

# The Implications of Energy Unconscious in “Switch and the Energy Savers”

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**Cibi T R**

*M.Phil Research Scholar, Department of English and Foreign Languages  
Bharathiar University, Coimbatore*

**Dr. P. Nagaraj**

*Professor and Head, Department of English and Foreign Languages  
Bharathiar University, Coimbatore*

## Abstract

*This paper attempts to study the implications of “energy unconscious” on the select text “Switch and the Energy Savers”. It is published in the website named WWF. There are only limited researches happening in academia in the domain of literature pertaining to the theme “energy”. While, this particular paper explores the way by which the team effort of young children result in the realisation of the energy wastage. The methodology adopted for the analysis is qualitative. This paper sheds light on the efforts of the children having no political powers or any other influences resulting in a big change among the public which starts from their homes. In a world where Earth is ailing, a character named Switch is approached by curious children inquiring about the planet’s condition. Switch, feeling unwell, reveals that Earth has a fever due to excessive energy consumption. The story serves as a compelling allegory for the global need to address environmental issues and highlights the transformative power of collective action. It encourages readers, especially children, to be proactive in adopting sustainable practices and influencing positive change within their communities. Through the characters of Switch and the children, it explores the challenges and triumphs of promoting energy consciousness in a relatable and engaging manner.*

**Keywords:** Energy Unconscious, Earth, Action, Change, Energy Consumption

## Introduction

This paper attempts to study the implications of “energy unconscious” on the select text “Switch and the Energy Savers”. It is published in the website named WWF. It can neither be considered as a graphic fiction nor a comic. It can be said as a short story in graphic form a running up to fifteen pages. This story is written in a way to instruct and inspire the young readers. There are only limited researches happening in academia in the domain of literature pertaining to the theme “energy”. While, this particular paper explores the way by which the team effort of young children result in the realisation of the energy wastage. The methodology adopted for the analysis is qualitative. This paper sheds light on the efforts of the children having no political powers or any other influences resulting in a big change among the public which starts from their homes.

### **Summary of “Switch and the Energy Savers”**

In a world where Earth is ailing, a character named Switch is approached by curious children inquiring about the planet’s condition. Switch, feeling unwell, reveals that Earth has a fever due to excessive energy consumption. Demonstrating an energy meter, Switch urges the children to use less energy. Eager to make a difference, the children embark on a mission to save energy, facing challenges along the way. Dot’s Dad is reluctant to turn off the TV, and Zam grapples with the dilemma of turning off the oven while dinner cooks. Undeterred, the children persist, discovering wasteful energy use in empty classrooms at school. Despite their efforts, the energy meter barely budges. Determined to amplify their impact, the children plan a school assembly to share energy-saving ideas. During the assembly, they advocate for energy conservation, encouraging classmates and teachers to adopt eco-friendly practices. Inspired by Switch, the children return home with newfound strategies. Mox and his mum adjust the heating, endorse energy-saving light bulbs, and put up reminders to turn off lights. Dot and Zam target standby lights on devices, while Sula and her dad seal windows to prevent cold air infiltration. As the children implement these changes, they witness a positive shift in energy consumption. Their collective efforts make a tangible impact, and they revel in the sense of accomplishment. However, their enthusiasm is tempered by the sight of another school wastefully using energy. Undeterred, the children decide to extend their mission. Motivated by a desire to educate and inspire change, they set out to enlighten the children in the neighbouring school about the importance of energy conservation. Despite initial challenges, the children persevere, spreading their message and instigating change. In the end, thanks to the children’s dedication, Switch begins to recover, symbolizing Earth’s gradual healing. The energy meter reflects the measurable impact of their actions, underscoring the significance of collective efforts in preserving the planet. Switch commends the children for their hard work, emphasizing the importance of every small contribution to energy conservation. The story serves as a compelling allegory for the global need to address environmental issues and highlights the transformative power of collective action. It encourages readers, especially children, to be proactive in adopting sustainable practices and influencing positive change within their communities.

