CORRECTION: The Carbon Diaries 2015

1) Introduce the document. /1
All the elements must be given. Give the precise nature: a novel about a personal diary or journal. Don’t forget the title and the date and the author.

2) Introduce the main character. /2
Laura Brown, a 16-year-old girl who lives in London, writes a diary to give an account of the situation and living conditions in 2015 London. Energy and its cost/footprint are rationed. Her daily life doesn’t look like today’s teens’ life. She can’t do everything a teen can do today. She has got a sister called Kim.

3) Explain in your own words what a Carbon allowance is. /2
A carbon allowance represents the amount of carbon credit a family receive each year and which is refilled every month with carbon points so that everyone can use the carbon credit fairly in order to live decently and share the Earth resources. The carbon allowance is reserved to the expenditures on travelling, heating and eating of a British household.

4) Why do people need Carbon cards? /3
Do not copy the text but rephrase it.
Carbon cards are needed to take public transport or pay the heating bills or buy food. If you don’t have a carbon card, you can’t get these services or buy what you need. Carbon cards were made to redistribute and share the energy/natural resources used to live. They were also created to reduce the impact of human beings’ life on Earth.
Moreover, with them, the British government knows exactly the amount of carbon credits consumed by the British population. It is a means to control the population’s consumption.

5) List the consequences of Carbon rationing on Laura’s daily life? /3
Do not copy the text but rephrase it.
Everything has to be thought/pondered before:
→ reduce the use of car.
→ reduce the time spent on screens
→ be dressed more warmly because of the heating reduction (no nice tops)
→ no long showers and baths are limited only at weekends.

6) Right or Wrong? Justify quoting from the text /4
a) The British Government had to take new regulations concerning the Carbon Points.
(l. 11-12) + rewrite the quote. Right
“after the riots last September the Gov backed down and changed the rules so that no one’s allowed to buy more than 50 extra Points a month”

b) People are free to use their household appliances as much as they want.
Wrong l. 15: “We've got to choose – hairdryer, toaster, microwave […]”
c) Carbon cards are issued for one month.
Wrong l. 20: “as you use your year's ration they fade away one by one till you're down to the last red”
d) Carbon cards are nontransferable.
Right l.32: “The driver shook his head. "No Carbon Card, no ride, Love.”

7) Do you think Carbon Cards will be in use one day? Why (not)? /5
This question is important in terms of expression, so do not neglect your writing and grammar. It is opening to the text so you can give your opinion at the end and strengthen your arguments with more general knowledge.
Redefine the use and goals of carbon cards in the text.
Give your opinion on Carbon cards. → Too restrictive. A limit to people’s freedom.
List the problems already encountered today concerning environment. → Overconsumption of natural resources.
Find other alternatives to make our life more sustainable. Use concrete examples studied in class.
→ 3Rs, educate people, stop outsourcing...
→ develop greener energies, develop sustainability.