

The background features a gradient from light teal at the top to dark blue at the bottom. On the left side, there is a large, semi-circular scale with numerical markings from 140 to 260. Several circular and semi-circular graphic elements, including dashed lines and arrows, are scattered across the left half of the image. The text 'CLIMATE CHANGES' is positioned on the right side in a white, sans-serif font.

CLIMATE CHANGES

WHAT ARE THE CAUSES OF CLIMATE CHANGE?

- The primary cause of climate change is the burning of fossil fuels, such as oil and coal, which emits greenhouse gases into the atmosphere—primarily carbon dioxide. Other human activities, such as agriculture and deforestation, also contribute to the proliferation of greenhouse gases that cause climate change.



WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE?

- Even small increases in Earth's temperature caused by climate change can have severe effects. The earth's average temperature has gone up 1.4° F over the past century and is expected to rise as much as 11.5° F over the next. That might not seem like a lot, but the average temperature during the last Ice Age was about 4° F lower than it is today.



- Rising sea levels due to the melting of the polar ice caps (again, caused by climate change) contribute to greater storm damage; warming ocean temperatures are associated with stronger and more frequent storms; additional rainfall, particularly during severe weather events, leads to flooding and other damage; an increase in the incidence and severity of wildfires threatens habitats, homes, and lives; and heat waves contribute to human deaths and other consequences.

