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University English

大学英语

(第3册)

主编 赵帮华 陈 娟

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PREFACE

前言

《大学英语》是专门为高等院校大学英语教学量身定做的综合教程。全书分为四册,每册八个单元。每单元按照主题分类,内容涉及社会、生活、文化、教育、科技、艺术等各个方面,选材具有信息性、趣味性和实效性。每单元包含 Listening Comprehension, Speaking, Intensive Reading, Grammar Focus, Practical Writing, Extensive Reading, Study for Fun 等七部分内容,自成体系,又相互联系,使学生在掌握英语基础词汇和语法知识的同时,培养一定的听、说、读、写、译的能力。本教材根据教育部《高等院校教育英语课程教学基本要求》编写,难度适中,重点突出。结合高等院校学生英语水平与实际需要,将语言学习和职场技能培养相结合,使学生能够在今后的日常生活和业务活动中进行简单的口语和书面交流,为国家和社会培养高等应用型、复合型人才。本教材在科学性、新颖性和实用性等方面均有所突破,给现行的高等院校公共英语教学提供了一套重点突出、选材新颖、编排合理、内容翔实、难易得当的精品教材。

本教材着力体现以学生为中心,突出培养实用性人才的特色,在坚持"以应用为目的,实用为主,够用为度"的前提下,进一步更新观念,更新内容,更新要求。本教材的特点主要体现在以下几个方面:

- (1) 依托大纲,与高中英语教育衔接。本教材的起点贴近于普通高中英语教学大纲要求,学生掌握了1500~2000英语词汇,涵盖大纲的全部语法项目,更加贴近目前高等院校学生的英语基础。
- (2) 重视语言学习是以交际为目的的教学原则。本教材每个单元的主题皆与学生 日常生活密切相关,把交际能力作为教学目标培养,既重视语言知识的传授,也重视交 际技能的培养。
 - (3) 选材多样,突出知识性和时尚性。本教材课文内容丰富、题材广泛、体裁多

样。教材内容涉及节日、音乐、旅游、爱好、健康、家庭等各个方面,时代感强。

- (4) 难度偏低,易学易懂。本教材各课时均可通过师生交际活动温习,课文生词 量控制在5%左右。
- (5) 针对性强, 注重提高学生的应用能力。本教程选材难度、练习以及语法等都 以高等院校英语应用能力考试 (简称 PRETCO) A 级为基础。

本教材由赵帮华、陈娟担任主编、叶新才、高媛、甘丽华、代瑜、李岩、齐小健担 任副主编。参加本书编写的有(以姓氏笔画为序): 甘阳、甘丽华、代瑜、叶新才、 齐小健、李岩、陈娟、陈莉莉、赵帮华、高媛、常鸣、蒋冬美。

由于编者水平有限, 疏漏与错误之处难以避免, 敬请读者批评、指正。

编者 2014年11月

CONTENT

目 录

Unit 1	Economy and Society		(1)
Unit 2	Friendship	(26)
Unit 3	Story of Famous People ·····	(53)
Unit 4	Fashion and Beauty	(84)
	Modern Technology · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Unit 6	Career	(1	33)
Unit 7	Education	(1	60)
Unit 8	Nature and Human Beings	(1	89)
New Words			
	ce Answer		
Listenin	g Text	(2	45)



Economy and Society

Listening Comprehension

1. Listen to the conversation and choose the correct answer from the 4 choices. The following words and expressions may help.

Useful Words and Expressions

director [di'rektə] n. employment [m'ploiment] n. Madrid [mə'drid] n. eventually [i'ventfuəli] adv. 最终地 employee [imploi'i:] n. 雇员

- (1) How old is the interviewee?
 - A. She is 41.
- B. She is 42. C. She is 43.
- D. She is 44.
- (2) When did the interviewee join Starbucks?
 - A. In 1990.
- B. In 1919. C. In 1991.
- D. In 1980.
- (3) How many employees are in Starbucks in total?
 - A. 500.
- B. 600. C. Nearly 500.
- D. Nearly 600.
- (4) Where did the dialogue probably take place?
 - A. On the Street.
- B. In the classroom.
- C. At the office.
- D. On a TV show.
- 2. Listen to the conversation again and fill in the blanks with the words you heard.
- M: Hello, welcome to Business Today. This week we have Joy Gilbert. She is 41 years

