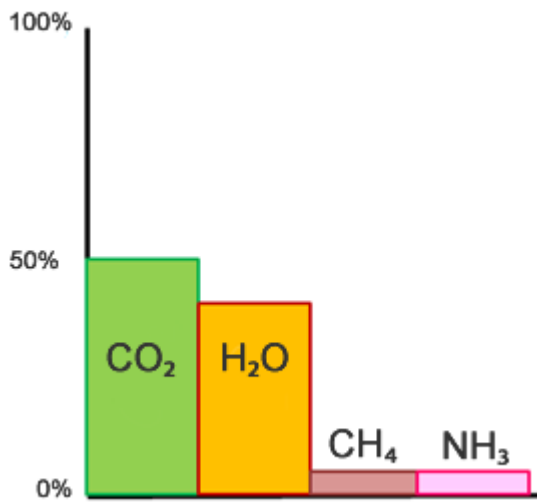
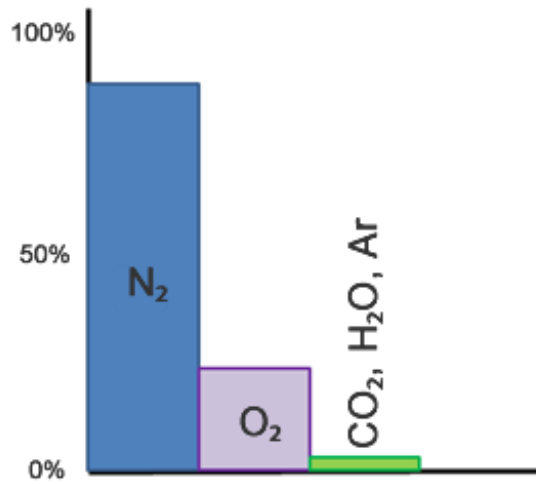


Task

Use the graphs to help you answer the following questions.



The early atmosphere



The atmosphere today

1. **State** three differences between the early atmosphere and the atmosphere today.

- ◆
- ◆
- ◆

2. **Explain** why the amount of water vapour has decreased.

.....

Explain why the amount of carbon dioxide has decreased.

.....

Explain why the amount of oxygen has increased.

.....

3. The Earth's population is increasing. **Suggest** the impact of an increasing population on the Earth's atmosphere.

.....

.....

.....

.....

Suggested answers

1. **State** three differences between the early atmosphere and the atmosphere today.

- ◆ more nitrogen today
- ◆ more oxygen today
- ◆ less carbon dioxide/water/methane/ammonia today

2. **Explain** how the amount of water vapour decreased.

It cooled and condensed to form oceans.

Explain how the amount of carbon dioxide decreased.

Carbon dioxide dissolved into the oceans.

It was taken in by plants during photosynthesis.

Sea animals took in carbon dioxide to incorporate into their shells

Explain how the amount of oxygen increased.

It was released by plants during photosynthesis.

3. The Earth's population is increasing. **Suggest** the impact of an increasing population on the Earth's atmosphere.

More cars, factories and burning of fossil fuels will cause an increase in carbon dioxide.

More respiration causes an increase in carbon dioxide and decrease in oxygen.

Deforestation causes an increase in carbon dioxide and decrease in oxygen.

Increase in cattle farming increases the amount of methane released.