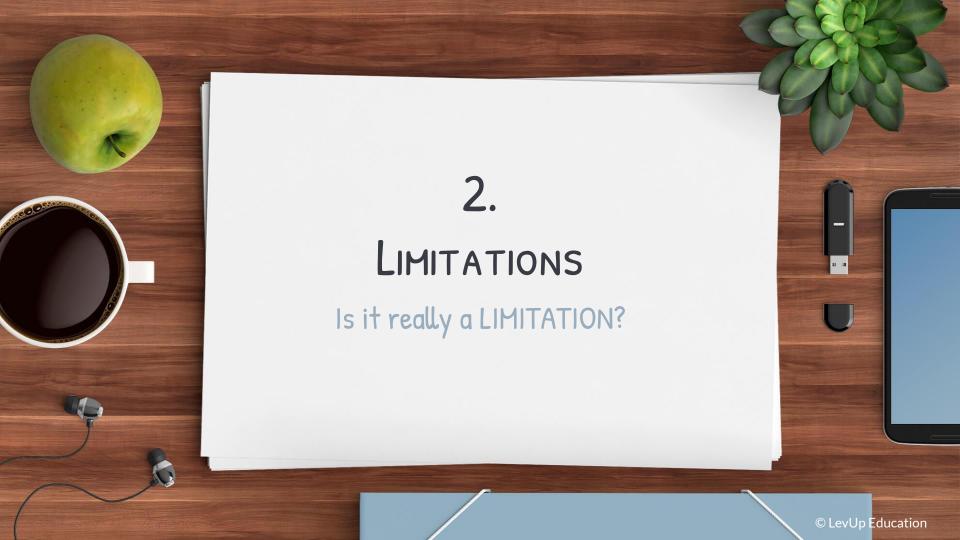


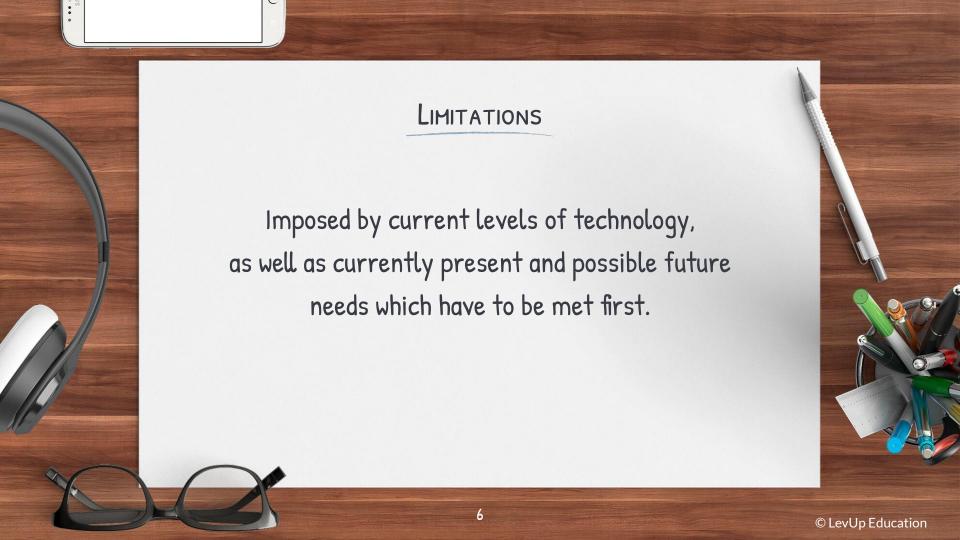


NEEDS

Perceived Needs

- Socially and Culturally determined There's a need for long-term sustainability of essential needs first
- E.g. Smartphones, Laptops, Luxury Shoes







LIMITATIONS

1. Environmental Limits

Use of resources → Once all resources have been used up
→ The ability for the resources to regenerate naturally or with any help of technology will decline.

Technology: Can enhance the carrying capacity of the resource base.

- Spatial variations [LDC vs DC]



LIMITATIONS

2. Limits by the Organisation of Society

- Most institutions facing challenges tend to be independent and fragmented.
- A case of GOVERNMENT FAILURE → Government fails to implement appropriate whose policy actions which prevent degradation of the environment.
- Often too focused on economic growth.





TRADE-OFFS

- Trade-offs are essentially an opportunity cost which impedes the achieving of sustainable development.
- E.g. Income Distribution is one aspect of the quality of growth.
 - Rapid growth combined with worsening income distribution is worse than slow growth and redistribution of income in favour of the poor.



TRADE-OFFS

Despite the increasing attention to resource efficiency to moderate the amount of trade-offs → Due to increasing affluence and population growth → Environmental problems linked to resource use for economic growth will still intensify.





EXAM REQUIREMENTS

1. Explain the Concept of Sustainable Development

- Need to describe and explain what needs, limitations and trade-offs are and give specific examples.
- Acknowledge that Sustainable Development is a <u>LONG TERM</u> problem/aim.



EXAM REQUIREMENTS

2. Explain the differences and similarities between limitations and trade-offs.

Similarities:

- They occur <u>spatially</u> in every country, be it less developed or developed countries.
- They are similar in terms of their <u>relationship</u> to SD \rightarrow Has the ability to impede SD greatly.
- Both are LONG TERM issues and are INEVITABLE.



EXAM REQUIREMENTS

2. Explain the differences and similarities between limitations and trade-offs.

Differences:

- The severity of limitations and trade-offs may be different depending on country.
- Limitations are inherent, hard to resolve, while trade-offs can be prevented or reduced with effective governance.











Main Purpose

- Focused on how to relieve the global environmental system
 - Emphasized that <u>economic and social progress</u> depend critically on the preservation of the natural resource base
 - \rightarrow Introduced measures to prevent environmental degradation.



- (a) Different viewpoint of Sustainable Development for DCs and LDCs
 - DCs more economically secure (SD a quality of life issue)
 - LDCs view SD as a means to economic growth but with greener practices.

- (b) Dispute over the cause of Sustainable Development for DCs and LDCs
 - LDCs view that <u>overPOPULATION</u> is more harmful to the environment due to increased consumption.
 - DCs view that <u>overCONSUMPTION</u> is more harmful to the environment.

- (c) Lack of Political Commitment
 - Lack of legislation and independent institutions scrutiny to monitor the progress and principles of Sustainable Development.





Rio +20 **Main Purpose** To secure renewed political commitments for Sustainable Development To assess the progress and remaining gaps left by Rio Earth Summit © LevUp Education



Rio +20

Challenges

- (a) Political Challenges
 - (i) No shared vision of what 'Green economy' meant as the notion meant different things to different interests.

DCs felt it was a transition to a cleaner and more resource-efficient economy.

LDCs felt it was a means of green growth allowing them to prosper economically while saving the environment.

Rio +20 Challenges (a) Political Challenges (ii) Non-Commitment of countries and a lack of international monitoring - DCs were not willing to transfer technology to LDCs. © LevUp Education

- (b) Economic Challenges
 - Involves placing economic value on environmental services provided by nature.
 - Framework does not consider immediate concerns of LDCs such as malnourishment, diseases and sanitation.



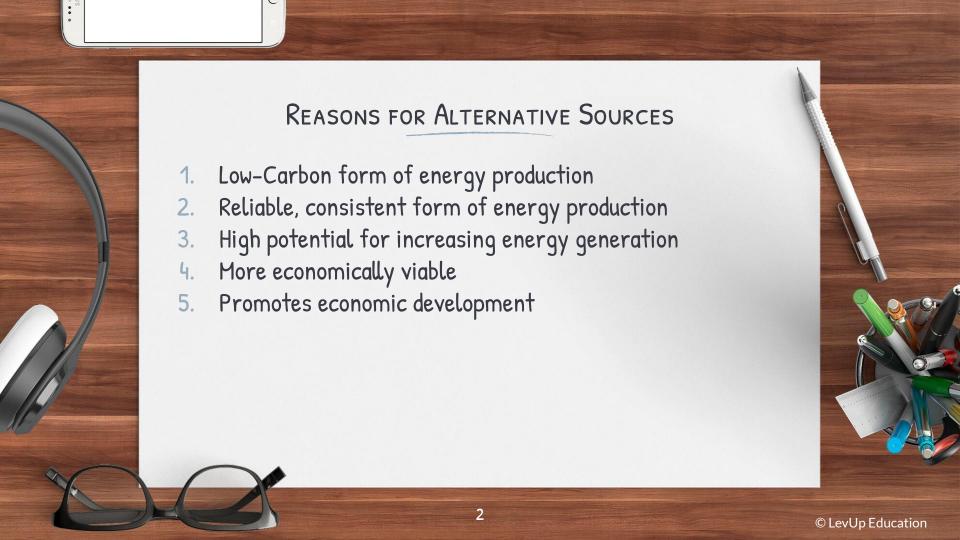
EXAM REQUIREMENTS This topic is more of a bridging topic for later chapters. It will serve as concrete evidence of the different needs, limitations and trade-offs which DCs and LDCs have. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are extremely important as they still exist till today, hence can be used as evidence to monitor current progress.

