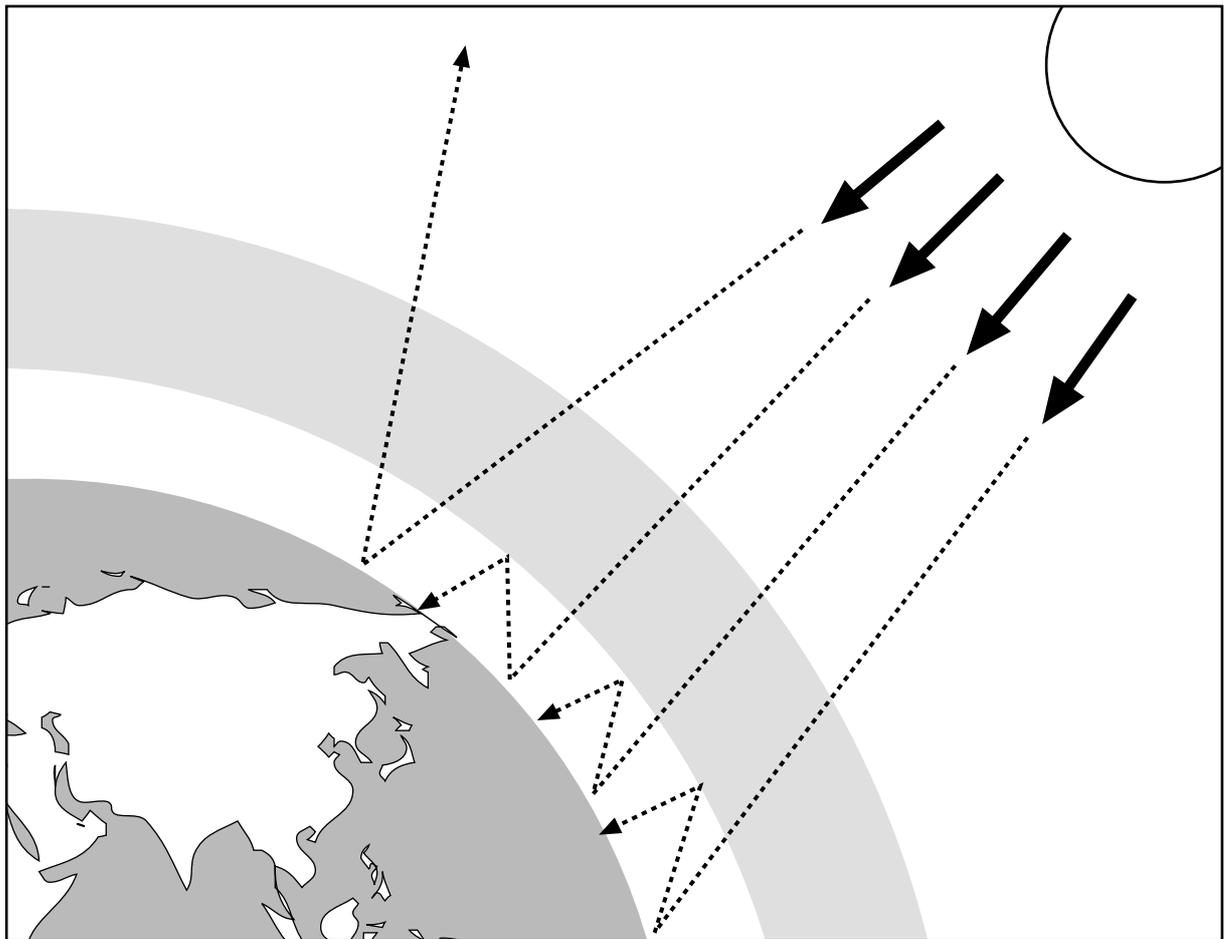


The greenhouse effect and global warming

A garden greenhouse keeps plants warmer than they would be outside. It does this because the glass traps some of the Sun's radiation energy. The atmosphere keeps the Earth warm in a similar way. Without the greenhouse effect the earth would be about 33 °C cooler than today's pleasant average of 15 °C. Greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, methane, chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and water.

Show that you understand the greenhouse effect by cutting out the labels and sticking them on to the diagram below.



Atmosphere	Earth	Sun	Energy radiated	Earth heats up
Some energy radiated back into space	Greenhouse effect	Greenhouse gases absorb some energy and reflect it back to earth		

Questions

1. If the greenhouse effect did not exist, what would the normal temperature of the earth be?
2. What do you think is meant by global warming?
3. List all the things you can think of that give off greenhouse gases – eg cars.