



OPTION A

NETFLIX'S GAIN IS HBO'S LOSS IN SUBSCRIBER WARS

- 1 According to a new report from the NPD Group, streaming services have seen a 4% rise in subscribers over the past two years. People can't get enough Netflix. According to this report, the streaming video service and others like it have been gaining subscribers as premium pay networks like HBO and Showtime have been losing them. The NPD Group, a global information company, says over the past two years, the number of households subscribing to premium networks has fallen by 6%. Online streaming subscriptions, however, have risen by 4%, according to their report. According to the report, in August 2013, 32% of American households paid for premium networks like HBO or Showtime and 27% subscribed to on-demand digital services. While Netflix is the most widely used service, Hulu Plus and Amazon Prime are gaining in popularity. "It's fair to say ... that some of the shift that you're seeing is probably caused by Netflix," Russ Crupnick, a senior vice president of the NPD Group told the Los Angeles Times. "Some of this could be caused by the economy. It could be people looking at their cable bills and saying, 'I can't afford this.'"

QUESTIONS

- [1] FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS, ANSWER QUESTIONS A, B, C (3 POINTS AS A WHOLE).
- A. Answer the following question using your own words. (10 to 20 words) (1 point).
- What is the main idea in the report from the NPD Group?
- B. Are the following statements *true* or *false*? Indicate the line(s) in the text supporting your choice (1.5 points as a whole: 0.5 each).
- B1. HBO is gaining subscribers.  
B2. Premium networks subscriptions have decreased in the last two years.  
B3. Nowadays Netflix is hardly used.

- C. Choose *a*, *b* or *c* in the question below. Only one choice is correct (0.5 points as a whole).

Amazon Prime...

- a) has to do with horses.  
b) is becoming popular.  
c) is unknown.

- [2] COMPLETE TASKS a, b, c, d ACCORDING TO THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN (2 POINTS AS A WHOLE: 0.5 EACH).

- a) **Complete:** If I had access to Netflix I ...  
b) **Put into the passive:** Netflix has offered cheap subscriptions.  
c) **Transform into reported speech:** 'Some of this could be caused by the economy.' **Begin with:** It was noted that ...  
d) **Write a question for which the underlined words are the answer:** The number of households subscribing to premium networks has fallen.

- [3] VOCABULARY (1 POINT AS A WHOLE: 0.2 EACH).

- Find one word in the text for each of the following meanings:  
a) a business enterprise  
b) favour of the general public
- Find synonyms in the text for each of the words below:  
c) increase  
d) honest  
e) charges

- [4] WRITE ABOUT THE FOLLOWING TOPIC USING BETWEEN 100-120 WORDS (4 POINTS).

How do you like to have on-demand offerings to watch movies or TV shows?



OPTION B

SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT OVER GLOBAL WARMING

- 1 The overwhelming consensus among climate scientists is that human-caused climate change is happening. Yet a fringe minority of our populace clings to an irrational rejection of well-established science. This virulent strain of anti-science infects the halls of Congress, the pages of leading newspapers and what we see on
- 5 TV, leading to the appearance of a debate where none should exist. In fact, there is broad agreement among climate scientists not only that climate change is real (a survey and a review of the scientific literature published say about 97 percent agree), but that we must respond to the dangers of a warming planet. If one is looking for real differences among mainstream scientists, they can
- 10 be found on two fronts: the precise implications of those higher temperatures, and which technologies and policies offer the best solution to reducing, on a global scale, the emission of greenhouse gases. For example, should we go full-bore on nuclear power? Invest in and deploy renewable energy — wind, solar and geothermal — on a huge scale? Price carbon
- 15 emissions through incentive-based legislation or by imposing a carbon tax? Until the public fully understands the danger of our present trajectory, those debates are likely to continue to fail.

QUESTIONS

[1] FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS, ANSWER QUESTIONS A, B, C  
(3 POINTS AS A WHOLE).

- A. Answer the following question using your own words (10 to 20 words) (1 point).  
According to the text, is global climate change man-made?
- B. Are the following statements *true* or *false*? Indicate the line(s) in the text supporting your choice (1 point as a whole: 0.5 each).
- B1. Although there still are some who deny climate change, their beliefs have failed to enter our democratic institutions.
- B2. Most climatologists share the opinion that the perils brought about by global warming need addressing.

C. Choose *a*, *b* or *c* in each question below. Only one choice is correct (1 point as a whole: 0.5 each).

- C1. Skepticism on exhaustive scientific findings has led to...
- analyze the precise implications of higher temperatures.
  - an undesirable debate aimed at discrediting climate change.
  - study the best answers to greenhouse problems.
- C2. Arguments about climate change won't come to anything...
- as long as carbon is not taxed.
  - until we go full-bore on renewable sources of energy.
  - unless people wholly realize the risks of our current situation.

[2] COMPLETE TASKS a, b, c, d ACCORDING TO THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN  
(2 POINTS AS A WHOLE: 0.5 EACH).

- a) Write a question for which the underlined words are the answer: Some experts are calling for the immediate introduction of a price on carbon emissions.
- b) Transform into reported speech: 'How will history judge us if we fail to communicate the urgency of acting now?' **Begin with:** The chief asked his colleagues...
- c) Combine into one sentence containing a relative clause: It was explained to the collaborators. Their contributions would be necessary for the project.
- d) Put into the passive: Our Security Department has urged citizens to report anything dangerous they witness.

[3] VOCABULARY (1 POINT AS A WHOLE: 0.2 EACH).

- Find one word in the text for each of the following meanings:
- able to be restored or replaced by natural processes
  - operating by or utilizing the energy of the sun
- Find synonyms in the text for each of the words below:
- refusal
  - discussion
  - completely

[4] WRITE ABOUT THE FOLLOWING TOPIC USING BETWEEN 100-120 WORDS  
(4 POINTS).

What might be the consequences of global warming if the correct policies are not adopted?