大学英语(第3册

old, and she works for Starbucks, a Spanish (1) company. She is th
Managing Director of the company and, in fact, is the only woman director on the (2
Joy Gilbert, welcome to Business Today.
F: Thank you very much. Er In fact, I'm not 41 years old, I'm 44.
M: Sorry about that, 44 years old. You're very honest! Now, can we just talk briefl
about your early career, first, your (3) You studied Business Science at the University of Madrid
F: Yes, that's right.
M: And when did you join Starbucks?
F: In 1990.
M: And you got your first (4)post two years later.
F: No, not exactly. It was three years later, in 1993.
M: OK, and you eventually became Managing Director in (5) ?
F: Yes, that's right.
M: Now you are the only woman in senior management at Starbucks. Can you tell u
something about the (6)situation for women managers in Spain?
F: Yes, of course. Well, in the public sector in Spain, (7) of directors are
women, but in the private sector it is only 5%. Most women directors work in medium
sized companies like Starbucks.
M: Yes, it says here that Starbucks has about (8)employees.
F: No, that's not quite right. We have nearly 600, not 500. We have 500 in (9)
, and 100 in the rest of Europe.
M: I'm sorry. I really hope that's the last mistake today. Now, what (10)can
you give to women looking for
3. Listen to the passage twice and fill in the following blanks within no more than three
words. The useful words and expressions may help.
Useful Words and Expressions
manufacturer [mænjuˈfæktʃərə] n. 制造商;制造厂 retailers [ˈriː teɪlə] n. 零售商;零售店
output ['autput] n. 产量;作品
consumers [kənˈsju: məs] n. 消费者,顾客
potentially [pəˈtenfəlɪ] adv. 潜在地;权威地
A claime stock. Is in the classroom
(1) At the same time, Alibaba. com is a business-to-business site that connects
around the world. The small store abundant set if it becomes exclusive exclusive exclusive and at
(2) No other site has been able to streamline between manufactures and buyers

in China, and though while the transport of section, section	
(3) There aremillion small and medium	m-sized enterprises in China, which have
created 60 percent of China's total economic output, a	
Michigan.	Antilone 2 / 72 18
(4) The Chinese e-commerce market represents	for Western online retailers.
Small retailers will continue to invest in Chinese consu	
(5) Some financial experts are concerned about t	he scale of Alibaba's IPO(Initial Public
Offering), which potentially might create for	
andeBay. But many experts believe such impact won't	
4. Listen to the passage again and judge the follo	
(1) Alibaba. com is a kind of e-commerce si	
customers. (dide) its induited in a resemble to the	
(2) "Alibaba. com" is the only site that sells con	
(3) According to a survey conducted by the Un	
has small and medium sized exceed more than half of	
(4) For online retailers in western countries, Alil	baba can provide an opportunity for them
to enter into Chinese e-commerce market. (
(5) Amazon and eBay are enterprises which sell	commodities on the Internet. ()
5. Listen to the following material twice and choo	se the correct words to fulfill the blanks.
The following words may help.	
the trace or front the secondary and the sale of the	to be all the state of the state of the state of
Useful Words and Ex	pressions" tadaly salt tands has seemle
surpass [sə'pq:s] v.	超过,优于
revitalize [ri:'vaɪtəlaɪz] v.	使恢复元气;使复兴
globalization [gləubəlar'zeɪʃn] n.	全球化,全球性
deliver [dr'livə] vt.	发表;投递
prosperity [prp'sperati] n.	繁荣;成功
er in the scimulic conditions of the earlies from the alone	partie a ellement at patienness hadel"
As the world population (1)seven bill	lion, economists, environmentalists and
social scientists are rethinking the role of the city in gl	obal society. Economist Edward Glaeser
believes cities are the best places to live. "Cities are	so (2) because they play to
mankind's greatest gift, which is our ability to learn fi	rom other people." Over the past three
decades many cities have been revitalized, not just de	spite globalization and new (3)
, but, as Glaeser explains, because of them. Even	the poor regions are part of the modern
urban(4) , Glaeser says, are signs of the po-	

"Cities don't make people poor, they attract poor people, and they attract poor people by

delivering a path out of (5) and to prosperity, a chance to partner with people who

大学英语(第3册)

have different skills, access to world markets, access to capital that enables poor people, some of them — not all of them — to actually find a way forward."

