

Q. 2 Make a précis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title. (15+5=20)

In the public imagination, renewable energy has been canonized as humanity's moral salvation — a luminous antidote to the fossil-fueled past. Politicians, corporations, and environmental activists alike brandish terms like carbon neutrality and net zero as if they were sacred promises of planetary healing. Yet beneath this glossy façade lies a disquieting paradox: the green revolution itself is mining the planet into exhaustion.

The euphoric rhetoric surrounding solar panels, wind turbines, and electric vehicles conveniently omits their invisible costs. Each “clean” technology demands prodigious quantities of rare-earth minerals, cobalt, and lithium — resources extracted through energy-intensive and ecologically ruinous mining practices, often in the world's poorest regions. Vast tracts of land in Congo, Chile, and China have been stripped of vegetation, poisoned with chemical runoff, and rendered uninhabitable in the pursuit of so-called sustainable materials. The moral irony is that one environmental crisis is being mitigated by igniting another.

Electric vehicles, for instance, have been glorified as emblems of ecological virtue. Yet, the production of their massive batteries emits more carbon than manufacturing traditional combustion engines. Furthermore, these batteries have limited lifespans and pose formidable recycling challenges. When they reach obsolescence, they contribute to a mounting electronic waste catastrophe. The illusion of sustainability thus conceals a relentless cycle of extraction, pollution, and waste — all under the banner of progress.

Similarly, wind and solar farms, while operationally clean, exact hidden tolls on ecosystems. Turbine blades demand composites that cannot be recycled, while solar panels deteriorate into toxic waste after decades of service. The production and maintenance of such infrastructure remain dependent on fossil fuels for transport, assembly, and grid support — making “zero emission” a seductive but deceptive slogan.

The tragedy lies not merely in technological hypocrisy but in moral complacency. Humanity's obsession with “green labels” has turned environmentalism into a marketing enterprise rather than a philosophical awakening. The true path to sustainability demands restraint, efficiency, and systemic humility — not another wave of industrial exploitation disguised as virtue. The planet, it seems, is not being healed by renewable energy; it is merely being wounded in a different way.

Title:

Green Energy Exploits the Earth

Renewable energy was introduced to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. Powerful individuals and companies described green energy as a revival of earth.

The rare-earth materials are costly due to extensive pollution caused during their exploration and extraction.

Moreover, studies indicate that electric vehicle batteries have a limited lifespan and require

frequent replacement. Similarly, the materials used in wind turbines and solar panels are largely non-recyclable, resulting in long-term environmental pollution.

Additionally, these technologies still rely on fossil fuels during manufacturing and installation to generate clean energy. Indeed, the terminology of clean energy is

employed as a marketing tool rather than a step toward permanent solution, allowing companies to exploit natural resources under the guise of sustainability.



Date

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