

## PRIMER QUIZ

### True or False Questions

1. The “Greenhouse Effect” is a natural process that occurs in the Earth’s atmosphere as the Earth absorbs some of the sun’s radiation, causing its temperature to increase.

- True                       False

2. Humans have no impact on global warming.

- True                       False

3. Sulfur dioxide is the most common, human released greenhouse gas in the atmosphere.

- True                       False

4. Using public transportation can help reduce global warming.

- True                       False

## True or False Answers

### 1. True:

The Greenhouse Effect is a natural process. Greenhouse gases -- the gases that absorb the sun's energy--have made life on Earth possible. Without the "Greenhouse Effect," the temperature on Earth would be too cold to support life. In recent years, the Earth has been getting warmer because the Greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere are increasing. Since there is an increase in gases, more energy gets absorbed, leading to global climate change.

### 2. False:

Many scientists are making a direct connection between human activities and the increased levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. How do humans increase greenhouse gases in the atmosphere? Greenhouse gases mainly come from burning fossil fuels--coal, oil, and natural gas. Fossil fuels are used in many activities including electricity production and transportation.

### 3. False:

Carbon dioxide is actually the most common (by percent composition) greenhouse gas in the atmosphere that comes from human activities. Other greenhouse gases include water vapor, sulfur dioxide, methane, chlorofluorocarbons, nitrous oxide, ozone, and aerosols. Water vapor is more prevalent but its levels are not directly affected by human activities. Thirty-three percent of annual carbon dioxide emissions in the US come from transportation. Sulfur dioxide pollution is a primary cause of acid rain.

### 4. True:

Current public transportation use in the United States prevents the release of 7.5 million tons of carbon dioxide because people riding in a bus or train cause fewer emissions than they would if they were driving cars. Think how much carbon dioxide could be avoided if more people used public transit! Although transportation provides a good opportunity to reduce our overall CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, public transit made up only 1.2% of vehicle miles traveled (<http://www.eesi.org>) in the last couple of years.