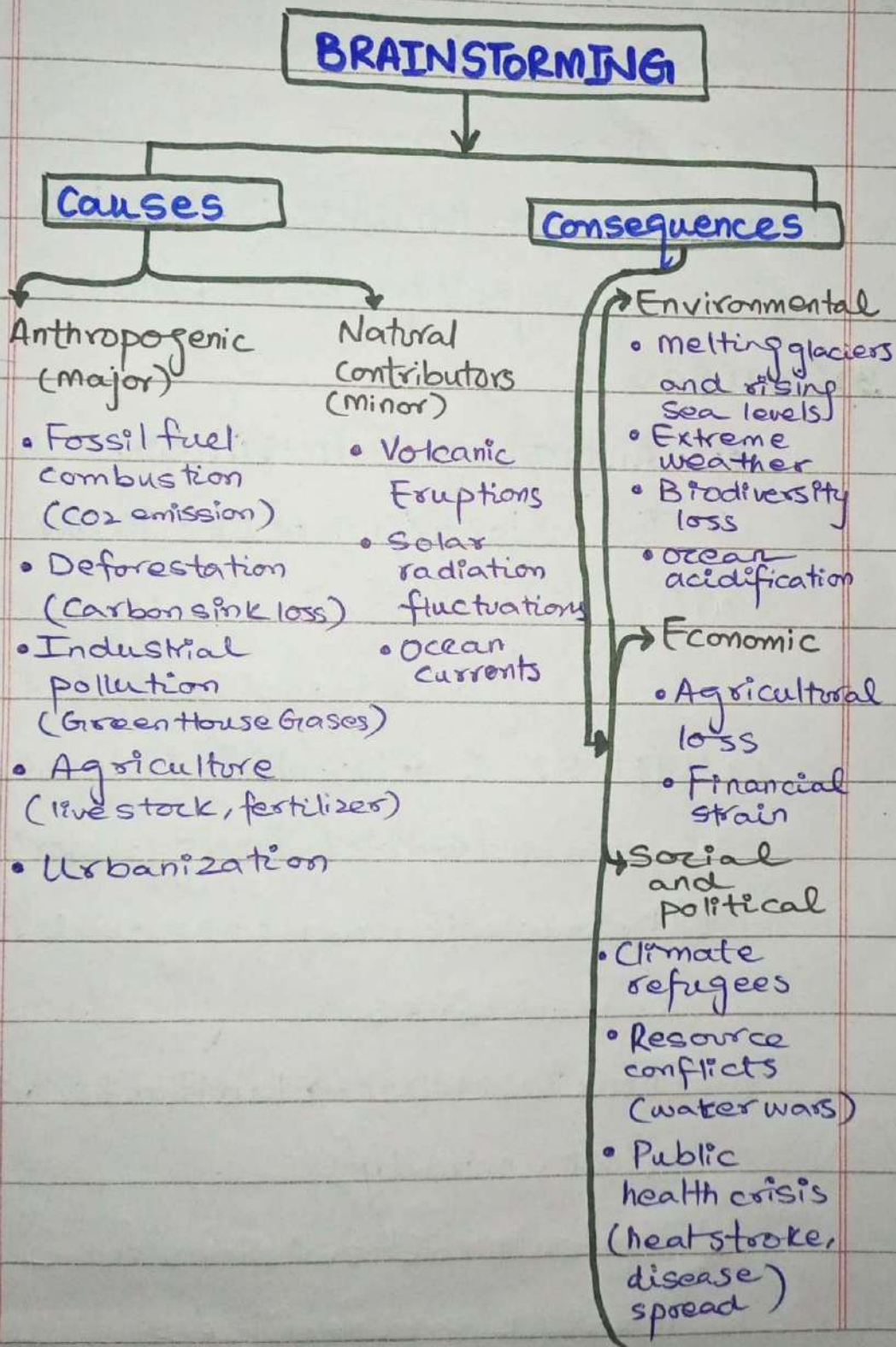


"Climate Change: Causes and Consequences"



OUTLINE

1) Introduction

1.1. Hook

1.2. General statement

1.3. Thesis statement

2) Climate Change: An undeniable crisis demanding urgent global response

3) Causes

3.1. Anthropogenic Activities:

The major drivers of Climate change

a) Fossil ^{Fuel} combustion in energy, industry, and transport

(IPCC 2023 → 75% of Greenhouse Gases from the energy sector)

b) Deforestation reduces global carbon sinks

(FAO 2020 report → 10 million hectares lost annually)

c) Agricultural emissions from livestock and fertilizers

- d) Urbanization intensifying consumption and emission patterns
(UN 2022 → Urban areas consumes 78% of energy and emit 70% of CO₂)

3.2. Natural factors: Minor contributors to climate variability

- a) Volcanic eruptions and Solar cycles creating temporary shifts
b) Oceanic oscillations (El Nino / La Nino) altering rainfall

4) Consequences

4.1. Environmental Consequences at global scale

- a) Melting of glaciers and rising sea levels

(NASA 2023 → Global sea level has risen 8-9 inches since 1880.

Projected to rise 1 to 4 feet by 2021 → Threat to Maldives, Bangladesh, and Pacific Islands)

b) Increase in frequency and intensity of extreme weather events

(Wildfires, floods, heatwaves, hurricanes, droughts)

c) Loss of biodiversity and damage to ecosystems

4.2. Pakistan: A frontline victim of Climate disruption

a) 2022 floods submerged one-third of the country

(UNDP → \$30 Billion + damages)

b) Increasing Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) in Gilgit-Baltistan

c) Unpredictable monsoons and water scarcity affecting crops

4.3. Socio-economic repercussions of Climate Change

a) Food insecurity due to declining agricultural output

b) Infrastructure damage and fiscal strain

(Swiss Re → 300 Billion dollars
climate-related losses in 2023)

c) Public health crisis driven
by heatwaves and disease

d) Climate migration and rising
geopolitical tensions over
resources

- (UN Security Council, 2023 → Climate-linked water scarcity is worsening in South Asia, and the Sahel)
- (Pak-India conflicts over the Indus Water Treaty)

5) Way forward: A brief path to mitigation and adaptation

- (i) Invest in renewable energy use to reduce fossil fuel dependence
- (ii) Launch large scale afforestation drive and protect carbon-rich ecosystems
- (iii) Build flood defenses, water

management systems, and climate-resilient housing

(iv) Implement the Paris agreement and ongoing COP commitments through national climate policies.

6) Conclusion

"The Essay"

In July 2023, the Earth recorded its highest average global temperature ever, prompting the United Nations Secretary General to declare that the era of global warming has ended and the era of global boiling has arrived. This alarming statement reflects a growing reality as the planet's climate is changing at a dangerous pace. Over the past few decades, global temperatures have steadily increased, glaciers have melted, and sea levels have risen. Scientists around the world agree that human activities such as burning fossil fuels, cutting of forests, and

releasing greenhouse gases are the main reasons behind the crisis. At the same time, the consequences of climate change are not felt equally, with poorer nations facing the harshest impacts despite contributing the least to the problem. Climate change, driven largely by human actions, has become an undeniable global crisis that is causing severe environmental and consequences. It is therefore essential to understand both its root cause and far reaching effects.