

General Studies (Specification B)

GENB2

Unit 2 Space

Insert

Source Booklet for use with Questions 1, 2 and 3

Study Sources A and B and then answer Question 1.

Source A

Carbon Dioxide Emissions by End User: 1990–2007, United Kingdom

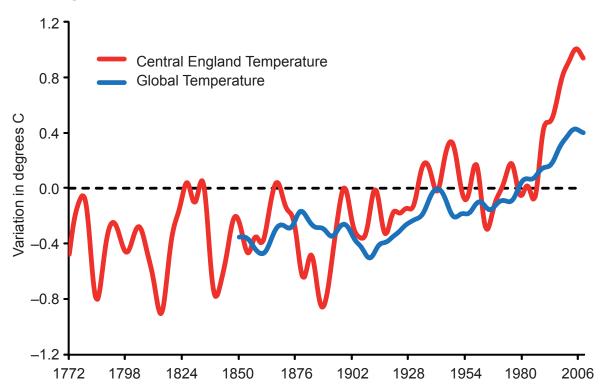
	Million tonnes (carbon dioxide)					
	1990	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Business	227	195	193	192	195	191
Household	156	152	153	149	148	142
Transport	141	151	151	153	152	153
Other*	69	58	59	59	56	57
Total	593	556	556	553	551	543

^{*} Mainly industrial exports and public sector

Source: © Crown Copyright, DEFRA

Source B

Average surface temperature: 1772–2007 (compared with a 1961–1990 baseline)



Source: © Crown Copyright, DEFRA

Study Sources C and D and then answer Question 2.

Source C



Source: © Colin Underhill / Alamy Ltd

Source D



Source: © Jon Bower Pollution / Alamy Ltd

Study Source E and then answer Question 3.

Source E

Policing the Internet

The British body that regulates what content reaches Internet users is called the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), a charitable body mostly funded by British Internet Service Providers (ISPs). It receives some funding from the EU and is entrusted by the Government and police with judging which online content is illegal and should be removed.

The IWF only makes assessments of websites when a complaint has been submitted and it makes a judgment about whether the content is 'potentially illegal' or not on a five-point scale. Most of the examples are of potential child-abuse images, criminal content, including racist abuse and extreme or violent pornography. If the organisation decides that the law is being broken, it places a block on the web address which is picked up by the ISPs. The web page will still exist, but anyone attempting to access it within the UK will be met with a message saying that the page cannot be found. In 2007, the IWF reviewed more than 34 000 submitted URLs, compared with just a few hundred in the year it was founded, 1996. Around 3 000 were deemed to be potentially illegal.

It is hard to say how much its intervention is having an effect in areas where statistics are hard to come by, such as the number of attempts to access illegal material that are denied. But the IWF points to evidence for its success: it says that when it was founded, 18 per cent of the reports it received referred to British web pages, a proportion that has dropped to less than one per cent. The body was founded as an attempt by ISPs and authorities to avoid regulation, which the ISPs feared would be expensive and difficult to comply with. So far, the approach has proved broadly acceptable to both parties.

Most in the industry think that it does a good job. "The IWF has a tough job and an important role in protecting our children," says a spokesman for one of the ISPs. "We have to support them – we can't pick and choose." But advocates of Internet freedom may feel some unease over the fact that the IWF can effectively make unilateral decisions about whether online content is illegal or not.

Source: Adapted from Archie Bland, The Independent, 9 December 2008

END OF SOURCES