

Name: _____
DATA 420 — Spring 2024
Reading check #14: Silver ch. 11
Apr. 9, 2024

1. True or false: in a hypothetical “bet” between climate change skeptic Scott Armstrong of U Penn and former U.S. Vice President Al Gore, the IPCC’s predicted rises in global temperatures between 2007 and 2012 were soundly confirmed. _____

2. Which substance is the largest contributor to the greenhouse effect? Mark it with a frownie face. Also, what gas, blasted from volcanoes, has an anti-greenhouse effect and cools the planet instead of warming it? Mark it with a smiley face.

water vapor

sulfur

carbon dioxide (CO₂)

chlorofluorocarbons

methane gas

nitrous oxide

3. What’s one advantage Silver mentions that meteorologists and climate scientists share, that (should) help both of them make better predictions?

4. What’s one advantage Silver mentions that meteorologists have, but climate scientists do not, in making their predictions?

5. The IPCC’s original forecasts overestimated the increase in global temperatures and sea-level rise. What important caveat does Silver cite, however, that should somewhat temper any criticism about their inaccuracy?

6. Extra credit (1XP): write down the first name of everyone in this class you know the first name of. (If one of the people whose name you know is named “Matt,” try to make a guess at his last name. If you have no idea, describe his physical appearance in an adjective or two instead.)