Part II Speaking

- A. Retell the materials you have heard in the listening comprehension with your own words.
- B. Group discussion. Discuss the following questions with your partners. And then share your answers with all the class.
 - 1. What do you want to do after graduation? How much do you expect to earn a month?
- Opinions on the future development of e-commerce and Alibaba's IPO at the New York Stock Exchange.
 - 3. Do you want to live in a big city or a small village? Why?

Part III Intensive Reading

Background information:

What are the causes of global warming? What is the green house effect? Is global warming really as destructive as it is believed to be? In the following article, we will try to answer all these, and about the global warming causes.

Global warming has surfaced as a major environmental issue, especially over the past few decades. There has been a lot of hue and cry about global warming, and its impact on the climate, ever since the idea was first put forth. Even though there is no dearth of books or articles on the Internet, the layman still seems unaware of the basic causes of global warming.

Causes of Global Warming

Global warming is basically a change in the climatic conditions of the earth, brought about by a considerable rise in the near-surface temperature of the planet. A number of factors have been contributing to this rise in the average global temperature — either directly or indirectly, right from the time the planet came into existence. It is the alarming rate at which the temperature has been rising over the last few decades that has put the scientific fraternity on its toes, and the desperate measures to find out what is causing the global temperature to rise at this rate, hints at this very fact.

Global warming, and the resulting climate change, can be caused by natural as well as man-made factors (anthropogenic factors, to be precise). The natural factors causing this sudden warming of the planet include the greenhouse effect, solar activity, volcanic emissions,

orbital forcing (slow tilting of the earth's axis), etc. The anthropogenic causes, on the other hand, include various human activities — right from breathing (respiration), to the use of vehicles and various industrial processes, which add to the greenhouse effect and cause the earth to become warm.

Greenhouse Effect by the selection of th

The greenhouse effect is said to be the most crucial factor contributing to global warming. It refers to the process wherein the radiations coming from the sun are trapped by the greenhouse gases within the atmosphere of the earth, which in turn causes the temperature near the earth's surface to soar. The greenhouse gases in question here, include carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, methane, chlorofluorocarbons(C)FCs, water vapor, etc. It is believed that the greenhouse effect has increased the earth's temperature by somewhere around 24 percent, with carbon dioxide contributing to about 12 percent of the greenhouse effect, water vapor contributing around 36 percent, methane 5 to 10 percent, and ozone making around 3 to 7 percent to the same.

Solar Variation

The changes in the amount of radiant energy emitted by the sun, i. e. solar variation, is said to be yet another reason of global warming. This solar variation has been correlated with the changes in the earth's climate and temperature. The solar variation theory states that the amount of solar radiation has been increasing with time. If the proponents of this theory are to be believed, the sun has been gaining strength, and is at its strongest since the last sixty odd years. And thus, it is believed that the sun may now be acting as a cause of global warming.

Sunspots of side Harris agency begins to water any shared furtising it residently better copper with Old Stories with

Sunspots are also said to be a cause or catalyst for global warming. Recent reports suggest that the number of sunspots in an area directly affects the amount of time taken by that region to cool down. The sun is the main source of energy to the earth. The earth absorbs about 70 percent of the solar flux, which in turn increases the temperature of the earth's atmosphere, land and oceans.

Human Activities repeated with a would be well effect on the section of being the section of

It isn't quite a coincidence that global warming and industrialization seem to go hand in hand, and that becomes obvious as you compare the industrialization and temperature rise trends over the last few decades. Even scientists acknowledge that rapid industrialization, wherein we have opted for quite a few shortcuts, has contributed to the increase of global warming today. Humans had started contributing to global warming some 8000 years ago with the start of agriculture, wherein deforestation to clear land for farming resulted in a significant rise in the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. A prominent greenhouse gas, methane is released in the atmosphere as a part of the digestive process in cattle and other ruminating animals.

Scientists are of the opinion that bad practices in industries result in release of various greenhouse gases which eventually trap the sun's radiations in the atmosphere, and contribute to global warming. Though the use of household appliances which release chlorofluorocarbons (C) FCs in the atmosphere has come down now, it was at its peak in the 90s and caused irreversible damage to the atmosphere. Other than cattle, methane also exists in plenty beneath the earth's crust, and the release of methane during mining indirectly contributes to rising temperature on the planet. Other than deforestation, humankind has also contributed to global warming by using fossil fuels, which emit carbon dioxide and other such harmful gases.