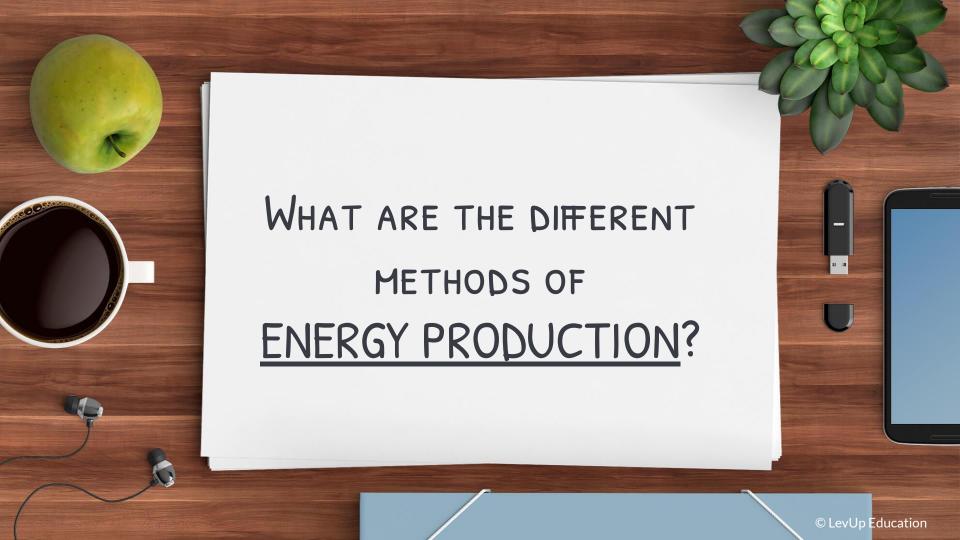
© LevUp Education

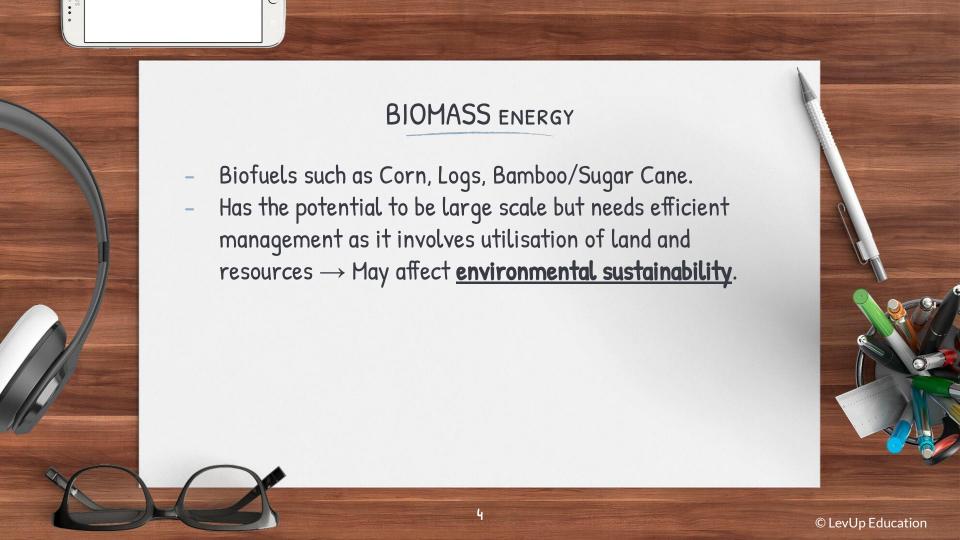


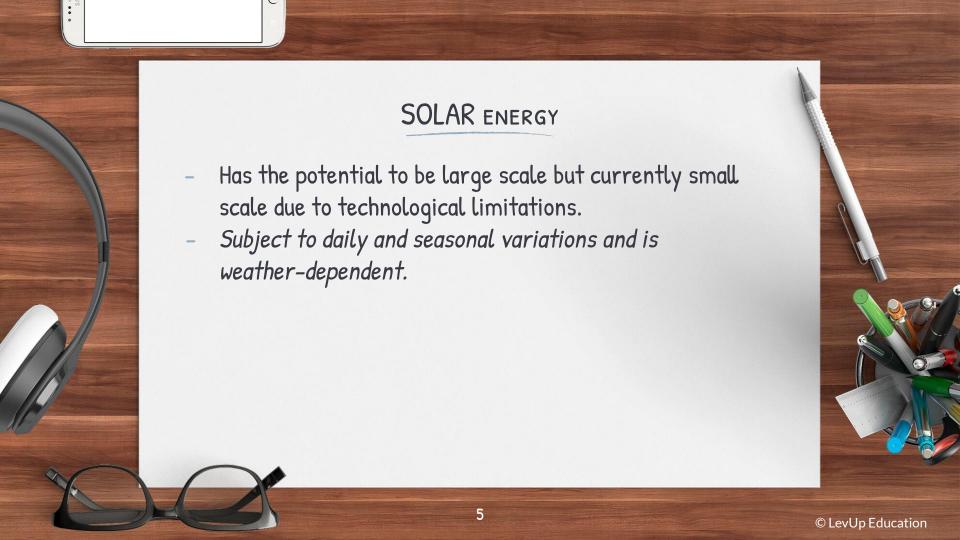


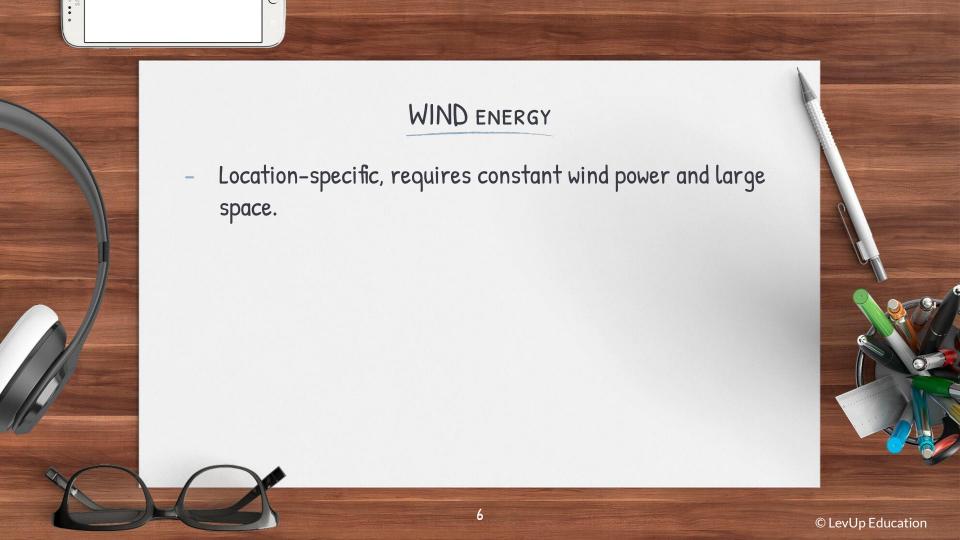


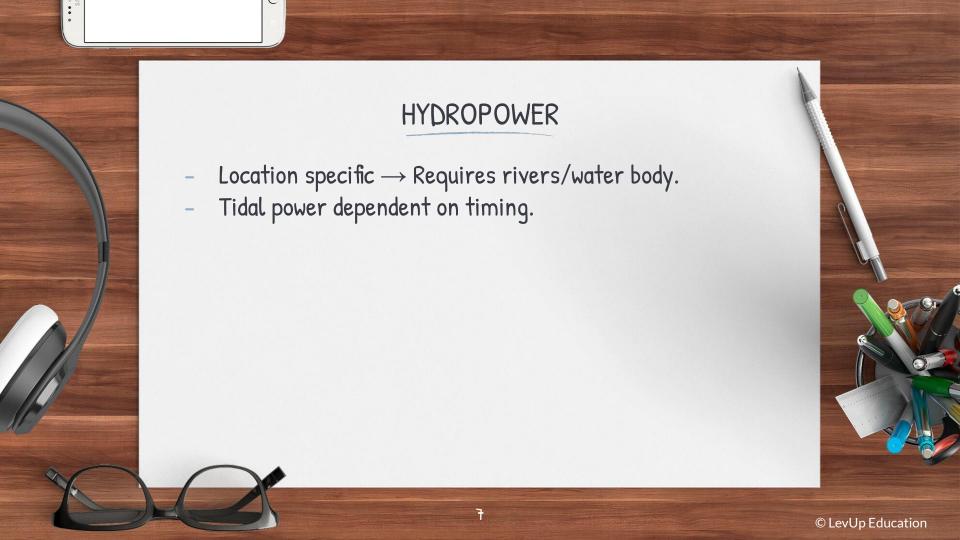


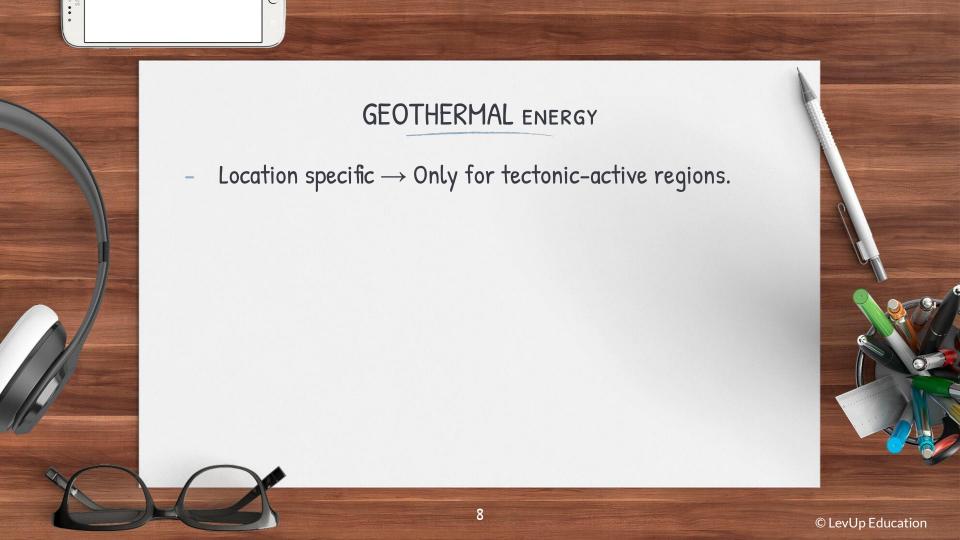


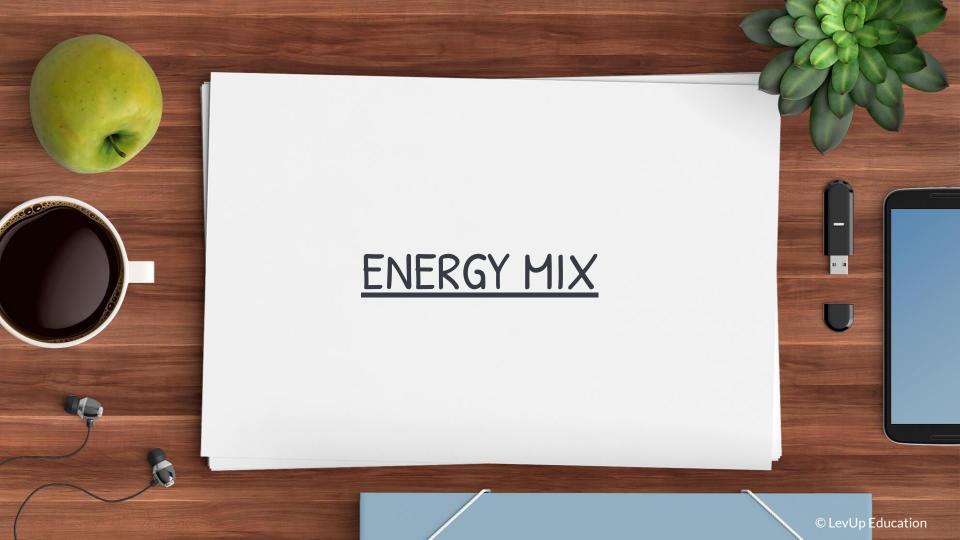








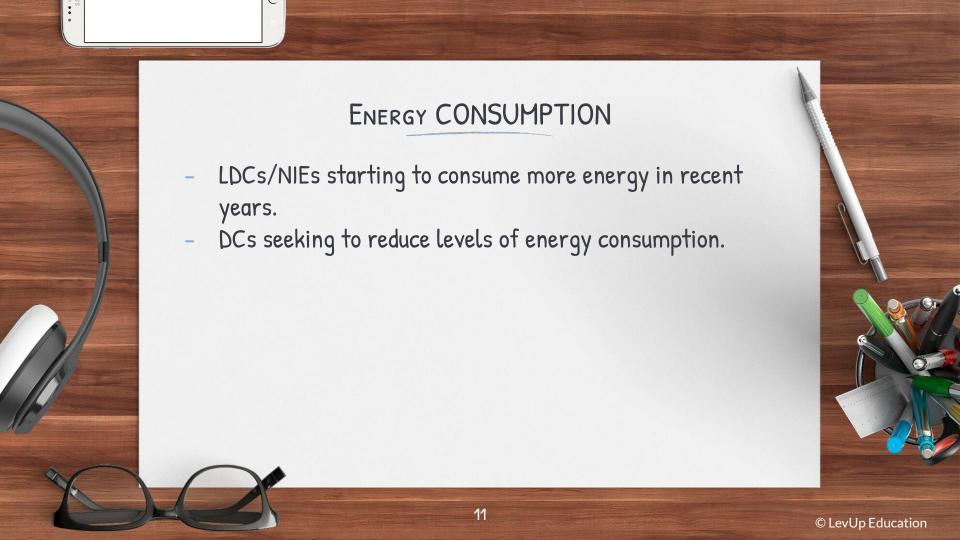


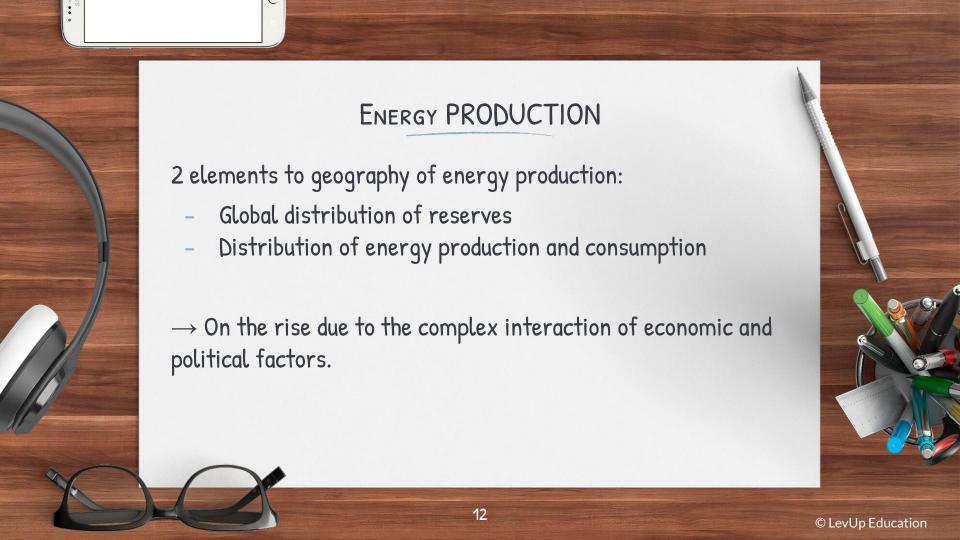


DEFINITION OF ENERGY MIX

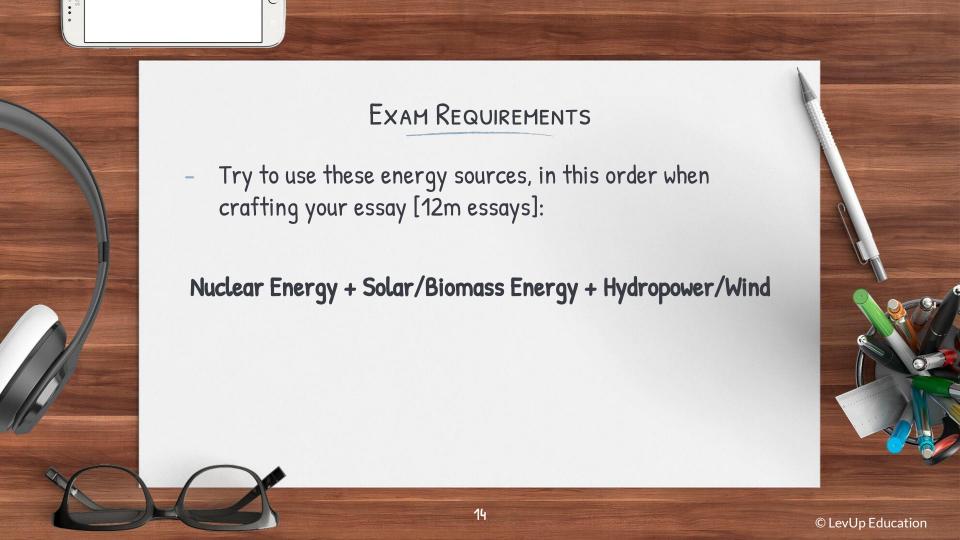
- The <u>BALANCE</u> between the various sources of energy at the national scale.
 - Overtime, industrialised countries are looking into diversifying their energy mix [mix of fossil fuels and renewable energy] → Improves energy security.

