

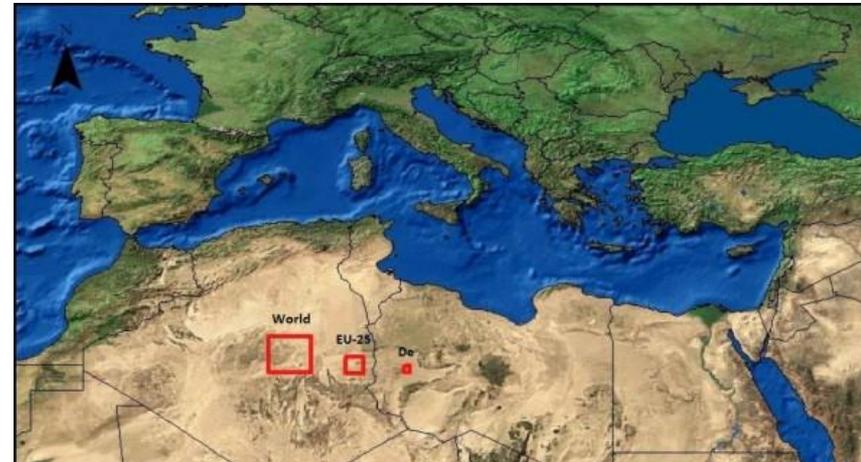


New Internationalist

The people, the ideas, the action in the fight for global justice

Energy

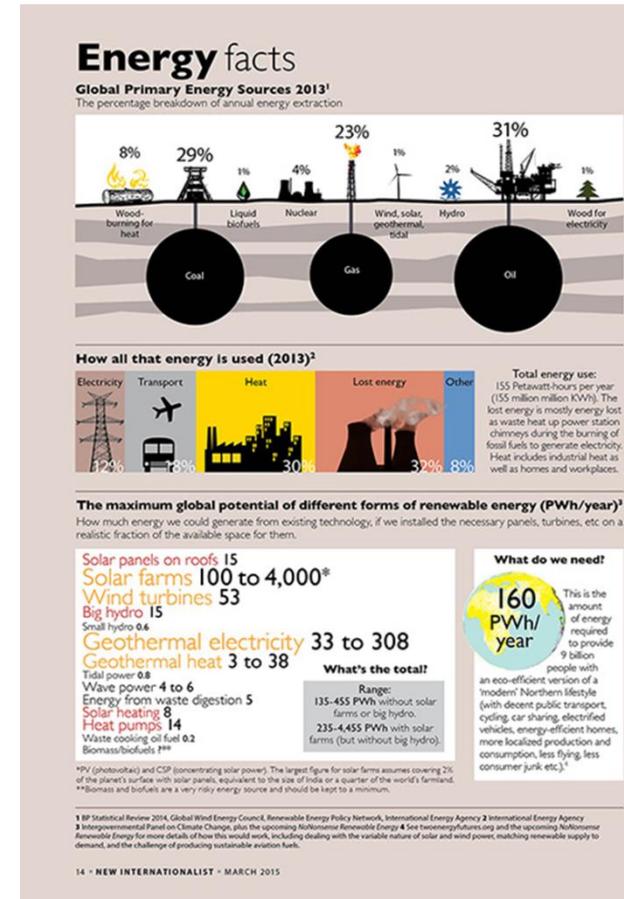
New Internationalist Easier English
Ready Intermediate Lesson



This lesson:

How much do you know about the energy we produce and use in the world?

- **Quiz**
- **Reading:** infographic and articles
- **Language work:** spelling, grammar and punctuation
- **Writing:** a letter



- 1. How much of the energy the world produces now comes from oil? a) 81% b) 31% c) 11%**
- 2. How much of the energy the world produces now comes from wind/solar power? a) 61% b) 21% d) 1%**
- 3. How much of the world's energy do we use for transport? a) 28% b) 18% e) 8%**
- 4. How much of the world's energy is lost or wasted? a) 52% b) 32% c) 12%**
- 5. How much energy does the world need for all 9 billion people to have a 'modern', eco-lifestyle? a) 1600 PWh/year b) 160 PWh/year c) 16 PWh/year**
(a Petawatt - PWh - is a million million KWh!)
- 6. How much energy could solar farms produce? a) 4000 PWh/year b) 400 PWh/year c) 40 PWh/year**

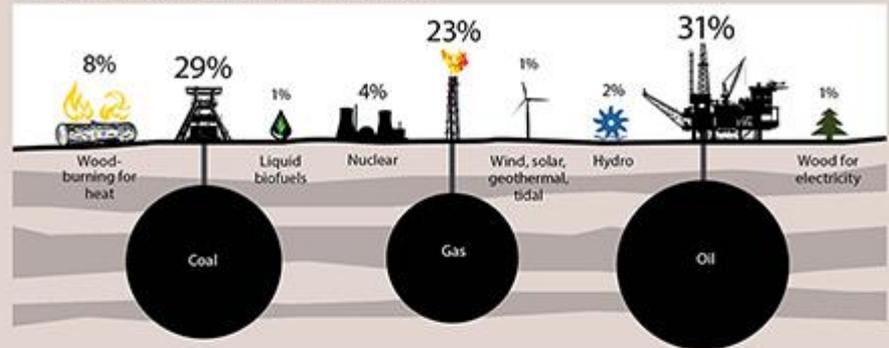
Check your answers here:

