

# The world in 2100 essay



In the year 2100, the planet Earth will be completely uninhabited. No life forms can ever exist in our planet as the atmosphere is no longer conducive to humans, animals, plants, and other species. Nature will take its course and find a way of rehabilitating Earth. This will be the bleak scenario if humans continue to destroy our planet and refuse to heed the call to end all activities that will contribute to ozone layer depletion and global warming. For many years, chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), the chemicals that are used as refrigerants and as aerosol spray propellants have resulted in the depletion of the ozone layer.

Although some countries have discontinued using CFCs, there are other chemicals such as bromine halocarbons, and nitrous oxides from fertilizers that have damaged the ozone layer (MSN Encarta, 2008). The thinning of the ozone layer resulted in an increase in atmospheric carbon dioxide due to the decrease in plants and plankton (ibid. ). It has caused skin cancer and cataracts, and affected the crops, and marine food web. The rise in carbon dioxide also affected the greenhouse gases and contributed to global warming.

Temperatures on Earth are tolerable due to the natural process known as the greenhouse effect (Pidwirny, 2006). The greenhouse effect is the rise in temperature that the Earth experience because certain gases in the atmosphere such as water vapor, carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, and methane trap energy from the sun (EPA, 2006). The heat from the earth is radiated outward and absorbed by greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and will not disappear into space. This process has kept Earth warm enough to sustain human, plant, and animal life.

The release of methane from rice paddies and landfill sites and the increase of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide due to fossil fuel burning and deforestation have made our planet too warm. In 2075, there will be draught, hunger, and famine as the ultraviolet light from the sun penetrates the surface of the Earth. Global warming will be at its highest peak. People can no longer get out of their homes during day time. Some will choose to live inside the caves. Many will suffer from cancer and other diseases. Multitudes of people will perish.

Agricultural yields will be too low and food will be scarce. The life cycles of plants will change, animals and species will be extinct, and the ecosystems such as forests and deserts will be severely affected. There will be extreme weather conditions such as floods, heat waves, wild fires, tornadoes, hurricanes, thunderstorms, glacier retreat, and reduced summer stream flows. Space crafts will be designed and produced to transport some people to the planet Mars as it is no longer safe and healthy to live on Earth.

Mars will be man's alternative planet as this is the only planet close to Earth that has liquid water. The oxygen content of the Martian atmosphere is only 0.13 percent compared with 21 percent in Earth's atmosphere (NASA, 2004). However, due to the advancement in technology, scientists will discover a way to help man cope with the decrease amount of oxygen in Mars through the use of a special device that will convert carbon dioxide to oxygen to enable man to live normally. Homes will be sealed and equipped with these devices.

Man must always wear a portable breathing device that is similar to a gas mask whenever they leave their homes. Failure to use the device will make man faint or lose consciousness due to lack of oxygen in the brain. However, since the force of gravity at the Martian surface is only about 38 percent of that on Earth, man's weight will decrease by 62 percent. Hence, man will fall slowly to the ground when he collapses or faints and may not have any injuries. The temperature is colder in Mars but people will adapt to the new environment.

In 2100, the planet earth will not have any life forms due to the extreme heat of the sun. Earth will be completely uninhabited. People will be living in planet Mars while Earth is rehabilitating itself. Since there are no human activities to destroy Earth, our planet's ozone layer will slowly heal. As people live in Mars for many years, they will slowly evolve into species that will be capable of adapting to the Martian atmosphere. The new generation will live without using any devices and when Earth heals and becomes a new planet again, man may choose to live either in planet Earth or in planet Mars.