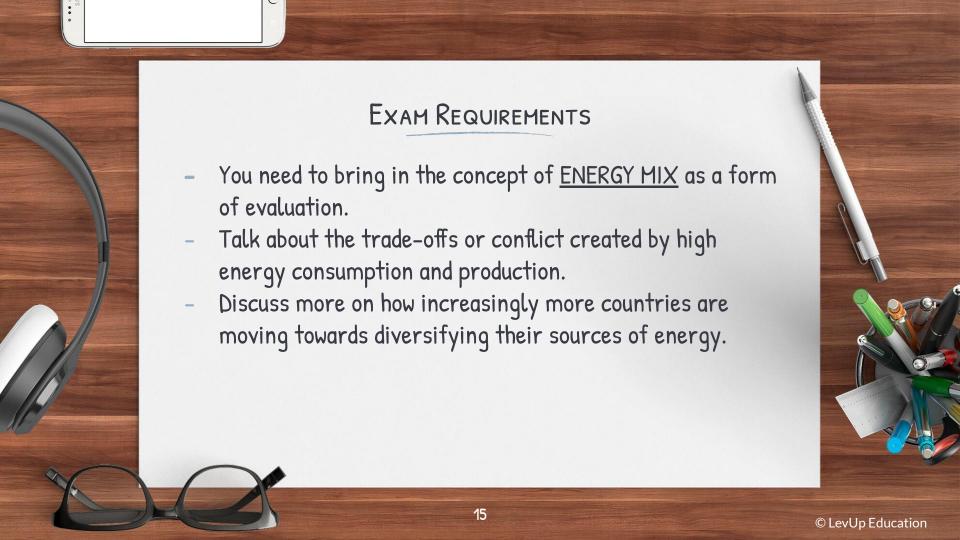
* In 2009, China accounted for 46.9% of global coal consumption that generated 70.6% of its commercial energy.







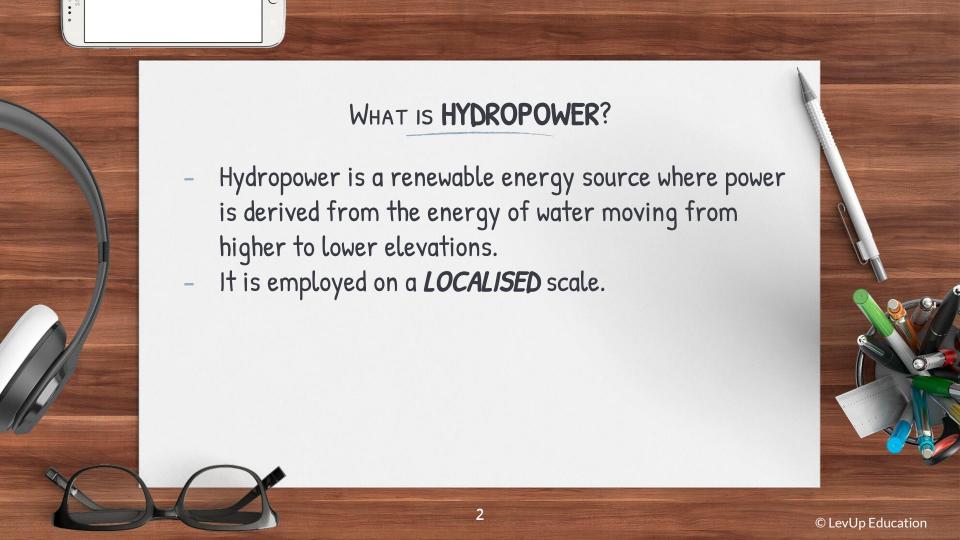












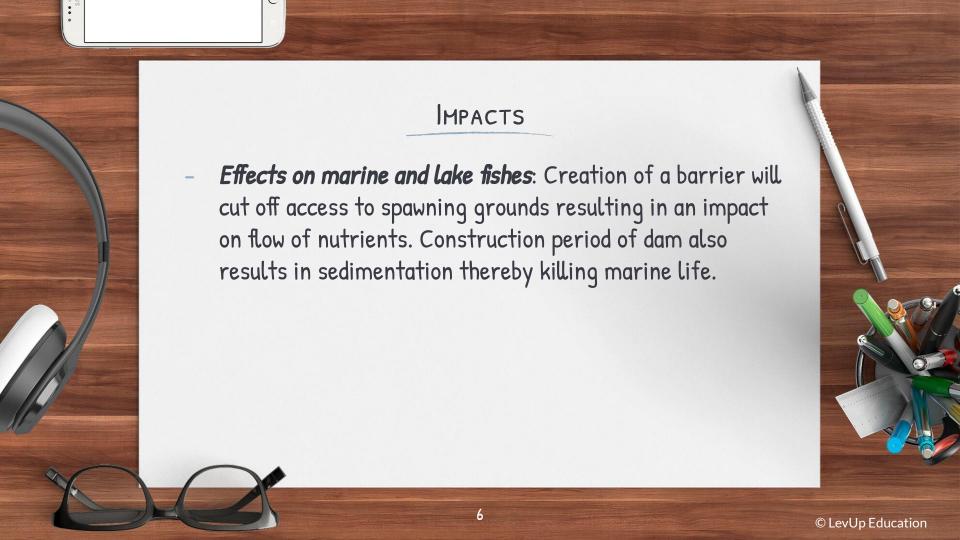


IMPACTS

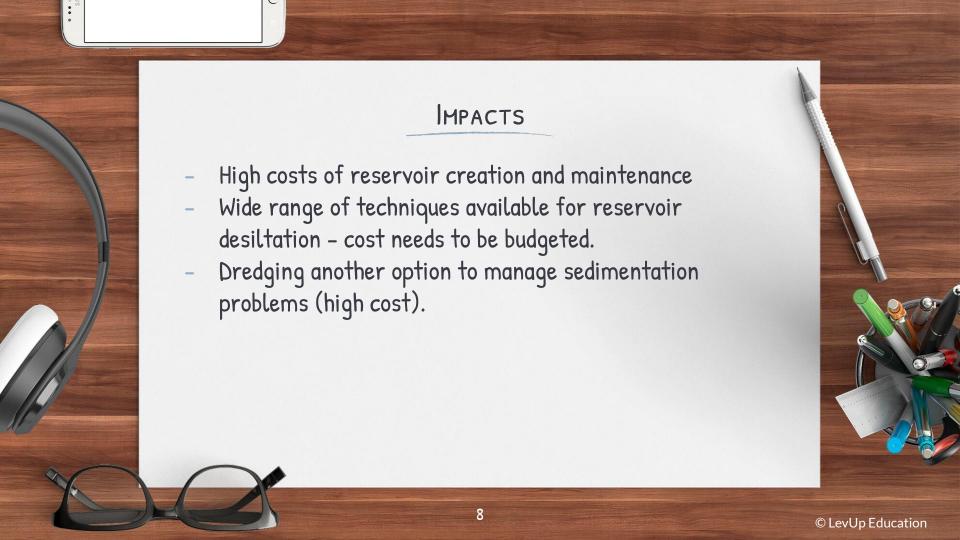
1. The Dam & its Reservoir

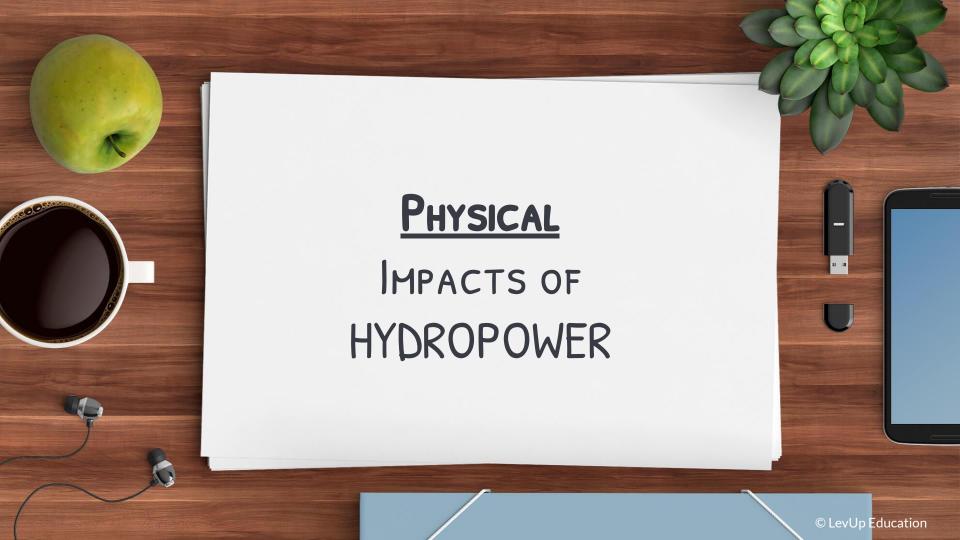
- Lack of Resources: Creation of reservoir results in a loss of resources in the area [Nam Choan Dam Project, Thailand].
- **Decline in water quality**: Reservoir formed undergoes much variation in water quality in the first decade due to sediments released. Algae blooms take place due to richness of trapped nutrients [*Brazil*, 1996]



