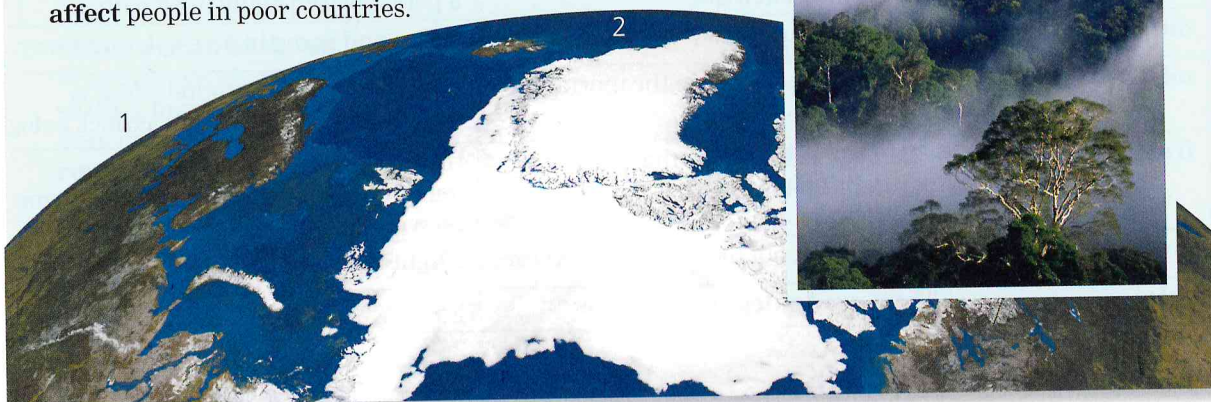


## B Climate change

### OUR ENVIRONMENT

Global warming is the **gradual** increase in the average temperature of **the earth's<sup>1</sup> atmosphere**, and is caused by **harmful gases**. Many **environmentalists** believe that most of this **pollution** is the result of **human** activities. Here are some of the **effects**:

- As the ice at the **poles<sup>2</sup> melts**, sea levels could **rise** by almost a metre in the next century.
- There will be more **extreme** and **unpredictable** weather, e.g. heatwaves or floods.
- The earth will become even warmer because the **rainforests<sup>3</sup>** are **disappearing**.
- **Famine** and **disease** will **spread**, and this will especially **affect** people in poor countries.



#### spotlight **effect** N, **affect** V

An **effect** is a change which is caused by something.

What are the **effects** of global warming?

To **affect** something means to make it change in a particular way.

Climate change will **affect** all our lives (= will make our lives change).

#### Glossary

<b>climate</b>	• the normal weather conditions of a particular region.	<b>human</b>	• connected with people.
<b>(the) environment</b>	• the natural world; the air, land, and water in which people, plants, and animals live (an <b>environmentalist</b> is sb who studies the environment).	<b>melt</b>	• If you heat ice, it <b>melts</b> : it changes from a <b>solid</b> to a <b>liquid</b> .
<b>gradual</b>	• happening slowly over a long period of time. <b>gradually</b> ADV.	<b>rise</b>	• increase; go higher. <b>rise</b> N. OPP <b>fall</b> V, N.
<b>the atmosphere</b>	• the gases around the earth, planets, etc.	<b>extreme</b>	• much hotter, colder, or more violent than usual.
<b>harmful</b>	• causing damage, injury, or illness. <b>harm sth/sb</b> V.	<b>unpredictable</b>	• If sth is <b>unpredictable</b> , you can't say how it will change in the future. OPP <b>predictable</b> . <b>predict</b> V.
<b>gas</b>	• a substance like air, e.g. oxygen and hydrogen.	<b>disappear</b>	• stop existing. SYN <b>vanish</b> .
<b>pollution</b>	• dirty and dangerous gases, chemicals, etc. that harm the environment. <b>pollute</b> V.	<b>famine</b>	• A <b>famine</b> is when there is not enough food in a country.
		<b>disease</b>	• illness in people, animals, or plants.
		<b>spread</b>	• affect more and more people or things.