While all the natural factors do come into play when it comes to global warming, one has to understand that they are necessary in maintaining the right balance on the earth. Had it not been for all these natural occurrences, the entire planet would have had been a cold desert resembling the continent of Antarctica. In fact, some scientists are of the opinion that human life would have been impossible on the planet in the absence of greenhouse effect (human activities excluded), because the average temperature of the planet would be around 27°C in that case.

Global Warming Effects on earth

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Although we are well-aware of the various effects of global warming on earth, we don't really know when we'll be confronted by them. These include glacier melting, climate change, mass extinction, and so on. In fact, the United States Geological Survey has revealed that by the year 2030 the renowned Glacier National Park in the United States will be left without any glaciers.

Global warming is the rise in the average temperature of the earth's atmosphere, caused mainly due to increasing concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. These greenhouse gases are mostly produced as a result of human activity. It has lately become a serious issue, which threatens to disrupt the basic balance of the environment and cause large-scale destruction. [2]

Who is Affected by Global Warming? The property of the remainder of the control o

Humans, animals, plants, climate, land... you name it and it will be affected by global warming. In fact, some species of plants and animals are already on the verge of extinction. Studies indicate that around 15 to 37 percent of plant and animal species will be wiped off the planet by the year 2050. Changes in climatic patterns have already started to show, sea level is rising... to make it short, we are just heading for destruction. [2] warming the planet of the planet of

The average temperature of the planet for each year, over the last decade, has been increased. In fact, 1998 and 2005 were the hottest years in the history of the earth. The planet

is getting warmer by the day, and in fact, the entire planet is threatened by its hazards.

mo Effects on Animals level as a nit menon asken region. Juril as Jurgania spatt has because

A large number of animal species will disappear from the planet, owing to the loss of habitat triggered by global warming. There is no doubt that many animals will bear the brunt of climate change. In fact, it's feared that sooner or later it will trigger a mass extinction, and one-third of the animal species will become extinct by 2050. [3]

Polar Bears: Polar bears depend on ice formed on the sea when they are hunting. If the ice melts, the range of polar bear will decrease to a great extent, and this loss of habitat will in turn lead to a decline in the polar bear population.

Penguins: Melting sea ice will also result in decline in the growth of algae, which in turn will result in decline of tiny organisms, such as krill shrimp, which constitute a very important part of the penguin diet. [5] And thus, shortage of food and loss of habitat will eventually drive the penguins towards extinction.

Effects on Plants

Owing to the drastic changes in temperature levels, various plant species have been experiencing difficulties in adapting to the new change, which gives a drastic blow to the plant population. Even the changes in raining patterns can lead to hazardous effects on various plants species. Global warming effects on agriculture is the best possible examples of this. Frequent rains will lead to flooding, whereas less rains will result in drought, both of which will only lead to the destruction of agricultural fields.

Effects on Weather 1/2 and 1/2

Increasing temperatures will lead to adverse effects on weather as well. Even minor alterations in global temperatures will trigger a series of weather problems, and alter the climatic patterns of the planet. The number of natural disasters have increased over the period of time. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) acknowledges the fact that the frequency of intense rains has increased over the last 50 years. On one hand, heating of the ocean due to global warming gives rise to strong hurricanes, while more than the normal temperature on land gives rise to intense heat waves. Higher temperature leads to faster evaporation of water and leads to drought in one part, and brings in heavy rainfalls and causes flooding in other part of the world. Although we can't conclude the serious effects of global warming on weather by taking into consideration a single drought year or a single strong hurricane, the trend of these natural occurrences speak in volumes for themselves.

Effects on Sea Levels in the same mail around which the strongly and the results around the

Among the various global warming effects on earth, the grievous one is the rise in sea levels, which are threatening to encroach up on land. If the sea levels rise it will result in a watery grave to several low lying areas, tiny islands and reclaimed portions of land 71. So how exactly is it affecting sea levels? Basics of geographical studies suggests that water expands

when heated. In this case, rising global temperatures are causing the water bodies to heat, expand and thus encroach on land. Another major reason for sea level rise is melting ice from the glaciers and polar ice sheets — which is again accelerated by global warming. These ice stores are far massive than we can imagine. In fact, melting of West Antarctic Ice Sheet alone can possibly cause the sea to rise by 10 meters.