<http://newint.org/features/2015/03/01/renewable-energy-facts/>

Energy facts

Global Primary Energy Sources 2013¹

The percentage breakdown of annual energy extraction

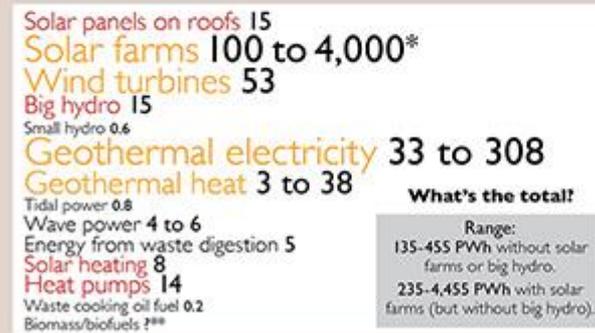


How all that energy is used (2013)²

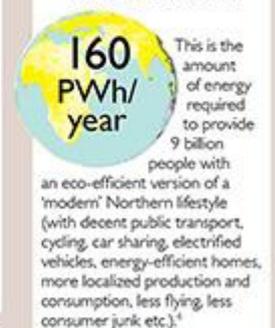


The maximum global potential of different forms of renewable energy (PWh/year)³

How much energy we could generate from existing technology, if we installed the necessary panels, turbines, etc on a realistic fraction of the available space for them.



What do we need!



¹BP Statistical Review 2014, Global Wind Energy Council, Renewable Energy Policy Network, International Energy Agency ²International Energy Agency ³Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, plus the upcoming *NoNonsense Renewable Energy* ⁴See twoenergyfutures.org and the upcoming *NoNonsense Renewable Energy* for more details of how this would work, including dealing with the variable nature of solar and wind power, matching renewable supply to demand, and the challenge of producing sustainable aviation fuels.

So ... the world could produce all the energy it needs from solar power and/or other clean energy sources

Question:

Who should produce all this solar power? – big energy companies or small, local, community groups?

Find out by skim-reading:

- A) [http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Who will control renewable energy%3F](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Who_will_control_renewable_energy%3F)
- B) [http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Desertec : the renewable energy grab%3F](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Desertec:_the_renewable_energy_grab%3F)

What do you need to work on:

a) punctuation?

b) spelling?

c) grammar?



How can you improve your own punctuation, spelling and grammar? Discuss in pairs, and look at the punctuation, spelling and grammar in the texts.

Add punctuation (capital letters, full stops, apostrophes and brackets):

desertec isnt a new idea in 1913 the american engineer frank shuman showed his plans for the worlds first solar thermal power station to egyptys colonial governors including the british consul-general lord kitchener the power station would pump water from the Nile river to the cotton fields but the start of the first world war ended this dream

Now correct spellings – one on each line:

People are worried about this – saying the Sahara could power the hole world. Some people say the Sahara is a big, emty land, with very few people; this is a very good oportunity to get electricity to Europe so Europeans can continue their wastfull consumerist lifestyle, useing far too much energy. This is the same langage colonial powers used to say how they were helping to civlise Africa. I am African, and I am very suspichus of very big projekts like this. They say they are doing it for good reasons, but they are realy exploiting and stealing.

Correct the grammar – one mistake on each line:

All energy project, for fossil fuels or renewable energy, needs to help the people where the energy is take from. If the projects supports authoritarian governments or only make money for few greedy people or international companies, we must to fight against to them.

People who fight for energy export projects that sound good, like Desertec, need being careful they're not support a new 'renewable energy grab'. We had had the grabs for oil, gas, gold, diamonds and cotton. It is now the turn of solar energy to keep the West controlling the rest of world?

Check with the correct versions here:

<http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Desertec: the renewable energy grab%3F>

1/ Desertec isn't a new idea. In 1913, the American engineer Frank Shuman showed his plans for the world's first solar thermal power station to Egypt's colonial governors (including the British consul-general Lord Kitchener). The power station would pump water from the Nile River to the cotton fields, but the start of the First World War ended this dream.

2/ People are worried about this – saying the Sahara could power the whole world. Some people say the Sahara is a big, empty land, with very few people; this is a very good opportunity to get electricity to Europe so Europeans can continue their wasteful consumerist lifestyle, using far too much energy. This is the same language colonial powers used to say how they were helping to civilise Africa. I am African, and I am very suspicious of very big projects like this. They say they are doing it for good reasons, but they are really exploiting and stealing.

3/ All energy projects, for fossil fuels or renewable energy, need to help the people where the energy is taken from. If the projects support authoritarian governments or only make money for a few greedy people or international companies, we must fight against them.

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Writing:

Write a formal letter to the government about the future of energy:

- what are you worried about?
- what do you think the government should do?

Read the article(s) again and highlight important points you might want to use.

Check your letter afterwards for:

- spelling
- punctuation and
- grammar