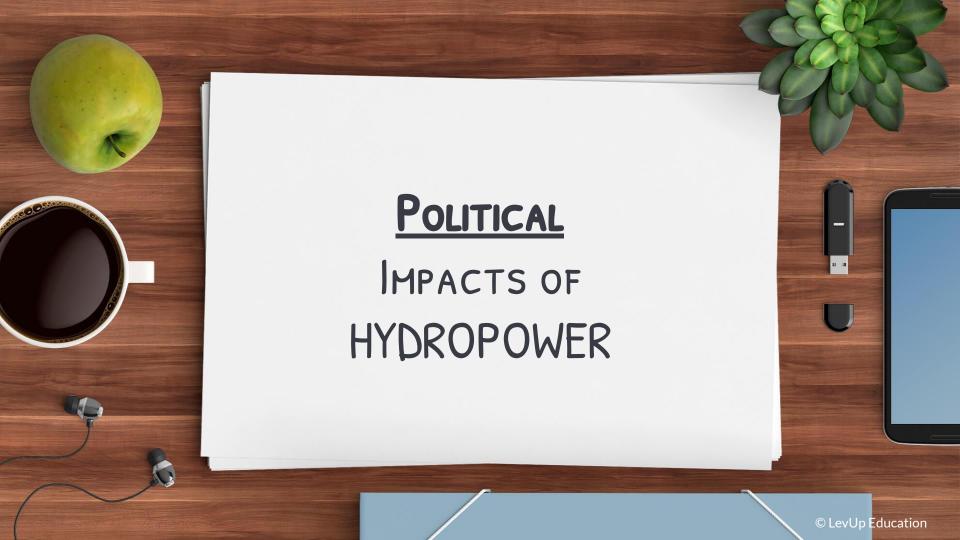






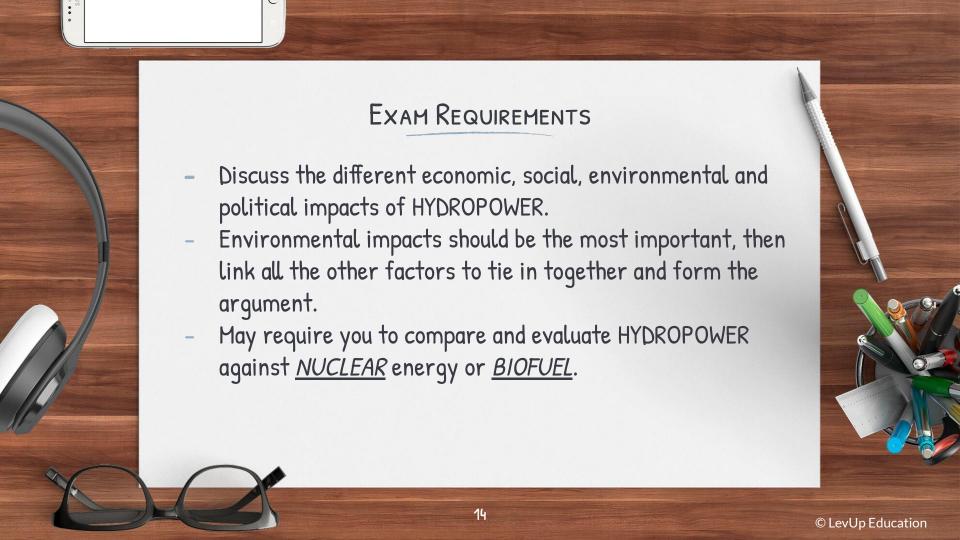


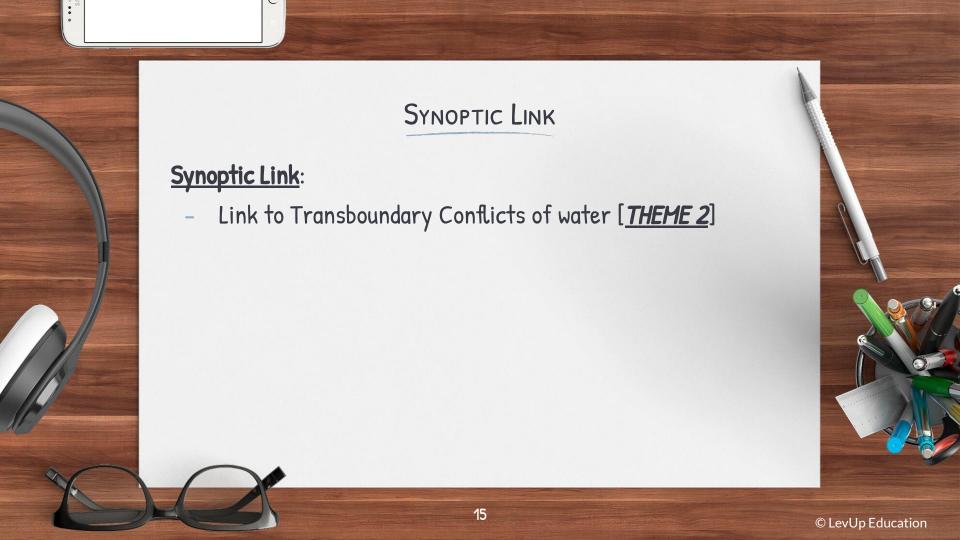
IMPACTS Adverse effects on local water table/groundwater conditions: Local heightening of water tables following reservoir impoundment can have effects. Adverse effects on local climate: Creation of new water bodies with large surface areas is thought to affect climate [Lake Volta shifted peak rainfall from Oct to July] © LevUp Education



IMPACTS Public Participation: The question of who benefits and who bears most burden of the affected environment. Construction of dam requires relocation. Transboundary Conflict: Dam constructed may have river flowing past more than 1 country hence this may require water agreements as water availability and quality may be affected. © LevUp Education



