example of a power source for each of the following terms:

(Clue: see the Supporting notes in the game if you need help)

1) Low carbon

Definition: _____

Example: _____

2) Renewable

Definition: _____

Example: _____

3) Reliable

Definition: _____

Example: _____

4) Variable

Definition: _____

Example: _____

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How much can you remember about the UK's energy mix and different power sources?

Name: _____

Give TWO pros and cons for each of the power sources listed below:

Wind

Pros:

- ▶ Low carbon; no pollution
- ▶ UK is the windiest country in Europe
- ▶ Offshore wind turbines can generate more electricity than onshore wind
- ▶ Relatively low cost to run and no fuel costs

Cons:

- ▶ Variable power source (no wind = no electricity)
- ▶ Limited development onshore by available land space
- ▶ Offshore wind farms are trickier and more expensive to build

Solar

Pros:

- ▶ Low carbon; no pollution
- ▶ We get enough sunlight in the UK to make it a viable energy source
- ▶ No fuel costs

Cons:

- ▶ Variable (doesn't work well in cloud or at all at night)
- ▶ Restricted by the amount of land space required
- ▶ Solar power can't be stored very easily or cheaply over a long period

Nuclear

Pros:

- ▶ Low carbon
- ▶ Not likely to run out any time soon
- ▶ Reliable: provides baseload electricity
- ▶ Higher output and less land space required than for renewables

Cons:

- ▶ Uses a non-renewable fuel (uranium)
- ▶ Building a nuclear power station is a big investment project, involving government and other organisations

Gas

Pros:

- ▶ Reliable
- ▶ Flexible
- ▶ Fairly low-cost way to generate power

Cons:

- ▶ Gas is a fossil fuel, so it will run out
- ▶ Not low carbon
- ▶ It produces pollution and contributes to climate change

These questions appeared in the game. Circle the correct answer.

Q1. Which of the following is NOT a renewable power source?

- a) Wind
- b) **Gas**
- c) Hydro

Q2. In 2016, what renewable power source generated more electricity than coal?

- a) Solar
- b) Hydro
- c) **Wind**

Q3. Which of the following is TRUE about gas?

- a) **It will run out**
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- b) **Uranium**
- c) Coal

Q6. To produce 1TWh of electricity from wind, you need the equivalent space of how many football pitches?

- a) 1,000
- b) 5,000
- c) **7,000**

Give a definition and example of a power source for each of the following terms:

(If students need help, share the game's Supporting notes)

1) Low carbon

Definition: A low-carbon power source doesn't emit any carbon emissions to generate electricity.

Example: Nuclear, wind, solar, tidal, wave, hydro, geothermal and biofuels.

2) Renewable

Definition: These power sources will never run out. Sunlight and wind will never get used up, for instance.

Example: Wind, solar, tidal, wave, hydro and geothermal.

3) Reliable

Definition: These are power sources that we can predict with a high degree of accuracy (e.g. the week before) what their output will be across the UK. Weather-dependent renewables – like solar and wind – are NOT reliable or predictable, for instance, since their power output depends on the sun shining or the wind blowing.

Example: Any non-renewable power source, like nuclear, gas or coal.

4) Variable

Definition: The output of the power source changes, so they can't be relied on to meet a sudden increase in demand.

Example: Weather-dependent renewables, such as solar and wind, and hydro (to an extent).

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