Water has always been a limited resource in some parts of the world. Today, however, growing worldwide demand has made this a global problem.

Water scarcity has become a worldwide problem. Many believe that <u>the</u> next world war might be fought over water resources. Researchers claim that, the growth of population is the main reason for this issue, although, the role of climate change can't be denied.

The World population has almost doubled in the last fifty years. This Increase in number of the population has put a lot of pressure on water resources. The population growth leads to increased water demand in Agriculture, Industry and households. Firstly in agriculture, irrigation consumes a large amount of water. Using old irrigation systems such as drowning causes a lot of waste, furthermore, the large amount of chemicals and pesticides used pollutes the underground water resources. Secondly, the industries and factories use a huge amount of water in their process. For instance, a <u>recent</u> research revealed that develop<u>menting of the</u> iron industry in Isfahan could be the main reason for the Zayandeh-rud river to run dry. Finally, the water consumption pattern for households; is another reason for water shortage, although it has much less effect than the other two.

There are three main solutions to solve the problems described above. First of all, <u>the</u> drip irrigation system should be encouraged among farmers. Secondly; factories and industries should be forced to recycle the water they use. And finally, households should be persuaded to consume less water and modify their consumption patterns.

In conclusion, water scarcity is a global issue that is mainly caused by fast population growth. But this problem could be solved with governments and population cooperation, through developing new irrigation systems, water recycling and modifying consumption patterns.