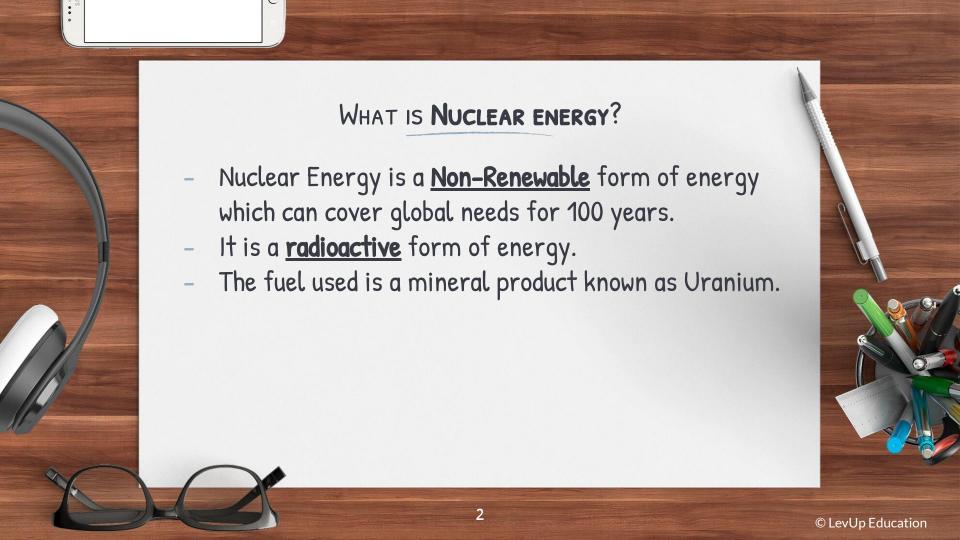




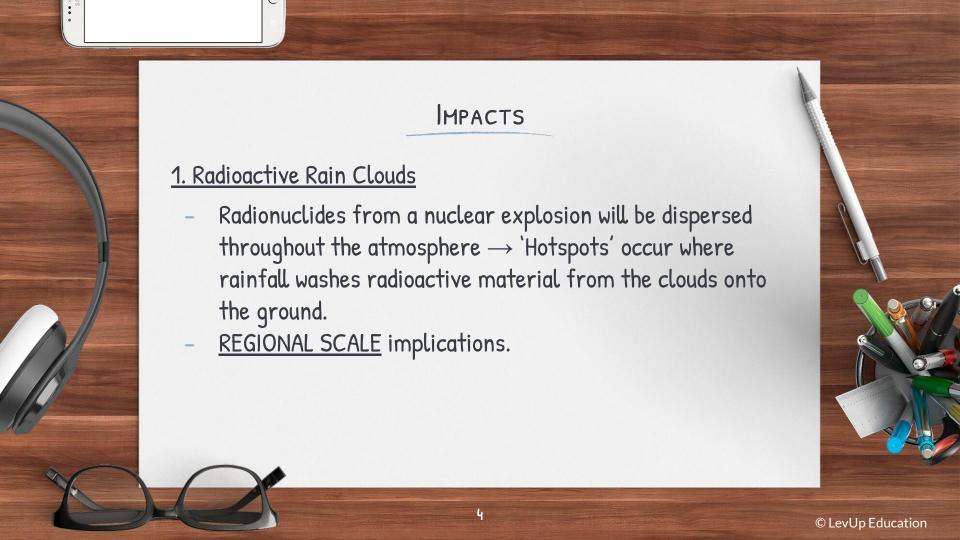


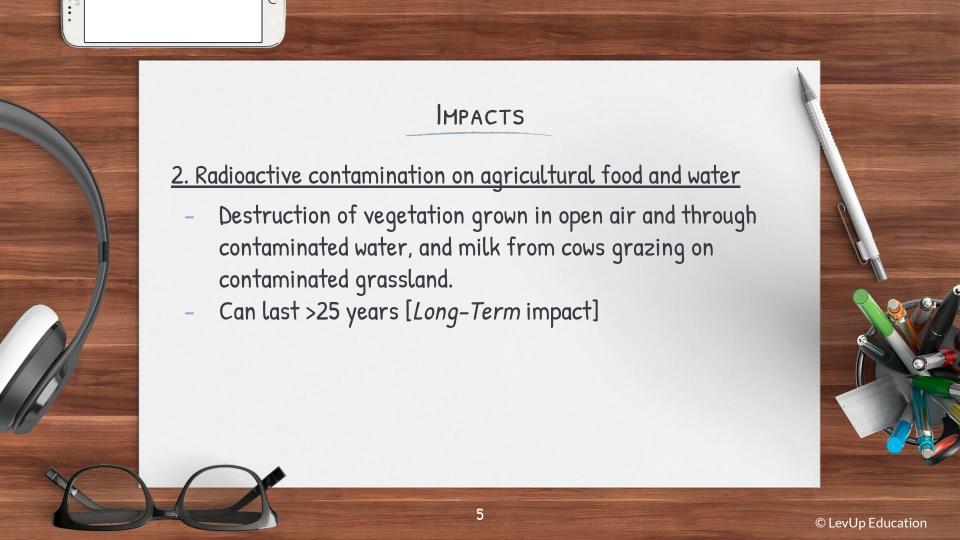




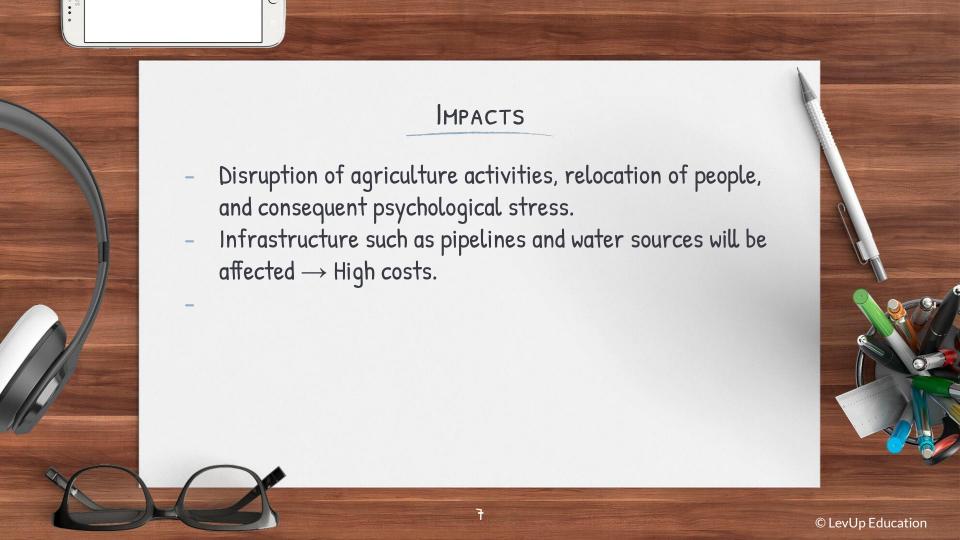


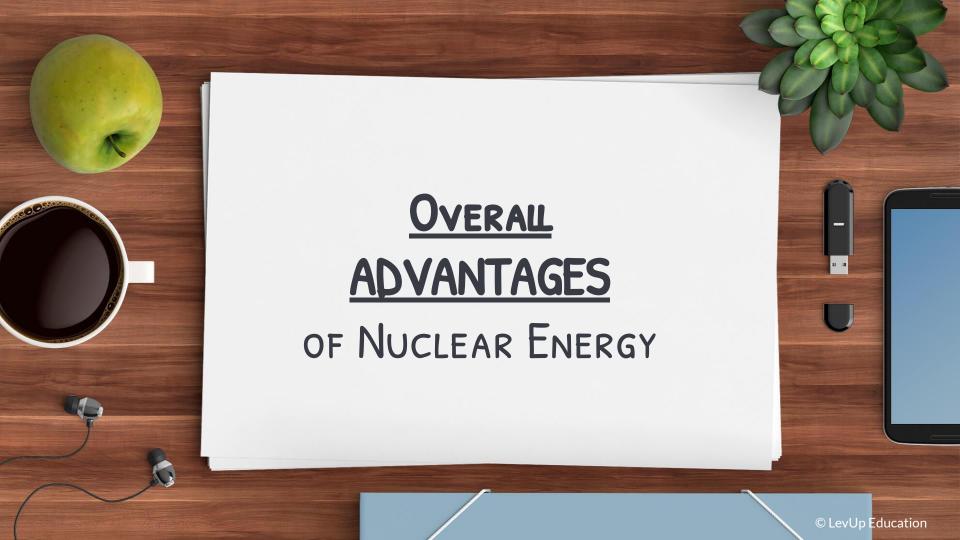


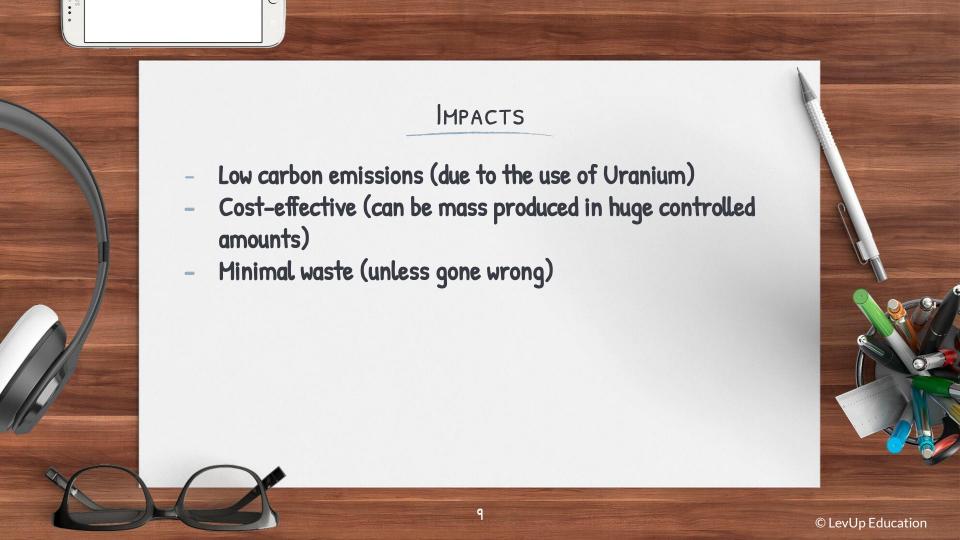


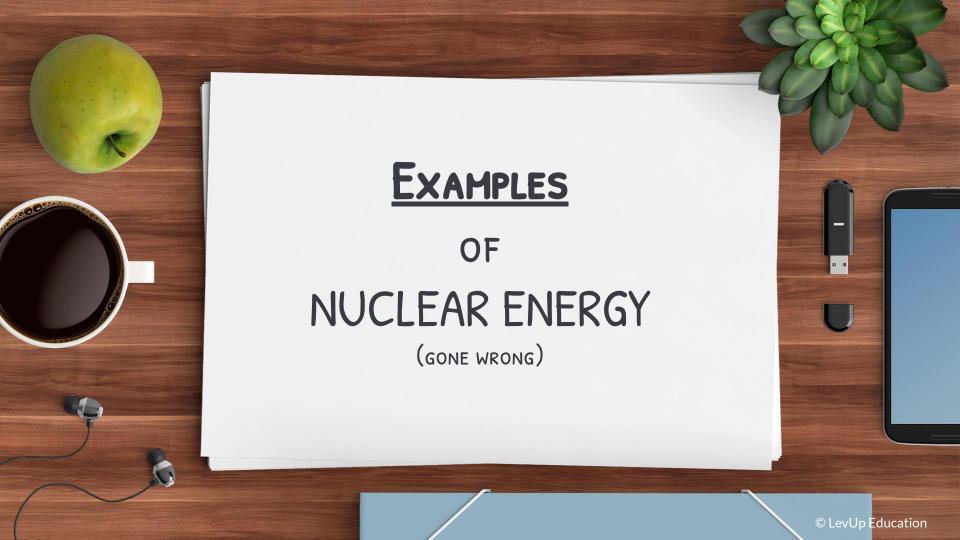












EXAMPLES

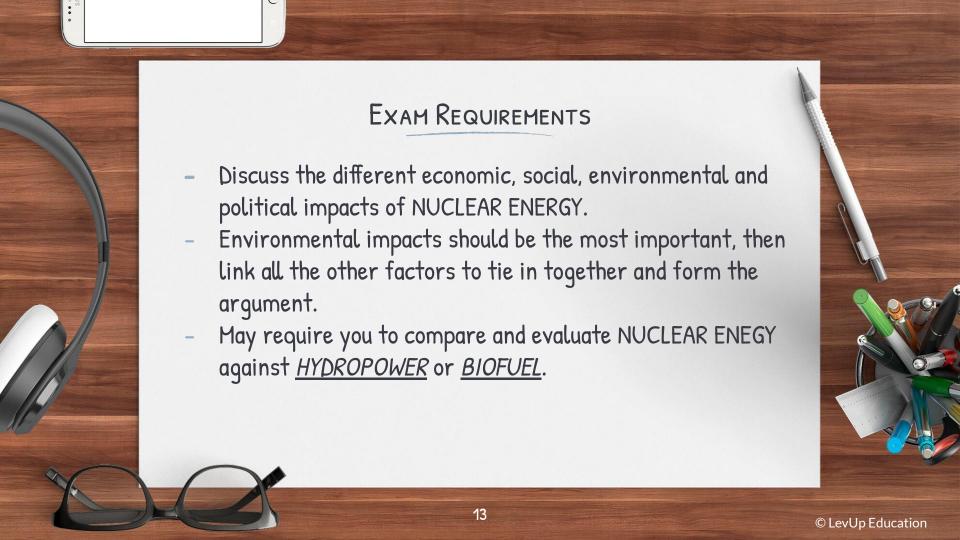
CHERNOBYL 1986 NUCLEAR DISASTER

 External release of a significant fraction of reaction core which went widespread.

FUKUSHIMA 2011 NUCLEAR DISASTER

- Reactor shutdown after earthquake and tsunami.
- Failure of energy cooling cause explosion.

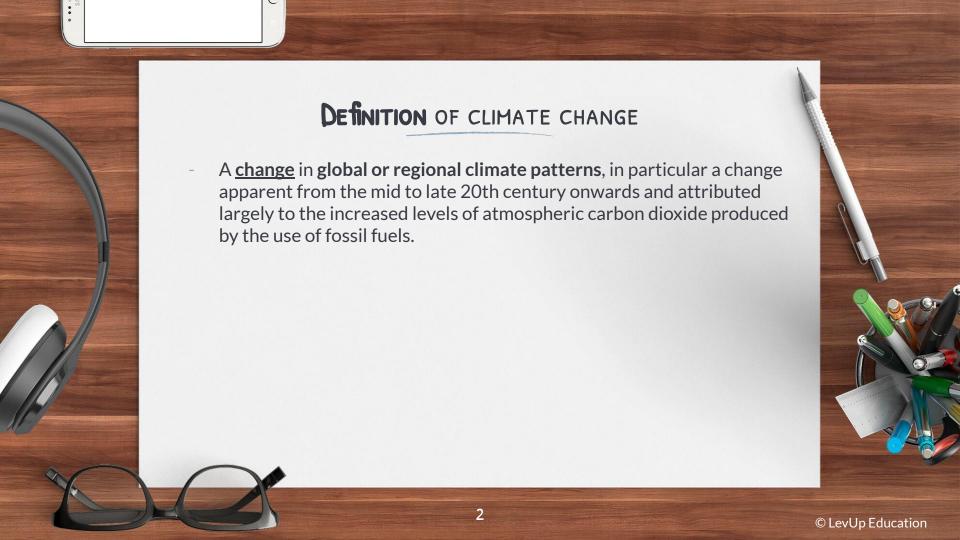


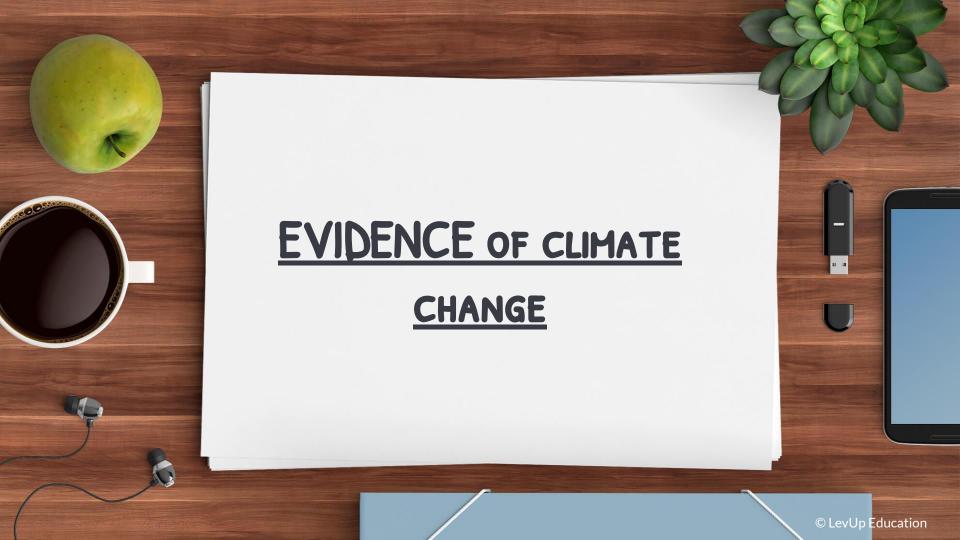


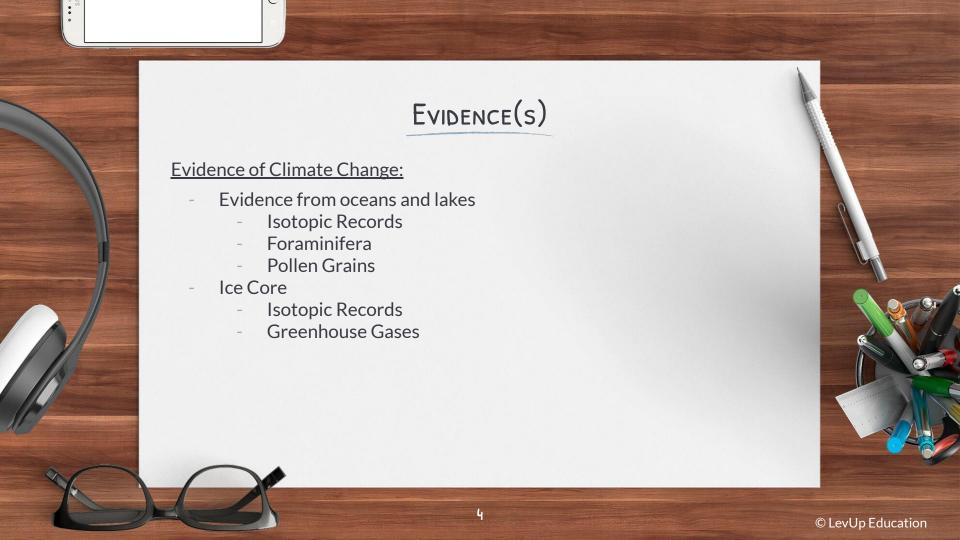












EVIDENCE FROM OCEANS AND LAKES

 During ice age, water is constantly removed from oceans and stored on land as snow and ice → During interglacial periods, water returns to ocean as rivers

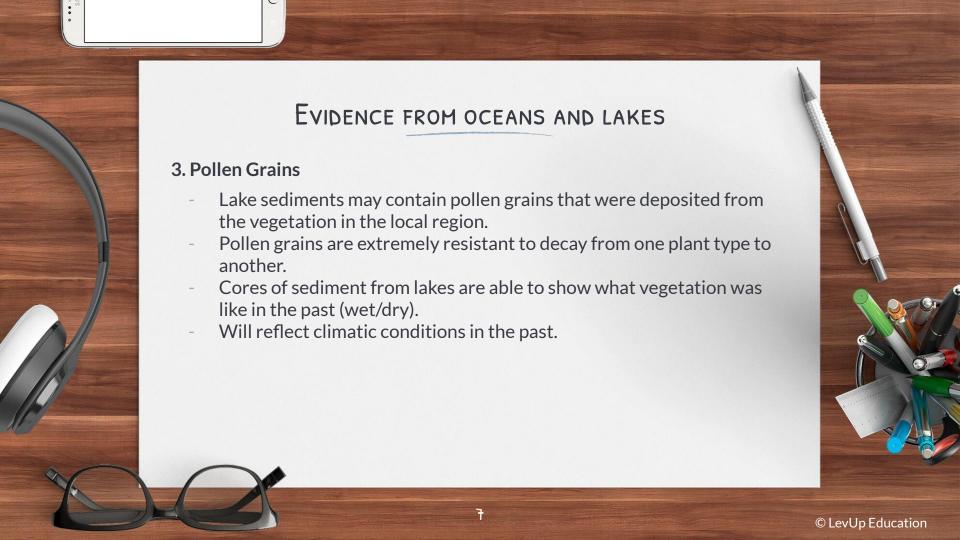
1. Isotopic Records

- During glacial times, water molecules are removed from oceans by **evaporation** but not returned via condensation and rainfall, the remaining ocean water slowly becomes depleted in molecules with the lighter isotopes (now concentrated with heavier isotopes).

EVIDENCE FROM OCEANS AND LAKES

2. Foraminifera

- Tiny organisms (zooplankton, a.k.a foraminifera) constructs shells that are made up of a certain chemical composition which is affected by the ocean waters.
- When foraminifera die, the shells fall to the ocean floor and accumulate as ocean sediment.
- These provide a record of these organisms that goes back in time → Analysis of the isotopic composition of the calcium carbonate in the shells show a changing ocean chemistry overtime.



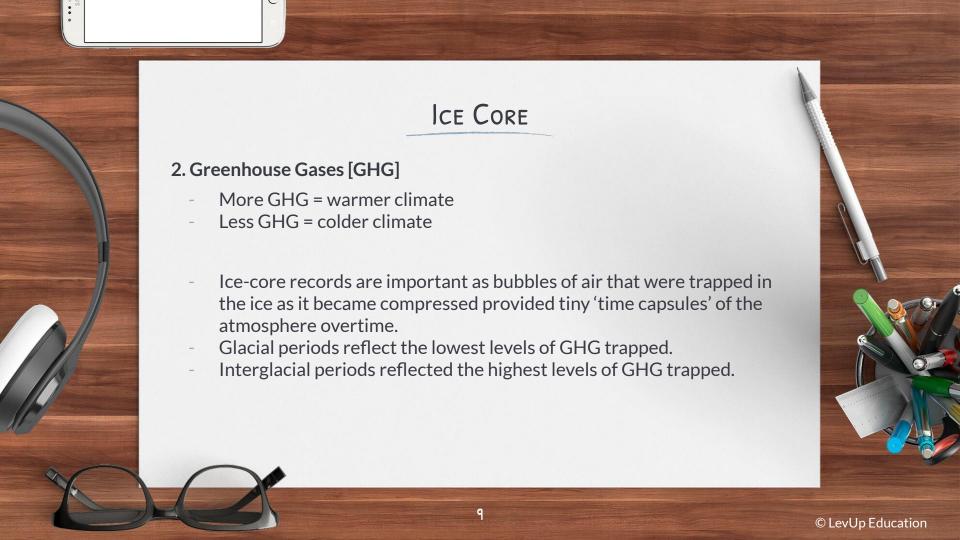
ICE CORE

What is an ice core?

