

Name _____

Could natural factors be causing climate change?

<http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/ClimateChanging/ClimateScienceInfoZone/Exploringwhatmighthappen/2point2.aspx>

1. Name four natural factors that can influence climate change.
2. Why can't volcanic eruptions be the reason for the warming of the Earth since 1970?
3. Why can't Solar output be the reason for the warming of the Earth since 1970?
4. Why can't Earth's Orbital change be the reason for the warming of the Earth since 1970?
5. What is the only factor that can account for the rise in global temperatures since 1970?

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Milankovitch Cycles

<http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/videos/ice-age-cycles/>

1. Name the three orbital changes that alter the heating and cooling of Earth.
2. Describe what Obliquity is and how long it takes to complete a cycle.
3. What analogy is used to describe Obliquity.
4. Is there more polar ice when the angle of obliquity is large or small?
5. Describe what Eccentricity is and how long it takes to complete a cycle.
6. Is there more polar ice when the shape of Eccentricity is circular or elliptical?
7. Describe what Precession is and how long it takes to complete a cycle.
8. What analogy is used to describe Precession.
9. When was the last ice age?
10. Separately each orbital change has a limited effect on climate, when do these orbital changes have a drastic effect on global climates?