

# Hot Politics & Kyoto Assignment

1. Look at the PDF titled "Exploring Kyoto Protocol"
  - a. Print out and answer Pages 3 & 4
  - b. Attach the 3 websites that you printed out for your "Kyoto Research"
2. Watch "Hot Politics": Scenes 1 through 8
  - a. Go to: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/hotpolitics/view/>
  - b. Answer the following questions below:

## HOT POLITICS QUESTIONS:

### Scene 1: Time to Stop Waffling

1. What did the following men have to do with Kyoto:
  - Al Gore →
  - Clinton →
  - Bush →

2. 1998 was... \_\_\_\_\_

3. Typically \_\_\_\_\_ is the hottest day on record in the US

4. What 2 things did Dr. Jim Hanson say to congress?

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### Scene 2: Politics

1. In 1991 President Bush launched the \_\_\_\_\_

2. In 1991 what happened in the Phillipines? \_\_\_\_\_

2a. How did this effect the climate? \_\_\_\_\_

3. List 3 facts about the conference in Rio.

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4. What was the purpose of the BTU tax?

4a. Families making under \$30K would be taxed \$\_\_\_\_\_/month

4b. Families making \$40K would be taxed \$ \_\_\_\_ /month

**Scene 3: Spinning the National Debate**

1. What was the purpose of the media campaign funded by the energy industry?
2. What impact did the “skeptics campaign” have?
3. What 2 industries were set against mandatory carbon cuts? \_\_\_\_\_

**Scene 4: Late 90’s- More Politics**

1. How could the argument that “Kyoto is not fair” have been countered?
2. When \_\_\_\_\_ went to Kyoto what was his message?
3. In the late 1990s America’s booming economy sent \_\_\_\_\_ CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere that ever before.

**Scene 5: U.S. Policy Reversed**

1. What happened when Christine Witman went on Frontline (list 2 things)  
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2. What was the EPA’s advice about a carbon cap for the US?
3. Did the president take the advice from the EPA about the cap on carbon?

**Scene 6: Censorship**

1. What evidence to support global warming was going on?
2. How much did the “Climate Change Impacts on the United States” study cost? \_\_\_\_\_

3. The “Climate Change Impacts on the United States” examined the potential consequences of global warming across the country. Looking at the effect it would have on food and agriculture, human health, forests, water resources, and countries.

3a. Did they continue the funding?

3b. Did they post the findings of this report so the American people could have access to it?

3c. Where did they refocus the program?

3d. How does this personally make you feel?

### **Scene 7: Big Business Steps In**

1. What was going on in TX (list 2 things)

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2. TXU wanted to build \_\_\_\_\_ new coal fired power plants

3. In CA, in 2006, California Republican Arnold Schwarzenegger signed Americas 1<sup>st</sup> law requiring

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4. The \_\_\_\_\_ are the source for 2/3 of CA water resources.

5. How did “Big Business Step In”??

5a. Why did they step in?

5b. What did it mean for the green movement?

### **Scene 8: Epilogue**

1. Why have we has 3 administrations who have not been able to deal with this issue on the federal level?

2. What is your personal viewpoint about the “carbon issue”

## **Extra Credit**

So the 2008 elections are approaching.

Research all 3 of the following potential presidential candidates environmental platform/policies

- John McCain
- Hillary Clinton
- Barack Obama

Include at least 5 key environmental topics of your choosing. Example: fuel technologies, carbon, global warming, air pollution, timber, natural resources, waste management, ANWR, oil, coal, etc.

You can't just print out info from the Internet. You need to organize it in a chart or outline.... Actually think about and synthesize the information. ☺

Good luck!