Effects on Humans

When the whole environment will experience the effects of global warming, naturally humans won't be an exception. [8] In fact, we will be the worst affected beings on the planet because directly or indirectly we are dependent on all the components of the environment discussed above. Animals and plants are related to each other, extinction of either will put tremendous pressure on other, eventually leading to its extinction. Humans, in turn, are dependent on both for many purposes, so extinction of animals or plants will also affect humans to a great extent. Irregular weather will have a severe impact on several human activities. Warmer summers will mean more allergies and even more disease spreading insects. Unnatural rainfall will lead to destruction of crops and hamper agriculture. Rising temperatures will lead to warming of ocean bodies, which will in turn increase the frequency of hurricanes.

Destruction of coral reefs will lead to loss of marine life including fish, and fish is an important part of human diet. Coastal areas around the world are highly populated, so any rise in sea level will lead to a heavy impact on the people living in coastal areas. Glaciologist's estimate that if melting of glaciers at the present rate continues, around 20 percent of Bangladesh will get submerged in the sea by 2020. [9] Countries like Maldives, with the highest point of 2.4 meters above mean sea level, will be under water if the sea water levels rise by 3 meters. Loss of glaciers will decrease the water supply for millions of people. Rise in sea level will alter the coastlines thus affecting tourism sector.

Not everything about global warming would be bad though. Warmer climate will mean a longer growing season and hence an increase in production. The problem is that its negative effects far exceed the positive effects [10], and thus the whole world is concerned about the future - and trying to find out some solutions to this problem. The natural causes of global warming which includes water vapor and volcanoes are beyond our reach, but we can make sure that man-made causes are reduced. If we don't take the necessary measures soon we will have to face its anger sometime in near future.

Several things have to be taken into consideration before we actually determine global warming effects on our planet. Skeptics argue that most of these problems are being exaggerated. Turning a blind eye to the signs of destruction, they feel that these effects of climate change are not going to take place anytime soon. But then, if a drop of 5 degrees over a considerable period of time can trigger an ice age, won't a rise of 5 degrees have a devastating impact on the planet? The was and one londing words to seem to allowed one the

New Words

effect [I'fekt] n.	影响;效果
confront [kənˈfrʌnt] v.	面对;遇到
melt [melt] v. also can be defined to be a fit a same Θ	熔化;溶解
climate ['klaımət] n.	气候
tremendous [trɪˈmendəs] adj.	巨大的;惊人的
extinction [tk'stɪŋkʃn] n.	熄灭;灭绝
atmosphere [† ætməsf $_{19}$] n.	大气;空气
concentration [kpnsn treifn] n.	集中,专心
threaten ['Oretonz] v.	恐吓。
disrupt [dis'rapt] v.	使混乱;使分裂
destruction $[d_I \operatorname{str}_A k \int n] n$.	破坏,毁灭
species [spi: fiz] n.	物种;种类
hazard [hæzəd] v.	冒险;使遭受危险
habitat ['hæbitæt] n. d Al 2011 (d) block to Alline	栖息地
trigger [$^{l}\mathrm{trig}\vartheta$] v. we note at the second according	引发;触发
various ['veəriəs] adj.	各种各样的;多方面的
adapt [əˈdæpt] v.	适应于
drastic ['dræstɪk] adj.	激烈的;猛烈的
agriculture [ˈægrɪkʌltʃə] n.	农业;农学
drought [draut] n.	旱季;旱灾
witness ['wɪtnəs] n.	目击者,见证人
alteration [${}_{i,0}$: ${}_{i,0}$: ${}_{i,0}$] n.	变化,改变
encroach [$\mbox{Im}^{l}\mbox{krout}\mbox{\int}\mbox{]}$ v. delense of edge appears disconnected by	侵入;侵犯
accelerate [\mathfrak{g} k'sel \mathfrak{g} re \mathfrak{g} t] v.	加快;增速
marine [məˈriːn] adj.	海的;海事的

Useful Phrases

be aware of	意识到
as a result of	作为的结果
wipe off of the moltany, bush the anciency and all he	擦去,擦掉
a large number of	大量,许多
in turn	轮流,依次;反过来
take into consideration	考虑
portion of	部分
be concerned about the traveling with the concerned	bo g美心 The high sharile

have a (an) ... impact on

对……有影响

Notes to Text

[1]... the United States Geological Survey has revealed that by the year 2030 the renowned Glacier National Park in the United States will be left without any glaciers.

