

Global Warming and Climate Change – University of Calgary
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April 21, 2016

Assignment Number 1

1. Visit the IPCC web site - #1 on list of web sites and answer the following questions:
 - a. What does IPCC mean?
 - b. Who established the organization and why did they do it?
 - c. How long has the IPCC been operating?
 - d. What is an assessment report? How many have they produced and in what years?
 - e. Who writes the assessment reports?
2. Visit the UNFCCC web site - #2 on list of web sites and answer the following questions:
 - a. What is the purpose of this organization?
 - b. Who founded it?
 - c. Is there any relationship between this organization and the IPCC?
 - d. What is the relationship between this organization and the Kyoto Protocol?
3. What physical evidence convinced Louis Agassiz of the existence of the ‘ice ages’? (You will need to do a bit of hunting on the internet to answer this one.)
4. The discovery of global warming is different from the discovery of climate change. The discovery of ‘rapid’ climate change is different than the discovery of climate change resulting in sheets of ice covering the Earth’s northern hemisphere and other changes in climate since the beginning of the existence of the planet. Go to Spencer Weart’s web site #3 on the list and read the article titled ‘The Carbon Dioxide Greenhouse Effect’. Answer the following questions:
 - a. What did scientist Tyndall think caused the ‘ice ages’?
 - b. What did scientist Fourier think was going on?
 - c. What was Arrhenius’s contribution to the discovery of global warming?
5. Visit the following NOAA web site: <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/>. Comment on the temperature and precipitation trends reported. You will need to do a bit of looking around the site.
6. In a paragraph or so discuss the significance of COP21 and the Paris Agreement. When will it be signed? Will the Canadian Prime Minister be attending? (See Web site #200.)
7. Review the video at Video #6 and in a single paragraph discuss message.

Assignment is due April 28, 2016.

Notes:

If you have time view Al Gore’s movie ‘Inconvenient Truth’. He did win a Nobel Prize for this work. (See video #1.)