

Energy Resources

9.1

A. Fossil Fuels – energy resources formed from ancient decayed organisms

1. Coal – formed in swampy regions from decayed plants and sediment

- a. Pressure and heat caused chemical reactions
- b. Peat to lignite
- c. Lignite to bituminous coal

2. Oil and natural gas – formed in oceans from decayed algae, plankton, and sediment

- a. Pressure and heat caused chemical reactions
- b. Move upward – less dense than surrounding rock

B. Pollution – caused by burning fossil fuels

1. Acid rain – gases released by burning coal or oil mix with water in the air
 - a. Pollutes soil – harms plants and trees
 - b. Pollutes water – harms aquatic life

C. Nonrenewable fossil fuels – used up faster than nature can replace them

1. World's energy needs provided by:

coal – 29 percent

oil and natural gas – 61 percent

- a. Coal – could last 200-300 years
- b. Oil – could last 30-40 years
- c. Natural gas – could last 60 years

2. Conserving electricity – one way to reduce the use of fossil fuels and reduce pollution