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Assignment 10 Questions & Answers

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- Guangzhou has one of the poorest air quality ratings of major Chinese cities. With high levels of nitrogen oxide, its air quality is rated as III 1, which means slightly polluted according to china. org. cn

- The following cities are ranked as per their sulphuric acid concentration levels, with the highest level on number 1:

- Calcutta, India.

- Kiev, Ukraine.

- Athens, Greece.

- Copenhagen, Denmark.

- Montreal, Canada.

- Vancouver, Canada.

- Oslo, Norway.

- About Carbon Monoxide (CO):

a. CO is an air pollutant because it is a poisonous when released in sufficient quantity.

b. Carbon monoxide is mainly produced by natural processes.

c. In the USA carbon monoxide levels have slowly decreased.

d. Many people die from carbon monoxide poisoning in the USA. CO is a greenhouse that contributes to global warming.

e. Carbon Monoxide is a primary pollutant.

- About Nitrous Oxides (NO_x):

- NO_x are considered pollutants because of their poisonous properties.

- Nitrous oxides are mainly emitted by bacteria in the soil and oceans.

Nitrous oxide

- Between 1990 and 2011 nitrous oxide emission increased in the U. S. by 4%.
- Nitrous oxides are greenhouse gases, which lead to global warming. Over inhalation can cause brain damage, physical problems, even death.
- Nitrous oxide is a primary pollutant.
- Three most important indoor air pollutants:
 - Second Hand Smoke: This is tobacco smoke exhaled by the active smoker, which affects other people nearby. It includes gas as well as harmful particles included those generated by carbon monoxide, which get past the natural defences of the lungs. This can only be altered by adhering to smoke-free laws.
 - Radon: Radon arises from the radioactive decay of radium, which are found in rocks beneath buildings and in building materials. It tends to accumulate at the floor level and causes lung cancer. Radon can be cut off by sealing concrete slabs, basement foundations and increasing ventilation.
 - Molds and Allergens: These chemicals arise from many sources but the most common are moisture induced and those given off by pollen and animal dander. There can be many causes of water seepage. Molds can accumulate within wall cavities. Some molds contain toxic compounds called mycotoxins, which can be allergic and lead to serious health problems. Molds are especially harmful to people with asthma. Hence humidity levels should be kept below 50%. Water seepage should be eliminated.

References.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 2002. https://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/data_General_Facts/carbonmonoxide-factsheet.pdf

- Josh Peterson. 10 Common Indoor Air Pollutants, 2014. How Stuff Works? <http://health.howstuffworks.com/wellness/common-indoor-air-pollutants1.htm>

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