

“What’s the real carbon footprint of your food?”, *The Financial Times*

(<https://www.ft.com/video/00b38929-c021-4176-8842-1846e3be3674?playlist-name=latest&playlist-offset=3>)

Watch the video and say whether the following statements are true or false (answers at the bottom of the page):

- 1/ For people living in the UK, eating British apples will always create less carbon emissions than apples from New Zealand. (true/false)
- 2/ Transport is important, but so too are other stages in the lifecycle of foods. (true/false)
- 3/ Overall, shipping plays a far greater role in food transport than air transport. (true/false)
- 4/ Air transport is reserved to transport goods which must be eaten quickly. (true/false)
- 5/ Consumers increasingly want to know the carbon footprint of food, and this should be fairly easy to provide. (true/false)
- 6/ New technology should make calculating the carbon footprint of foods easier. (true/false)
- 7/ What is the main tense used in this text? Why

<p>So, if you're living in the UK, surely an apple, imported from New Zealand has a bigger carbon footprint than one grown at home. Not necessarily, because if you buy that British apple in, say, July, typically it will have been sitting in cold storage for nine months. The resulting carbon emissions will be greater than if it had been shipped from the other side of the world.</p> <p>Transport can play a significant role. The fact is that every stage of a food's lifecycle contributes to its overall carbon footprint. These can range from the fuel and pesticides used in production to processing and packaging, or the emissions created if it's eventually thrown away by the consumer.</p> <p>When it comes to transport, shipping accounts for about 60 per cent of global food miles, while air travel makes up less than 1 per cent. Air transport only tends to be used for highly perishable goods, such as asparagus, green beans, and berries. But it boosts a food's emissions significantly.</p> <p>For example, green beans air freighted to the Netherlands from Kenya have a much larger carbon footprint than those grown locally or shipped from Morocco. Now, as consumer awareness rises the move toward carbon labelling is gathering momentum. Quorn Foods is aiming to put carbon emission labels on 30 of its bestselling products this year, and other major food companies could follow suit, including Nestlé and Premier Foods. However, it's not a simple task.</p> <p>UK supermarket chain Tesco abandoned carbon labelling after a few years in 2012, claiming it took a minimum of several months work to calculate the footprint of each product. But today, thanks to technology such as smart sensors and big-data tools, there is much more information available, and measuring a food's carbon emissions is becoming easier. Eventually, we may actually be able to accurately judge our shopping on its true carbon footprint, wherever it's come from.</p>	<p>Carbon footprint = empreinte carbone Grow, grown, grown= ici cultivé Cold storage = stocké au froid, stockage frigorifique To process = traiter Packaging = emballage Perishable goods = des bien périssables Berries = baies Consumer awareness = sensibilisation des consommateurs Gathering momentum = prendre de vitesse Bestselling products = les produits les plus vendus Smart sensors = capteurs intelligents Accurately= avec précision</p>
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1/ false; 2/ true; 3/ true; 4/ true; 5/ false; 6/ true

7/ The present simple is the main tense used, because the article is about a real issue in the present, which is generally true. The present continuous is also used for actions that are taking place more clearly right now.