

1) Where was COP 26 held and who was the president?

- a) Berlin, Angela Merkel
- b) Glasgow, Alok Sharma
- c) Paris, Francois Hollande
- d) Copenhagen, Connie Hedegaard

Answer is b) Glasgow, Alok Sharma.

The other COPs mentioned are all significant meetings, the first ever COP (COP 1) was held in Berlin in 1995. The Copenhagen summit of 2009 was famed for its lack of commitment to emission reduction, and the Paris summit of 2015 marks the creation of the important Paris Agreement, a legally binding international treaty to limit global warming to well below 2, or preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels.

2) How many degrees of warming caused by human activities had occurred by COP 26 last year?

- a) 1.1 degrees
- b) 0.9 degrees
- c) 1.3 degrees
- d) 1.5 degrees

Answer is a) 1.1 degrees.

The agreements made at COP26 expressed severe alarm that human activities have caused 1.1 degrees of warming, meaning the Paris Agreements goals were under threat.

3) How many degrees of warming has it been suggested we are on track for by Climate Action Tracker (October 2022)?

- a) 2 degrees
- b) 1.8 degrees
- c) 2.4 degrees
- d) 2.3 degrees

Answer is c) 2.4 degrees.

Climate Action Tracker suggested we are currently on track for warming of 2.4 Degrees Celsius since COP 26, currently Climate Action Tracker say they will release updated warming projections on the 10th of November 2022.

<https://mailchi.mp/2c1ffa1473b5/cat-newsletter-june-2022-gas-war-and-country-updates-11537746?e=f5e76c4811>

<http://www.climateactiontracker.org>

4) What last minute amendment to the Glasgow Climate Pact reduced the UK chair to tears?

- a) The US refused to invest in nuclear power technology
- b) India and China were no-longer willing to sign up to phasing out coal use
- c) Poland was unwilling to sign up to phasing out coal use
- d) Greta Thunberg was going to be awarded \$10,000 for her awareness work

Answer is b) India and China's last-minute amendment.

Poland, Ukraine (pre-war) and Vietnam all signed up to reduce reliance on coal.

Coal is burned as a form of fuel, however when this occurs the carbon reacts with oxygen producing carbon dioxide which as we know significantly increases global warming and is responsible for 40% of annual CO2 emissions. However, many development charities have pointed out the final agreement did not mention natural gas and oil which is used greatly by the US and European countries and also very harmful - thus could be seen to be making middle/less developed countries give up their main fuel, but not highly developed countries.

5) Since 2019, there has been a promise to provide funding to support developing countries adapting to and mitigating climate change. How much is the target each year? Has it been reached?

- a) \$100 billion pa
- b) \$25 billion pa
- c) \$120 billion pa
- d) \$ 80 billion pa

Answer is a), which has not ever been reached.

Richer countries agreed to provide \$100billion a year to developing nations for climate action by the end of 2022, this pledge had already been missed in 2020, however the EU, US, Canada and Australia are not contributing enough again this year according to the World Resources Institute in comparison to their relative wealth and previous emissions.

6) Around 100 countries pledged to cut methane levels in total (methane is currently responsible for a third of human-generated warming) by how much by 2030?

- a) 10%
- b) 5%
- c) 40%
- d) 30%

Answer is d) 30%.

Methane contributes hugely to global warming yet last year methane levels had seen their biggest annual increase since records began, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

7) What kind of innovative solutions were meant to play a huge part of COP 26 but were cut from final agreements?

- a) education-based solutions
- b) community-based solutions
- c) nuclear-based solutions
- d) nature-based solutions

Answer is d) nature-based solutions.

Day 7 discussions at COP 26 covered nature-based solutions that could reduce greenhouse gas emissions, with a focus on sustainable agriculture and halting deforestation. 45 governments led by the UK agreed to invest over \$4 billion in new public sector sustainable agriculture innovation. However these ideas were not accepted by all nations, as critics objected to the implied commodification of the natural world and said the term is misused by big business to justify continued pollution.

8) COP 26 required countries to revisit and strengthen their individual national climate plans (National Determined Contributions) for 2030, by the end of 2022, how many new/updated plans have been submitted since then?

- a) 22
- b) 97

- c) 24
- d) 63

Answer is c) 24

Only 24 countries have submitted new or updated plans, but most that were submitted do strengthen their commitment to reducing greenhouse emissions. In analysis of these plans and countries' nationally determined contributions, if all long-term strategies are fully implemented on time, greenhouse gas emissions could be roughly 68% lower than 2019 in 2050.

UK's NDC has been submitted but shows no significant tightening of targets and actions.

9) Despite the promise to stop deforestation by 2030, how much has deforestation in Brazil increased since last year?

- a) 23%
- b) 81%
- c) 45%
- d) 67%

Answer is d) 67%.

Deforestation in Brazil is up 67% on last year, which is particularly discouraging as trees absorb about 10% of CO2 emitted each year. But Brazil did not sign up to the deforestation agreement at COP26 - but now, with the new president, there is hope!

10) Despite fossil fuels being recognised as very harmful at COP26 and world leaders agreeing to phase out oil and gas subsidies, what actions globally have defied this in the past year?

- a) China continued to fund oversea coal-fired power projects
- b) India announced the reopening of 100 coal power plants and the IEA released that fuel subsidies increased in 2021.
- c) the US opened a new coal power plant
- d) the EU encouraged increased oil and gas subsidies

Answer is b) India announced the reopening of 100 coal power plants and the IEA released that fuel subsidies increased in 2021.

India announced the reopening of 100 coal power plants and the International Energy Agency released data showing that fuel subsidies increased in 2021. However only 34 countries are now considering new coal plants compared to 41 at the beginning of last year and China has agreed to stop funding 'all overseas coal-fired power projects'.

However, since the war started in Ukraine, Germany is reviewing its policy on coal and the UK has granted licences for new oil and gas exploration in the North Sea.