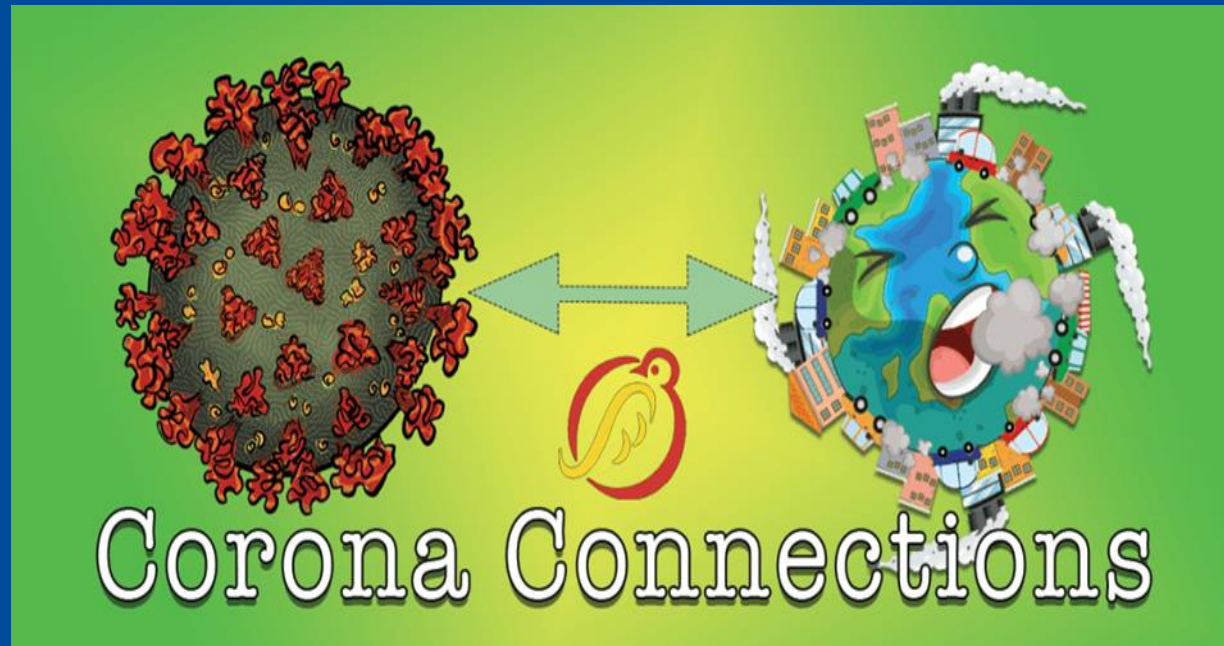


LIFE ORIENTATION: COVID-19 SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY



GRADE 11
Term 2: Week 6

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GAUTENG
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA


Growing Gauteng Together

Topic Overview

1. The effects of COVID-19 on socio-economic development and their effects on climate change
2. Impact of the World's response in mitigating the environmental effects of COVID-19 and how people could adapt in this era.



Be **KIND** to address stigma during
#coronavirus

-  Share the latest facts & avoid hyperbole
-  Show solidarity with affected people
-  Tell the stories of people who have experienced the virus

Learn more to Be **READY** for #COVID19:
www.who.int/COVID-19

 United Nations  World Health Organization

The effects of COVID-19 and how people could adapt in this era.

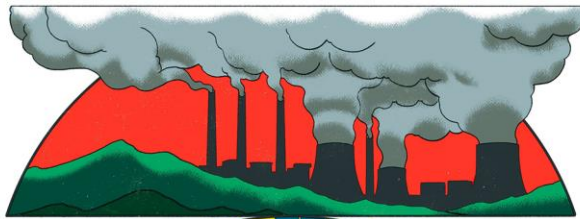
Projections show that the effects of climate change in Africa will not be uniform over the region.

The region is extremely vulnerable to climate change because of poverty, a high pre-existing disease burden, fragmented health services and water and food insecurity.



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The health effects of climate change are not the same and will be influenced by local environmental conditions, socio-economic circumstances, the extent of adaptations



implemented to minimise the full range of threats to health, and other modulating factors. A report in 2007 shows that the health consequences of climate change will fall primarily on low-income, poorly resourced and geographically vulnerable populations. Importantly, planning and action will need to be based

on local data, and involve local, district, provincial authorities and health care providers.

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Beginning with planning and housing design needs to consider climate- and insect-proofing, enhanced infectious disease control includes vaccines, vector control, case detection and treatment. Community partnerships are required to identify and solve health problems, including neighbourhood watch schemes

aimed at the elderly and children.

Mitigation and adaptation interventions should be monitored and evaluated for effectiveness and efficiency.



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There are some key policy changes that could be implemented to help us combat climate change, as economies start to rebuild after COVID-19. These range from installing 5G to cleaner public transport and home



working. As countries worldwide have started easing lockdowns imposed to curb pandemic, what policy changes

could get economies moving again, take advantage of what we've learned, and set us up for another big crisis - climate change?

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Here are some ideas being developed and tested:

1. Install fibre-optic broadband and 5G

Many people now know it's possible to work from home and hold meetings virtually - but fast and reliable broadband and mobile phone services make that far easier.



2. Reserve more space for pedestrians and cyclists

Cities aim to expand space for cyclists and pedestrians, as more people head back to work, in a bid to avoid crowded public transport systems and packed sidewalks. This could help onto the cleaner air many cities have enjoyed during lockdowns and encourage more people to abandon petrol or diesel cars for healthier alternatives.



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3. Raise fossil-fuel taxes

Levying [new carbon taxes on fossil fuels](#) - and removing subsidies for oil, gas and coal - could provide much-needed income for cash-strapped cities, provinces and countries as coronavirus shutdowns affect other revenues, including sales tax.



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4. Install electric-vehicle charging networks

A switch to electric vehicles is already underway, but easy [access to charging stations](#) is needed to make it happen faster. Now is the time to invest in getting that network in place.



5. Expand cleaner public transport

Buying electric buses or [make public transport more effective and efficient](#) could be a good way to get people out of cars - and maintain at least some of the air-quality improvements seen during virus lockdowns.

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6. Plant more trees

Tree restoration efforts – to create jobs and enlarge forests. Social distancing is relatively easy while planting trees, officials note, and as trees grow and absorb carbon dioxide, they help stabilise rainfall and keep climate change in check.



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7. Keep working from home

During COVID19 shutdowns, some office-based employees have discovered they can work effectively at home. [Putting policies in place to encourage that to continue after the crisis](#), where

possible, could hold down emissions from commuting, better maintain social distancing and ease pressure on overloaded public transport systems.



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8. Plan for virtual meetings

With the necessary technology now tested and proven, companies, governments and other groups committed to reducing emissions could commit now to holding a percentage of their future events and discussions online.



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9. Expand social safety nets

The coronavirus pandemic and restrictions in response to it have made clear how economically vulnerable many people are - not just the poorest but also some who might not previously have seen themselves at risk.



10. Strengthening systems now to move cash and other support to vulnerable people - in richer countries as well as the poorest ones - could build resilience to deal with this crisis and future shocks too.

"In both COVID19 and climate change, it's the poorest and the vulnerable who suffer most."

