

TWGHs Mrs. Wu York Yu Memorial College
F.2 Cross-Curricular Reading Practice – Wind Energy

Name: _____

Class: _____ ()

Date: _____

Wind

A. Read the text *Wind* for the advantages and disadvantages of wind power and complete the table below.

Advantages	Elaborations
e.g. renewable	e.g. We will never run out of wind
Disadvantages	Elaborations
e.g. Wind farms take up a lot of land	e.g. One wind turbine doesn't make much electricity, so most wind farms have many wind turbines.

B. Write **THREE** sentences to explain the advantages of wind power. Use complete sentences, and you can also use connectives (e.g. because, since, as, so, etc.) when you elaborate your point)

1. The *first* advantage is that wind power is

2. *Another* advantage is that _____

3. *Finally*, wind energy _____

C. Write **THREE** sentences to explain the disadvantages of wind power.

1. *First of all*, _____

2. *In addition*, _____

3. *Besides*, _____



Wind

Wind is moving air. We can use the energy in wind to do work. Early Egyptians used the wind to sail ships on the Nile River. People still use wind to move sailboats. In the Netherlands, people used windmills to grind wheat. The Pilgrims used windmills to grind corn, to pump water, and to run sawmills. Today, we use wind to make electricity.

Wind Energy is Renewable

As long as the sun shines, there will be winds on the Earth. We will never run out of wind energy. It is a **renewable** energy source. It is also free since no one can own the sun or the air.

We Can Capture the Wind

Some places have more wind than others. Areas near the water usually have a lot of wind. Flat land and mountain passes are good places to catch the wind, too.

Today, we use big **wind turbines** to capture the wind. Sometimes, there are hundreds of wind turbines in one place. This is called a **wind farm**. Some wind turbines are as tall as 20-story buildings!

Wind is Clean Energy

Wind is a clean energy source. Wind turbines don't burn fuel, so they don't pollute the air. Wind is a renewable energy source and it is free.

Older wind turbines can make a lot of noise as they spin, but new ones do not.

One wind turbine doesn't make much electricity. Most wind farms have many wind turbines. Wind farms can take up a lot of land. Most of the land they are on can still be farmed or used to graze animals.

Wind is a safe, clean, renewable energy source for making electricity.

Drawbacks of Wind Power

Like all energy sources, wind power has its problems. The biggest problem is finding a place for the turbines where there is enough wind. Without wind, the turbines cannot produce power. Most turbines require wind speeds of at least 12 miles per hour to work efficiently. Large turbines need winds of at least 18 miles per hour.

Some wind-power companies are using ocean winds and building offshore wind turbines. The Cape Cod Wind Association plans to build a wind farm five miles off the coast of Massachusetts. The Association believes that the wind farm would be far enough offshore that it would not be visible, so people couldn't complain of its appearance. But many people in the area are against the plan. Air-traffic controllers worry that the turbines, which are all taller than the Statue of Liberty, could cause airplane accidents. Boaters complain that the turbines would interfere with boat navigation. The fishing industry is afraid that the wind turbines may harm migratory fish and other marine life.

The biggest obstacle to developing wind power is the cost. Currently, wind-generated electricity costs about four times as much per kilowatt as electricity from coal-burning power plants. Governments often must offer rewards to companies to get them interested in developing wind power. Customers also want to get the best price and don't want to pay extra for wind power.

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Reading Practice – Wind Energy

Wind

- A. Read the text *Wind* for the advantages and disadvantages of wind power. Record the information in the table below.

Advantages	Elaborations
renewable	We will never run out of wind
free	No one can own the sun or the air
clean	Wind turbines don't burn fuel, so they don't pollute the air
Disadvantages	Elaborations
Wind farms take up a lot of land	One wind turbine doesn't make much electricity, so most wind farms have many wind turbines.
difficult to find a suitable place for the turbines	Without wind, turbines cannot produce power
ugly appearance	Some believe that the wind farm should be built far offshore since people don't like to see the ugly appearance
noise pollution	Older wind turbines can make a lot of noise when they spin
could be dangerous	Wind turbines could cause airplane accidents and interfere with boat navigation
costly	Wind-generated electricity costs four times as much as electricity from coal-burning power plants

- B. Write **THREE** sentences to explain the advantages of wind power. Use complete sentences, and you can also use connectives (e.g. because, since, as, so, etc.) when you elaborate your point

1. The *first* advantage is that wind power is renewable because we will never run out of wind.
2. *Another* advantage is that wind power is free since no one can own the sun or the air.
3. *Finally*, wind energy is clean. Wind turbines don't burn fuel, so they don't pollute the air.

Write THREE sentences to explain the disadvantages of wind power.

4. *First of all*, wind power may cause noise pollution as older wind turbines can make a lot of noise when they spin.
5. *In addition*, wind turbines could be dangerous since wind turbines could cause airplane accidents and interfere with boat navigation.
6. *Besides*, wind energy is costly because wind-generated electricity costs four times as much as electricity from coal-burning power plants