

CHAPTER 19 VOCABULARY – Climate Disruption and Ozone Depletion

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carbon capture and storage (CCS)	Process of removing carbon dioxide gas from coal-burning power and industrial plants and storing it somewhere (usually underground or under the seabed) so that it is not released into the atmosphere, essentially forever.
CCS	See <i>carbon capture and storage</i> .
CFCs	See <i>chlorofluorocarbons</i> .
chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)	Organic compounds made up of atoms of carbon, chlorine, and fluorine. An example is Freon-12 (CCl_2F_2), which is used as a refrigerant in refrigerators and air conditioners and in making plastics such as Styrofoam. Gaseous CFCs can deplete the ozone layer when they slowly rise into the stratosphere and their chlorine atoms react with ozone molecules. Their use is being phased out.
climate tipping point	Point at which an environmental problem reaches a threshold level where scientists fear it could cause irreversible climate disruption.
freons	See <i>chlorofluorocarbons</i> .
temperature	Measure of the average speed of motion of the atoms, ions, or molecules in a substance or combination of substances at a given moment. Compare <i>heat</i> .