## Article p. 87 Fossil fuel dependency

## A) Prepare answers to the following questions

- 1. What is the consequence of the recent decrease in the petroleum reserve estimates?
- 2. What do some renowned geologists warn about?
- 3. What leads oil companies to exaggerate their petroleum reserves?
- 4. Due to what did the global oil reserve estimates jump overnight in the mid-1980s?
- 5. What methods are used to determine oil reserves of a country?
- 6. What could be a logical result of the fact that the amount of oil reserves determines the power of a particular country on the world market?
- 7. What would the lack of oil reserves lead to?
- 8. Can you give examples of products that are petroleum dependent?
- 9. What drilling techniques do companies employ? At what cost? With what result?
- 10. What are the predictions of major players in the oil business about how long the reserves will last?
- 11. When, according to governments and oil companies, will people be forced to find an alternative source of energy?
- 12. Where is the energy consumption expected to rise most?
- 13. What are the prospects for China itself? Quote the numbers.
- 14. What is the best-case and the worst-case scenario?
- 15. Why can we not take the accuracy of the estimates of those who measure the supplies for granted?