

世界气象组织（World Meteorological Organization）称，全球各国对新冠肺炎疫情危机的应对措施对大气中二氧化碳浓度持续上升的影响甚微。

One of the key **qualities** of **carbon dioxide** is its staying power. **Molecules** emitted by the burning of **coal** at the start of the Industrial Revolution in the 1700s are still in the atmosphere warming our planet today.

二氧化碳的一个重要特性是它在大气层中的持久力。在 18 世纪工业革命初期燃烧煤炭所释放出的二氧化碳分子仍存在于大气层中，使我们的星球变暖。

So, while the global lockdown saw **carbon emissions** from transport and industry drop by as much as 17% at their **peak**, large amounts of the gas were still being produced, adding to the overall total. In fact, since 2015, the levels of CO2 in the **atmosphere** have **surged**. According to Dr Oksana Tarasova from the World Meteorological Organization, the speed of this change hasn't been seen before.

因此，虽然在全球各国封锁期间，运输和工业碳排放量峰值下降了 17%，但大量气体仍在生成，增加了大气层中二氧化碳的总含量。事实上，自 2015 年以来，大气层中的二氧化碳含量急剧上升。来自世界气象组织的奥卡萨纳·塔拉索娃博士表示，这种变化的速度前所未有。

While researchers agree that the overall impact of the pandemic on the amount of carbon in the atmosphere will be limited, they argue that the experience of lockdown shows that major changes to transport and energy production are **feasible** and **affordable**. The real question is whether there is **sufficient** political will and public support to make these type[s] of changes permanent.

虽然研究人员一致认为新冠肺炎疫情对大气中碳含量的整体影响是有限的，但他们认为，疫情封锁的经验表明，对运输和能源生产进行重大改革是可行的，而且可以负担得起。真正的问题是：是否有足够的政治意愿和公众支持，来确保这种变化的持久性。

### 1. 词汇表

qualities	特性，属性
carbon dioxide	二氧化碳
molecules	分子
coal	煤
carbon emissions	碳排放
peak	最高值，峰值
atmosphere	大气层
surged	急剧上升，剧增
feasible	可行的
affordable	负担得起的
sufficient	充足的

2. 阅读理解：请在读完上文后，回答下列问题。（答案见下页）

1. True or false? *Since 2015, the levels of CO2 in the atmosphere have dropped.*

2. What is one of the key qualities of CO2?

3. How much did carbon emissions from transport and energy industry drop during the global lockdown?

4. According to Dr Oksana Tarasova, what is significant about this change?

### 3. 答案

1. True or false? *Since 2015, the levels of CO2 in the atmosphere have dropped.*

**False. On the contrary, the levels of CO2 in the atmosphere have increased drastically.**

2. What is one of the key qualities of CO2?

**One of the key qualities of CO2 is its staying power.**

3. How much did carbon emissions from transport and energy industry drop during the global lockdown?

**They dropped as much as 17% at their peak.**

4. According to Dr Oksana Tarasova, what is significant about this change?

**According to Dr Oksana Tarasova, the speed of this change hasn't been seen before.**