

**Natural Resources Shaping Arguments**

**Possible Argumentative Claims**

Food Shortage

**Affirmative/The world is facing a severe shortage of food**

Climate change is causing global food shortages that are threatening millions of people with starvation.

Food prices around the world are increasing, which the world’s poor cannot afford.

Extended droughts are causing severe food shortages.

The growth in population to above 9 billion people by mid-century guarantees massive food shortages.

**Negative/The world is not facing a severe shortage of food**

Poverty and economic injustice cause hunger, not a shortage of food.

The world wastes a huge amount of food.

The free market, if we left it alone, would solve any local food shortage.

Non-profit organizations and individual actions are working to stamp out hunger.

Water Shortage

**Affirmative/The world is facing a severe shortage of fresh water**

More than a billion people around the world do not have access to an adequate supply of fresh water.

Overconsumption and waste is causing a severe global shortage of fresh water.

Global urbanization is putting unsustainable pressure on global water supplies.

Producing enough food to feed the world’s population is depleting its supply of water.

**Negative/The world is not facing a severe shortage of fresh water**

Our world has a fixed, constant supply of water that circulates throughout the eco-sphere.

Supplying people with enough water is simply a matter of the government spending enough money.

The vast majority of fresh water sources around the world are not close to running out.

Water shortages are caused because water has been kept artificially cheap.

Energy Shortage

**Affirmative/The world is facing a severe shortage of energy**

Ironically, very low oil prices are going to lead to oil and energy shortages.

The world is fast running out of fossil fuels.

It is very unlikely that the world will be able to transfer to renewable energy sources in time.

Renewable energy sources will not be able to replace fossil fuels in producing a fully adequate supply of energy.

**Negative/The world is facing a severe shortage of energy**

Rather than a shortage, there is a massive global surplus of energy supplies.

Fracking and other technologies have revolutionized oil and gas exploration and development.

Climate change is propelling a move to the use of renewable energy sources.

History shows that humanity always overcomes and solves energy shortages.