

Pros and Cons of Energy Sources Answer Key

1. Solar Energy

- Advantage: Produces clean energy without pollution.
- Disadvantage: Only works when the sun is shining and panels can be expensive.

2. Wind Energy

- Advantage: Renewable and reduces greenhouse gas emissions.
- Disadvantage: Depends on wind conditions; turbines may affect bird populations.

3. Hydropower

- Advantage: Provides steady renewable energy from moving water.
- Disadvantage: Dams can disrupt ecosystems and fish habitats.

4. Coal

- Advantage: Provides a large amount of energy and is currently abundant.
- Disadvantage: Creates heavy air pollution and greenhouse gases.

5. Oil

- Advantage: Easy to transport and widely used for fuel and products.
- Disadvantage: Nonrenewable, causes oil spills, and contributes to climate change.

6. Natural Gas

- Advantage: Burns cleaner than coal or oil.
- Disadvantage: Still releases greenhouse gases and can leak methane.

7. Biomass

- Advantage: Uses waste materials and is renewable.
- Disadvantage: Burning biomass still releases carbon dioxide.

8. Geothermal Energy

- Advantage: Reliable and produces little pollution.
- Disadvantage: Limited to certain geographic areas and can be costly to build.

Reflection: Answers vary, but should provide sufficient explanation.