



Please write well-reasoned and clearly expressed answers to 3 questions of your choosing from the following 5 questions listed below. Please make sure to number each of your answers corresponding to the number of the questions below and please make sure that your name is on each page of your response. *(N.B. you should time yourself so that you do not write more than a total of an hour on this quiz – approximately 20 min. per question.)*

Please “upload” a copy of your answers with the title “Climate Quiz Answers.DOCX” to your “dropbox.” Further, bring your responses to these questions to class on Monday, 10 June.

When you have each “uploaded” them to your “dropbox”, we can go over these questions in class together.

- 1) Scientists often summarize large quantities of discrete data points in graphs which illustrate trends and patterns. Some of these graphs take on characteristic shapes that have been given nicknames like “the saw-tooth” graph, or “the hockey-stick” graph, or the “bell-shaped-curve.” Identify at least 3 graphs which distinctive “shapes” that have been of interest to climate scientists. Briefly explain the significance of each of these graphs.
- 2) What is the difference between “weather” and “climate?” On commercial news channels detailed reporting is presented constantly by “weather experts” on a 24/7 basis, but what kind of information is generally missing from their reports? Why?
- 3) What is the thermohaline circulation system (THC)? Why is it of interest to scientists? Why might it be of concern to Cyprus or the eastern Mediterranean?
- 4) What is the IPCC? When was it created? By whom? For what purpose? How does it operate? What are its strengths? What are its inherent weaknesses?
- 5) Social scientists have observed that both the public and the scientific community often fail to perceive the importance of newly discovered data because of the persistence of dominant cultural beliefs or powerful myths.
 - a. What important examples of publicly professed beliefs do you feel might be preventing the modern world from perceiving the evidence of climate change?
 - b. What kinds of paradigm shifts in the scientific community are necessary for both scientists and the public to perceive, absorb and communicate the urgency of Earth’s changing climate?