Glacier National Park 译为"冰川国家公园",位于美国北部蒙大拿州,1910 年建成。 此句中的 that 用在动词 reveal 之后,引导宾语从句。

翻译为:美国地质勘查局指出,到 2030 年美国的冰川国家公园里的冰川将会消失 殆尽。

[2] It has lately become a serious issue, which threatens to disrupt the basic balance of the environment and cause large-scale destruction.

此句为 which 引导的非限制性定语从句, it 指代 global warming, disrupt 在此处译为 "扰乱", disrupt the basic balance of the environment"译为扰乱环境的基本平衡"。

[3] In fact, it's feared that sooner or later it will trigger a mass extinction and one-third of the animal species will become extinct by 2050.

此句属于"it is + n. /adj. / v. + ed + that 从句"结构的主语从句, it 在句中作形式主语,真正的主语是"that sooner or later it will trigger a mass extinction and one-third of the animal species will become extinct by 2050"。

全句译为:其实,让我们担心的是,全球变暖早晚会引起大规模的动物灭绝,到 2050 年三分之一的动物种类会灭绝。

[4]... ice formed on the sea...

formed 作为过去分词用作名词 ice 的后置定语, ice formed on the sea 译为"海面上形成的冰"。

[5] Melting sea ice will also result in decline in the growth of algae, which in turn will result in decline of tiny organisms, such as krill shrimp, which constitute a very important part of the penguin diet.

本句中出现两个 which, 分别引导两个非限制性定语从句, result in 译为"导致", in turn 可理解成"反之,反过来"。

[6]...adverse effects...

adverse 译为"不利的,恶劣的",此处译为"不利的影响"或"坏的影响"。

[7] reclaimed portions of land

reclaim 译为"开垦",此处以过去分词的形式修饰 portions of land, portions of land 译为"部分耕地"。

[8] naturally humans won't be an exception.

won't be an exception 译为"毫无例外,无一例外"。

此句可理解为"人类自然地也不能幸免(受到全球变暖的影响)"。

[9] Glaciologist's estimate that if melting of glaciers at the present rate continues, around

20 percent of Bangladesh will get submerged in the sea by 2020.

Glaciologist 译为"冰川学家", submerge 译为"淹没"。

此句译为:据冰川学家估计,如果冰川以现在的速率融化,到 2020 年孟加拉约 20% 的土地将会淹没在汪洋大海中。

[10] The problem is that its negative effects far exceed the positive effects...

此句中 that 用在系动词 is 之后, 引导表语从句, 译为"其负面影响远远大于积极的一面"。

Exercises

I. Text (Comprehension and accompany and tracted please eggs, segret from twentymaken pair is
1. De	cide whether each of the following statements is true (T) or false (F) according to
the text.	
(1) T	the glaciers in Glacier National Park will not disappear in the 21st century. ()
(2)	Global warming is a very serious problem which is not easy to handle for human
beings. ([4] Later minder of united species with the cover large the planet,
(3) F	Researches show that half of plant and animal species will disappear by the year
2050. () The second sec
(4) T	The planet is getting far warmer in the recent years. (
(5) A	animals like polar bears and penguins are greatly affected by the global warming.
()	This is not be opposed in coming partons out load to began out offices.
(6) T	The rise in sea level will make little influence on human's life. (
(7) D	Destruction of coral reefs will lead to the loss of human diet to some extent. (
(8) G	Clobal warming has some positive effects at the same time. ()
(9) B	Sangladesh will be under water if the sea water levels rise by three meters. (
(10)	The negative effects of global warming will not take place in the near future, so we
should not	take it seriously. () has all and a seriously all the seriously.
2. An	swer the following questions briefly within 3 words according to the text.
(1) G	Global warming is thein the average temperature of the earth's atmosphere.
(2) T	hese greenhouse gases are mostly produced as a result of
(3) In	n fact, some species of plants and animals are already of extinction.
(4) A	A large number of will disappear from the planet, owing to the loss of
habitat trigg	gered by global warming.
(5) V	arious plant species have been experiencing difficultiesthe new change.
(6) In	ncreasing temperatures will lead to on weather as well.
(7)	leads to faster evaporation of water and leads to drought in one part.
(8) W	When the whole environment will experience the effects of global warming, naturally
humans wor	n't is, il a few all and it is a superior of the superior of t