NUCLEAR ENERGY EXPLAINED

1. **What did private companies think about nuclear power?**
   They thought it was much too risky as an investment.

2. **When did nuclear power’s success finally come?**
   Nuclear power’s finest hour came in the early 1970s when oil prices increased worldwide due to the war in the Middle East.

3. **What were the advantages of the light water reactor?**
   There were mainly three advantages of this type of reactor:
   - it was available;
   - it worked;
   - it wasn’t expensive/it was cheap.

4. **What does a water reactor do?**
   It heats up water using an artificial chain reaction.

5. **Is the water reactor the safest one?**
   No, it isn’t.

6. **What happened in 1979?**
   In 1979, the Three Mile Island nuclear plant in Pennsylvania barely escaped a catastrophe when its core melted.

7. **When did the Chernobyl catastrophe take place?**
   It took place in 1986.

8. **What’s the situation today?**
   Today nuclear energy meets around 10% of the world’s energy demand. There are about 439 nuclear reactors in 31 countries. About 70 new reactors were under construction in 2015, most of them in countries which are growing quickly.