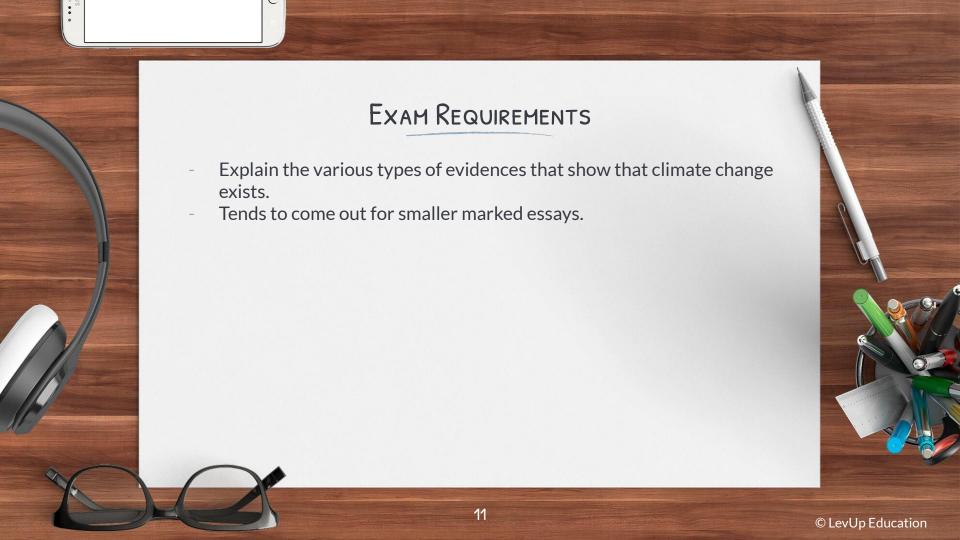
- Snow that accumulates at high elevations which does not melt → later buried by more snowfall and compressed as ice → forms ice sheets (core taken out).

1. Isotopic Composition

- The isotopic composition of ice core can show that the temperature was colder if there is a higher ratio of O(16) to O(18).
- During glacial periods, water molecules O(16) will be evaporated, condensed and fall as snow to be compressed in ice cap.
- Extraction of the ice core and testing of its chemical composition would show the variation in ratio of O(16) to O(18).





