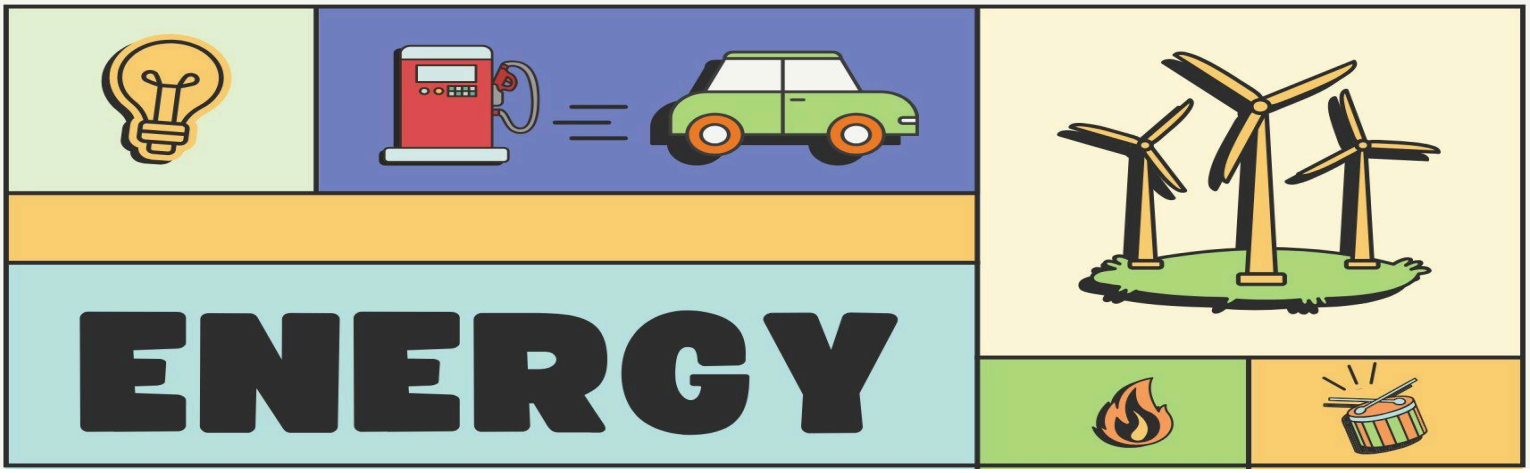

Comprehension Check

For questions 1-6, match each vocabulary term to the correct definition:

1. Fossil fuels	a. the energy of motion
2. Kinetic energy	b. waste and harmful substances produced by human activity and released into the environment
3. Nonrenewable resource	c. a fuel formed from the long-dead remains of living things and includes coal, natural gas, and petroleum (oil)
4. Potential energy	d. natural resources, such as trees, that can be replaced after they have been used
5. Pollution	e. energy stored in an object or system that can be converted
6. Renewable resource	f. a resource that cannot be replenished once it is used up

1. Fossil fuels –
2. Kinetic energy –
3. Nonrenewable resource –
4. Potential energy –
5. Pollution –
6. Renewable energy –

7. Omar says almost all energy comes from the sun. Do you agree? Why or why not?

8. Maria says energy cannot be created or destroyed. Is she correct? Why or why not?

9. Provide an example of an environmental problem caused by burning fossil fuels.

10. Describe ways in which the text suggests individuals, scientists, and societies can reduce their energy use.

Energy
Comprehension Check Answer Key

For questions 1-6, match each vocabulary term to the correct definition:

1. Fossil fuels	a. the energy of motion
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1. Fossil fuels – c
2. Kinetic energy – a
3. Nonrenewable resource – f
4. Potential energy – e
5. Pollution – b
6. Renewable energy – d

7. Omar says almost all energy comes from the sun. Do you agree? Why or why not?
    a. Students' answers will vary but they should agree with Omar. Almost all energy can be traced back to the sun. Plants convert the sun's energy using photosynthesis. Animals then eat those plants, converting their energy for personal use. Even though we do not directly convert the sun's energy, we rely on things that do for our own sources of energy.

8. Maria says energy cannot be created or destroyed. Is she correct? Why or why not?

a. Maria: is correct, energy cannot be created or destroyed! Instead, energy can be converted from one form to another form of energy. For example, energy from the sun can be converted into electricity through technology like solar panels.

9. Provide an example of an environmental problem caused by burning fossil fuels.
    a. Burning fossil fuels causes pollution because it releases dirt and other wastes that harm the environment. In addition, burning fossil fuels releases gas into the air that traps the sun's heat in Earth's atmosphere. Scientists believe this buildup of gas is causing Earth to warm.

10. Describe ways in which the text suggests individuals, scientists, and societies can reduce their energy use.
    a. According to the text, people can be more aware of their energy use. Turning off unused electric appliances or lights can reduce energy use. People can also consider driving less by biking or taking public transportation instead.