### **Applying the Theory of Energy Unconscious in “Switch and the Energy Savers”**

The term “energy unconscious” is coined by Patricia Yaeger, denotes the affectual force of forms of energy and their infrastructures as they influence and even permeate human social life and culture, in ways that go mostly unremarked. Yaeger (306).

This theory highlights the often overlooked and unintentional ways in which individuals consume and waste energy in their daily lives. In the provided text, the children, guided by Switch, embark on a mission to raise awareness about energy conservation. The narrative unfolds with a depiction of Earth suffering from a metaphorical fever due to excessive energy usage. Switch, equipped with an energy meter, becomes the catalyst for the children’s journey to promote energy consciousness. The story begins with the children approaching Switch, concerned about Earth’s well-being. Switch, representing an environmental advocate, introduces them to the concept of an energy meter, a visual tool to measure and understand energy consumption. This aligns with the energy unconscious theory, emphasizing the need to make people aware of their energy usage patterns, which are often automatic or habitual. As the children inquire about how to address Earth’s fever, Switch’s response focuses on the collective responsibility of reducing energy consumption. This sets the stage for the children to explore energy-saving practices both at home and in their school. However, the text cleverly highlights the challenges they face, reflecting the realistic hurdles individuals encounter when attempting to change ingrained behaviours. Dot’s Dad’s reluctance to turn off the TV and Zam’s dilemma with the oven represent the resistance

often faced in implementing energy-conscious actions. These scenarios illustrate the clash between established habits and the need for change, mirroring real world struggles in adopting sustainable practices.

The children's efforts at school reveal another layer of the energy unconscious theory. Empty classrooms with lights left on symbolize the mindless energy waste that occurs when individuals neglect to consider the impact of their actions. Turning off lights in the empty classrooms becomes a tangible action to counteract this unconscious energy consumption. The modest impact of the children's initial efforts underscores the challenge of altering deeply ingrained habits. The narrative suggests that changing behaviour requires more than individual efforts; it necessitates a collective approach. This aligns with the theory of energy unconscious, emphasizing the need for societal awareness and commitment to sustainable practices. The decision to hold a school assembly reflects the importance of education in fostering energy consciousness. The children take on the role of advocates, spreading awareness and encouraging their peers to join the cause. This aligns with the idea that addressing the energy unconscious requires not just individual actions but a shared understanding and commitment to change. Switch's guidance on additional ways to save energy at home introduces a variety of practical measures. Mox and his mum adjusting the heating, promoting energy-efficient light bulbs, and using reminders to turn off lights highlight the multifaceted nature of sustainable living. Each action contributes to the overall goal of reducing energy consumption, emphasizing the cumulative impact of individual choices.

Dot, Zam, Sula, and their families embody the shift from unconscious energy consumption to conscious, intentional choices. Their actions, such as turning off red lights on devices and checking for drafts, demonstrate a heightened awareness of energy usage. This aligns with the theory's premise that making energy-conscious decisions requires a shift in mind set and behaviour. The narrative doesn't shy away from presenting challenges, such as the observation of another school wasting energy. This serves as a reminder that the journey toward energy consciousness is ongoing and requires continuous effort. The children's determination to share their knowledge reflects the idea that raising awareness is a crucial step in creating a broader societal shift. Switch's acknowledgment of the children's impact and the improvement in Earth's condition provides a sense of accomplishment. This positive reinforcement reinforces the idea that even small changes contribute to a larger, positive outcome.

## Conclusion

The provided text effectively incorporates elements of the theory of energy unconscious within a narrative framework. Through the characters of Switch and the children, it explores the challenges and triumphs of promoting energy consciousness in a relatable and engaging manner. The story emphasizes the importance of collective action, education, and perseverance in addressing unconscious energy consumption. Ultimately, it serves as a call to action, encouraging readers to reflect on their own energy usage and consider the impact of their daily choices on the environment.

## References

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