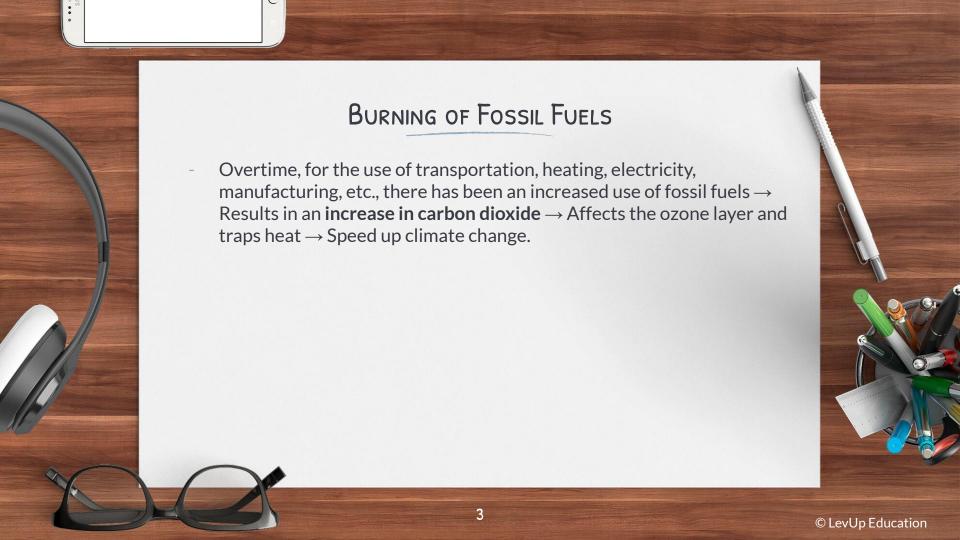


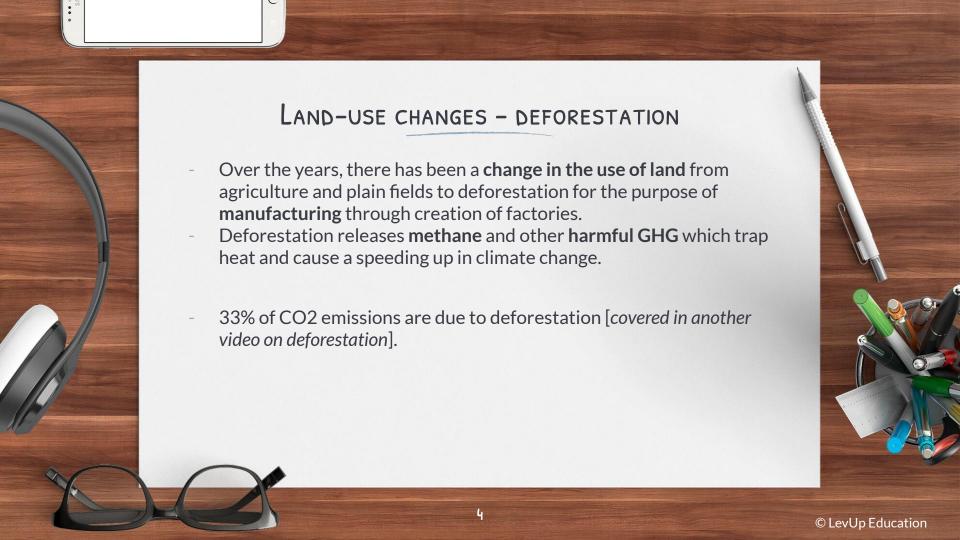


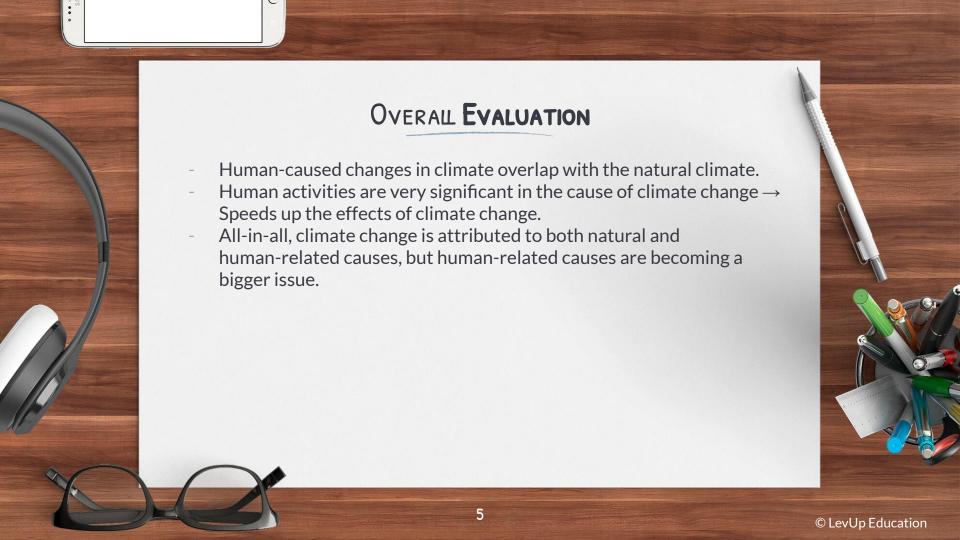




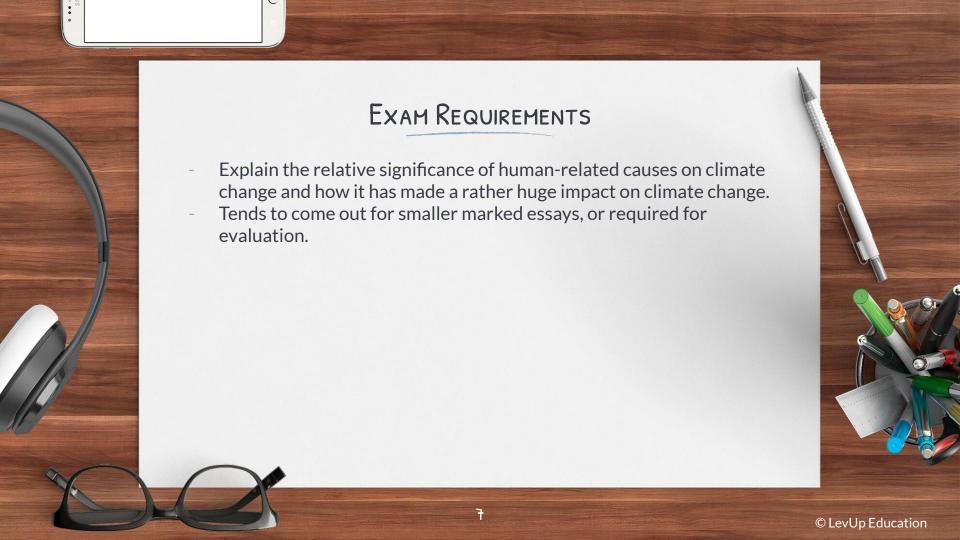








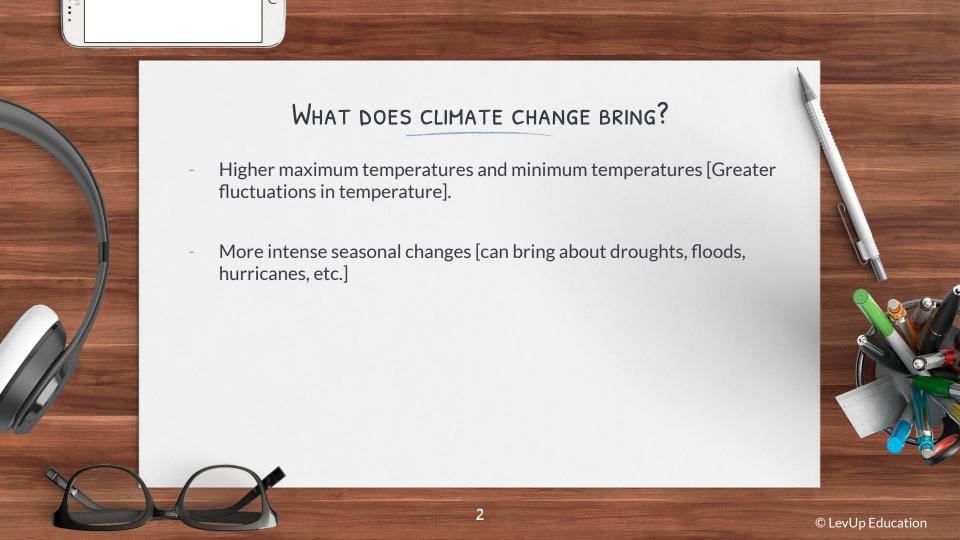


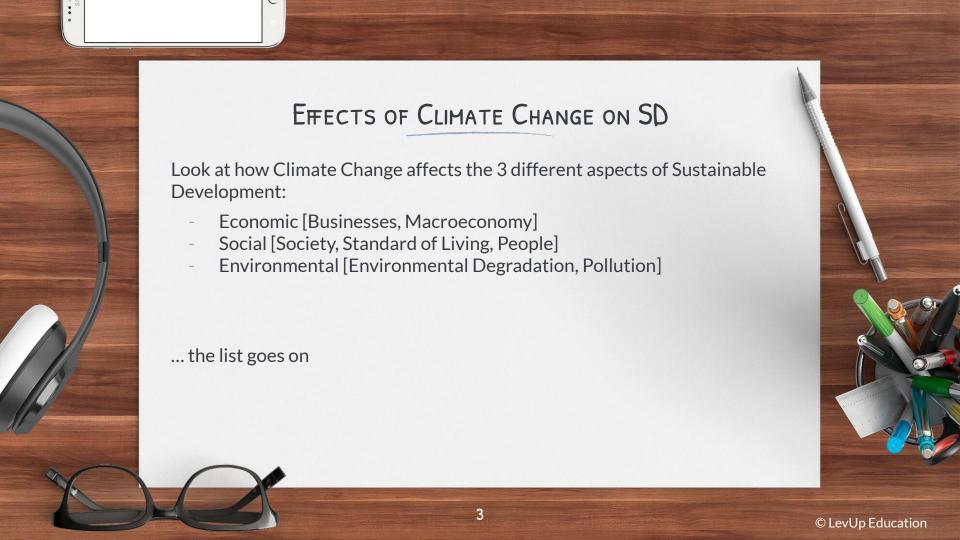


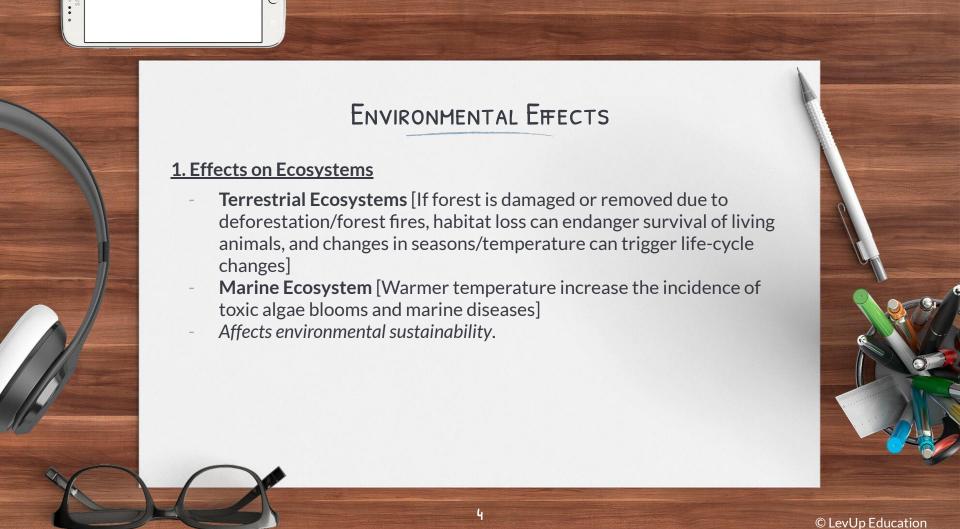


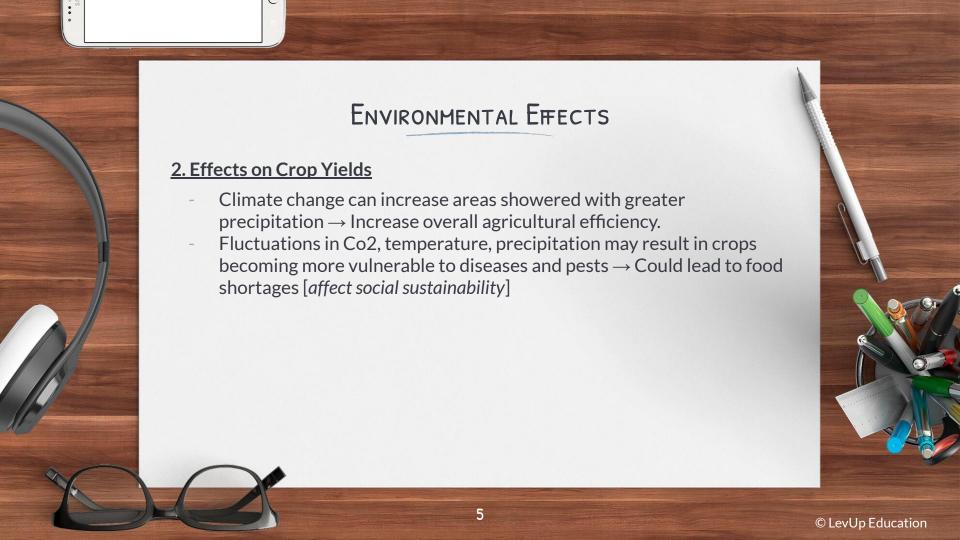


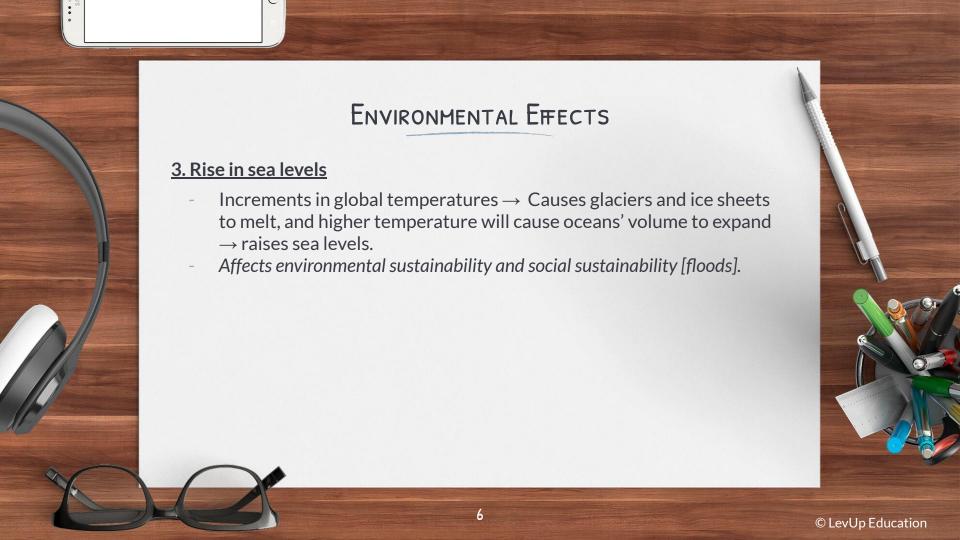












SOCIAL EFFECTS

1. Water Shortages

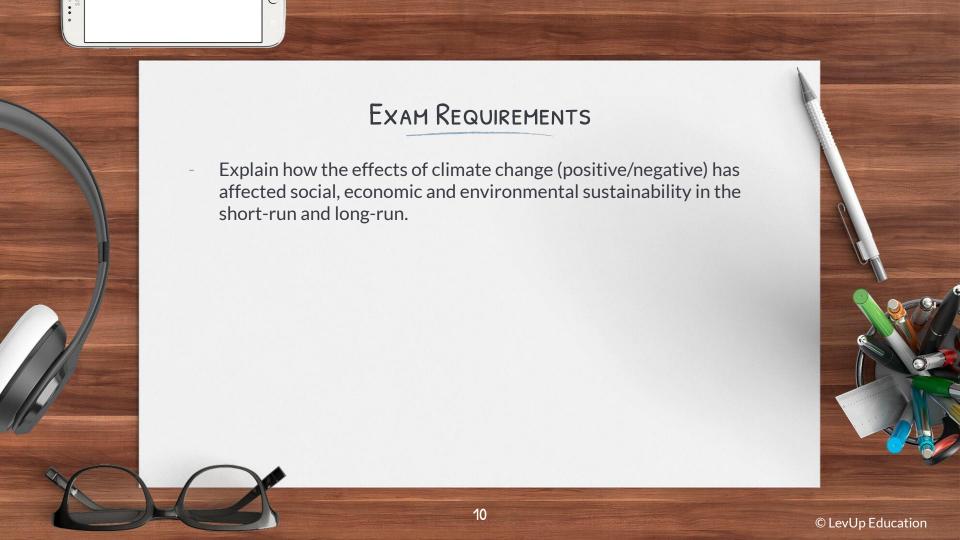
 Climate Change causes great fluctuations and changes in temperatures → increased droughts in certain areas, El Nino may also be prolonged → Increase shortages of water → Fall in standard of living with fall in basic needs.

2. Threat to Lives and livelihood

- Increased thirst (from droughts) or impact of floods → Both lead to increased deaths and diseases → later bring about psychological effects as well.
- Loss of items of sentimental value \rightarrow Mental stability affected.

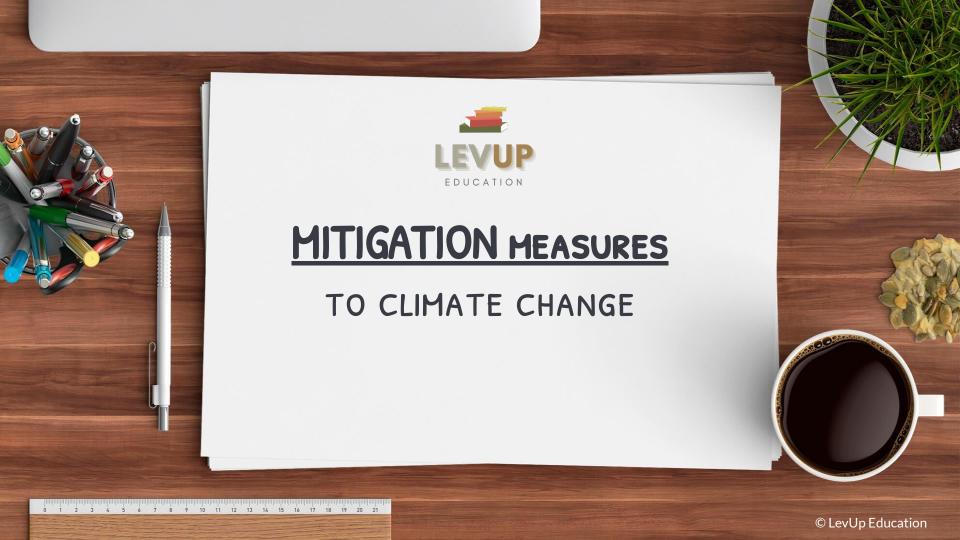
ECONOMIC EFFECTS 1. Damage to infrastructure and property Increased flooding → Causes damages to infrastructure which can be very costly to repair. Climate change can also cause damages to production plants/affect lives of workers → Reduce productivity and output → Affect firms and the economy negatively. In the long-run, it may be hard to recover from increased economic costs resulted from the effects of climate change → Not economically sustainable.

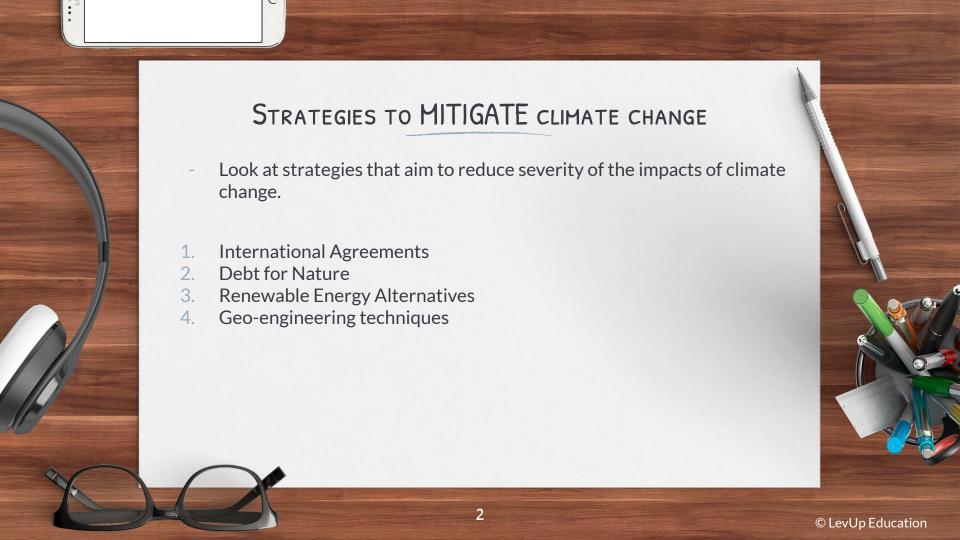












INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

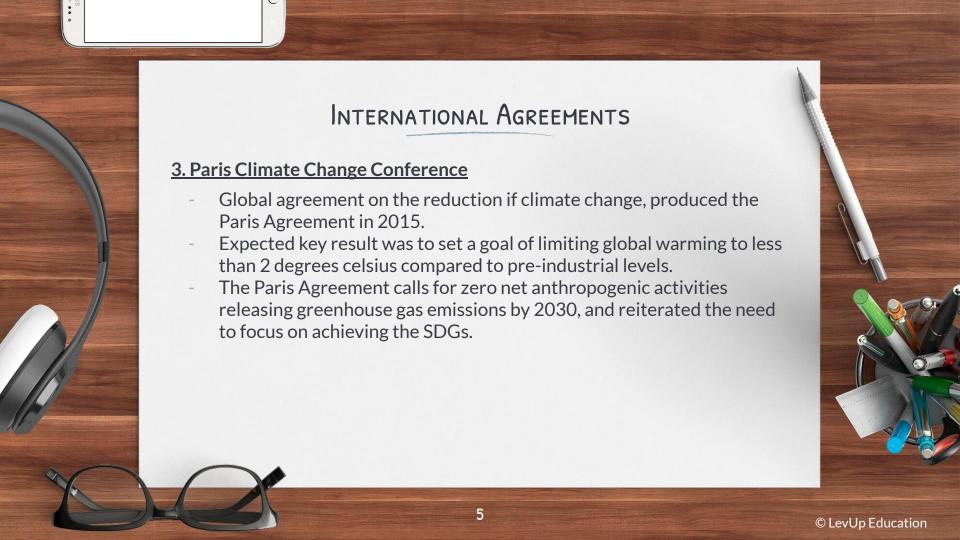
1. Earth Summit

- Provides the overall policy framework addressing the climate change issue and forms the foundation of global efforts to curb climate change.
- Aims to stabilise greenhouse gas emissions within a specific time-frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally.

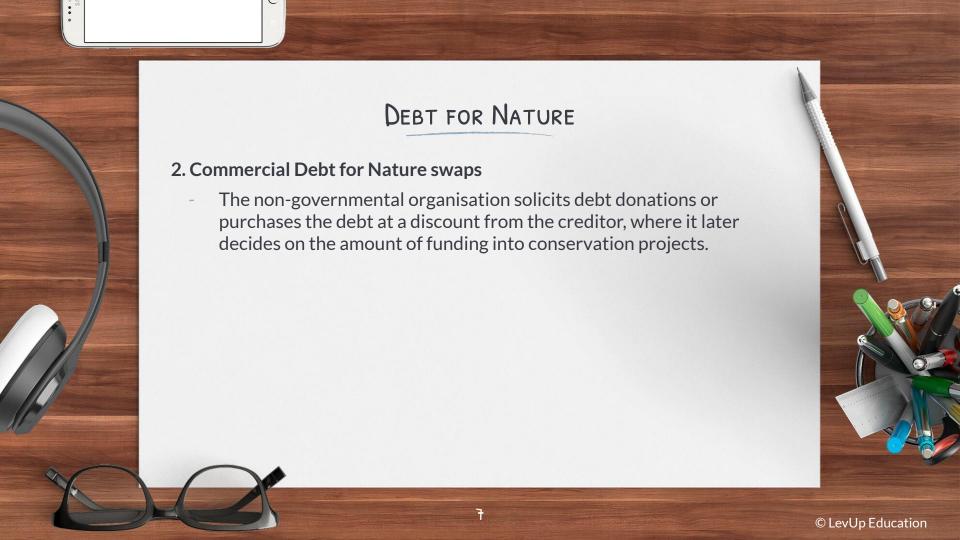
2. Kyoto Protocol

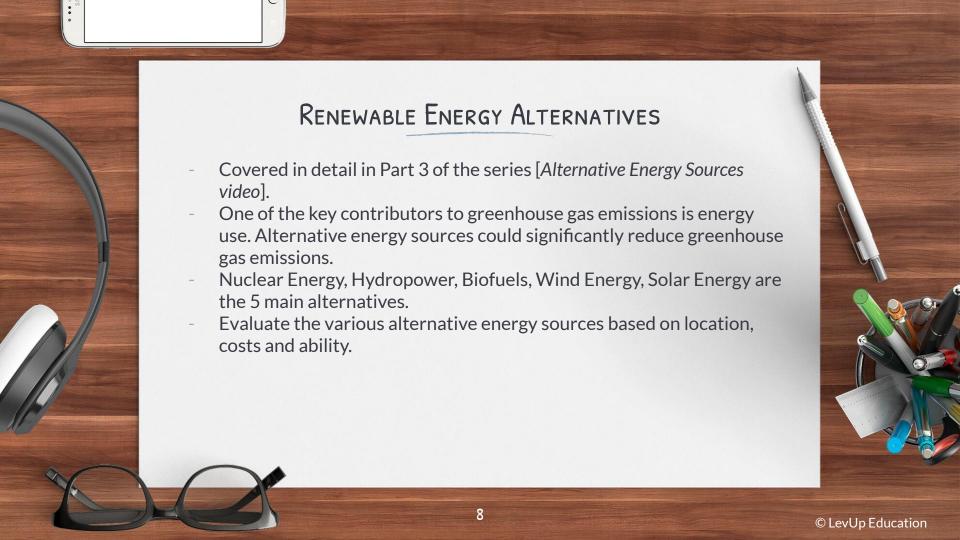
- Involved several mechanisms
- **Joint Implementation** (Wealthier countries can transfer 'emissions units' between them and implement joint initiatives to curb emissions)

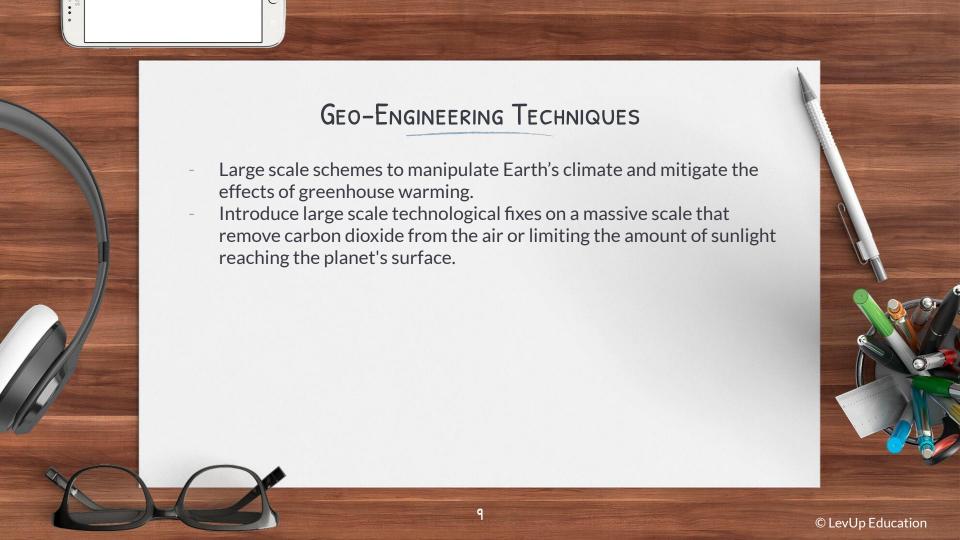




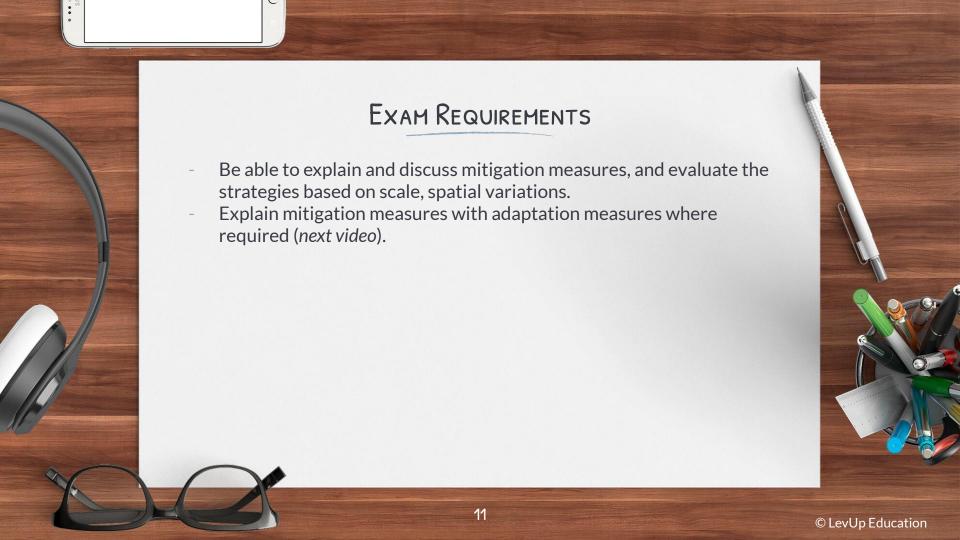
DEBT FOR NATURE Debt for nature swap is an agreement between a less-developed country in debt and one or more of its creditors. These creditors agree to forgo the debts in return for the promise of environmental protection. 1. Bilateral Debt for Nature swaps Between governments, where the creditor government who lent the money forgoes the debt, in exchange the debtor agrees to set aside a predetermined sum of local currency for environmental protection. © LevUp Education





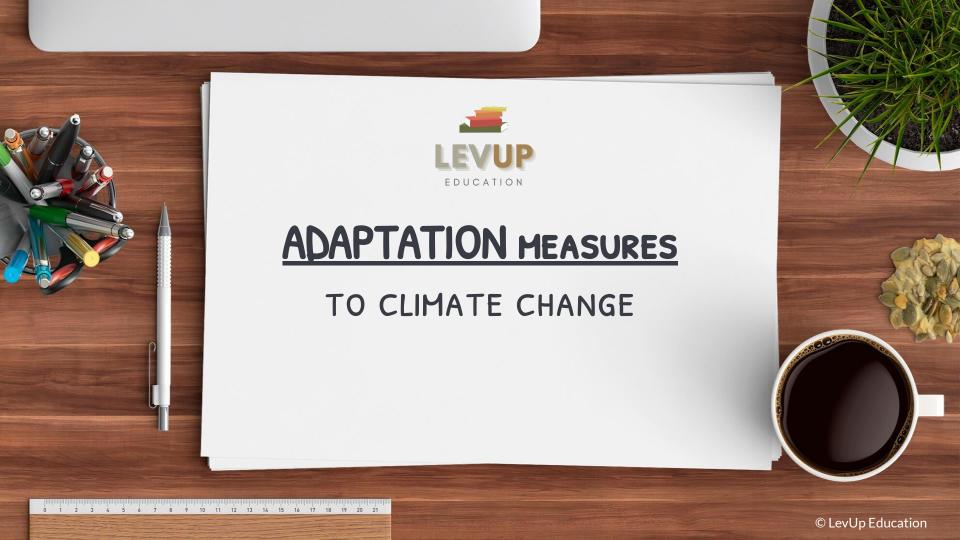


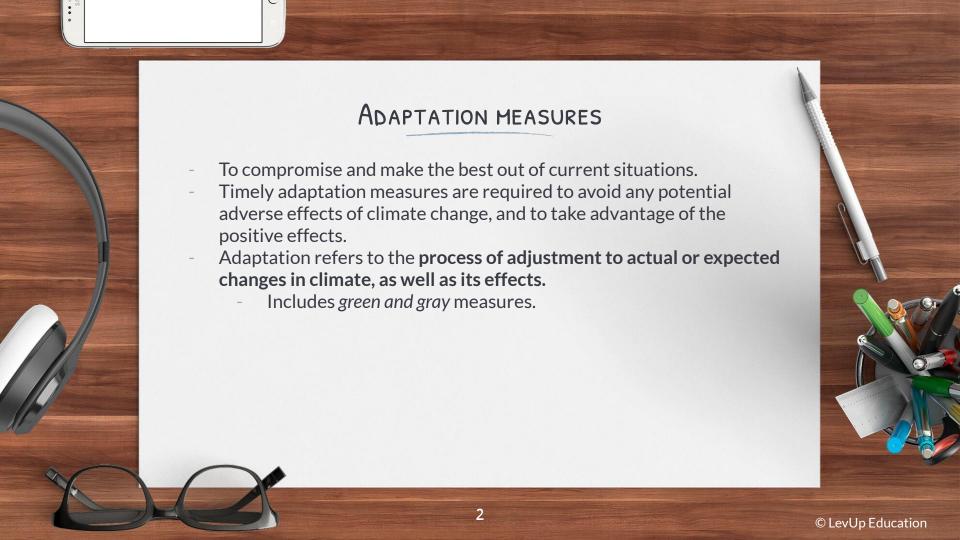














EXAMPLE OF GREEN AND GRAY MEASURES

Blue-Green Infrastructure

planned interconnected networks of natural and semi-natural areas, including water bodies and green and open spaces, that provide different ecosystem services

(own definition, drawing on EU Commission 2013, Voskamp and Van de Ven 2015 and Ghofrani et. al 2016)















services

Green

Infrastructure

planned networks of

natural and semi-

natural areas with

other environmental

managed to deliver

(EU Commission 2013)

different ecosystem

features designed and



Grey Infrastructure

traditional humanengineered measures that perform infrastructure functions such as water and wastewater treatment plants or protective infrastructure such as dykes and seawalls









CHALLENGES OF ADAPTATION MEASURES

- Lack of political commitment
 - Several countries may not see a need to implement adaptation measures, possibly due to the high costs and work involved and greater focus on other needs.
- Insufficient cooperation
 - Need for LDCs and DCs to work together for technological transfer and for other relevant stakeholders (IOs, NGOs) to aid in the process which may not be readily available.
- Insufficient knowledge transfer and coordination
 - No fixed plans on adaptation measures as they "come-and-go", new issues may arise which may not have a direct solution crafted at that point in time.

COMPARISON OF MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

Key Differences:

1. Cost

- Mitigation involves immediate costs to implement the preventive strategies.
- Adaptation only involves costs as and when the effects of climate change emerge.

2. Scale

- Mitigation can operate at a variety of scales (community, national, global).
- Adaptation measures have to address a specific effect of climate change, usually at a smaller, national/local scale.

