

82 The environment

1 Basic vocabulary

Use these words to complete the sentences:

waste	pollution
protect	factory
recycled	emissions
damage	environmentalists

1. During the last hundred years we have done great to the environment.
2. There's a large chemical in our town which has polluted the river twice in the last year.
3. The Government is very worried about the of our rivers and beaches.
4. A lot of household like bottles and newspapers can be and used again.
5. are furious with the American Government for delaying measures which will reduce greenhouse gas
6. There are lots of things we can all do to the environment.

2 What causes the damage

Use these words to complete the sentences:

exhaust fumes	toxic waste
emissions	deforestation
pesticides	crops

1. The Government is introducing strict new rules on the dumping of by industry.
2. Farmers contribute to environmental damage by spraying with which stay in the soil for years.
3. from factories in northern Germany affect the environment in large parts of Scandinavia.
4. Tropical rainforests have always helped to keep the environment in balance but recent means they no longer absorb as much carbon dioxide as they used to.
5. from cars and other vehicles cause a great deal of damage to the environment.

Which verbs cannot be used with *environment*?

damage, harm, injure, destroy, hurt, pollute

3 Consequences

Match a word on the left with a word on the right to make common expressions:

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| 1. global | a. rain |
| 2. greenhouse | b. warming |
| 3. ozone | c. effect |
| 4. acid | d. layer |

Now use the phrases in the following sentences:

5. The gradual rise in the Earth's temperature is known as
6. When heat gets trapped in the Earth's atmosphere, it is known as the
7. Scientists have found holes in the, particularly over Antarctica.
8. Rain mixed with toxic chemicals from factories is known as

4 Global warming

Use these words to complete the text:

floods	radiation	sea level	climate
deserts	ice caps	oceans	gases

Scientists have shown that the temperature on Earth is increasing by 0.1° every ten years. That's one degree every century. The (1) that are produced by factories and cars are allowing more (2) from the sun to reach Earth. In the future this will have very serious consequences for humanity.

As the Earth gets hotter, the Arctic and Antarctic (3) will slowly melt and the level of the (4) will rise. A recent report says that the (5) will rise by 70 metres over the next hundred years, causing (6) in many low-lying parts of the world.

There will be (7) changes, too. Some areas will become wetter while others will become much drier. Some areas which today are green and fertile will eventually turn into (8) Tropical diseases like malaria will become common in areas where today they are unknown.

5 Environmental problems

Use these expressions to complete the text:

natural habitats	in danger of extinction
long-term	natural resources
way of life	indigenous people
destruction	future generations

The (1) of the rainforest is very worrying. Thousands of acres of forest are being cut down every year and the (2) of many animals are being destroyed. As a result, many species are (3)

This, in turn, threatens the traditional (4) of many of the (5) who live in some of the most remote areas of our planet. As with most environmental issues, we need to think more (6) and realise that everything we do has implications for (7) If we want to hand on our world to our children and grandchildren, we simply can't continue to misuse the world's (8) as we are at the moment.

Do the same with this text:

heavily polluted	cloud of pollution
uninhabitable	air quality

The (9) in many of the world's largest cities is so poor that we have seen an enormous increase in chest and lung illnesses such as asthma. These cities are (10) and some are permanently covered by a (11) Unless we begin to take the problems more seriously and start to do something about them, many of our biggest cities, particularly in the developing world, will become (12)

6 Protecting the environment

Match a word on the left with a word on the right to make common expressions:

1. unleaded	a. bank
2. public	b. friendly
3. recycling	c. energy
4. bottle	d. point
5. environmentally	e. transport
6. renewable	f. petrol

If you want to protect the environment, here are some things you should do. Use the expressions above.

7. Make sure your car runs on and your home uses sources of
8. Use instead of taking your car.
9. Take glass, paper and plastic to a and your empty bottles to a
10. Buy products whenever possible.

7 Green politics

Use a dictionary to fill the gaps below:

noun	adjective	person
environment
ecology

Conservationists campaign to protect the environment.

In most countries there are political parties which aim to protect the environment – the Green Party or the Ecology Party, for example. Greenpeace is an international group that protests against anything which is a threat to the environment, like dumping nuclear waste and, more recently, growing genetically modified crops.

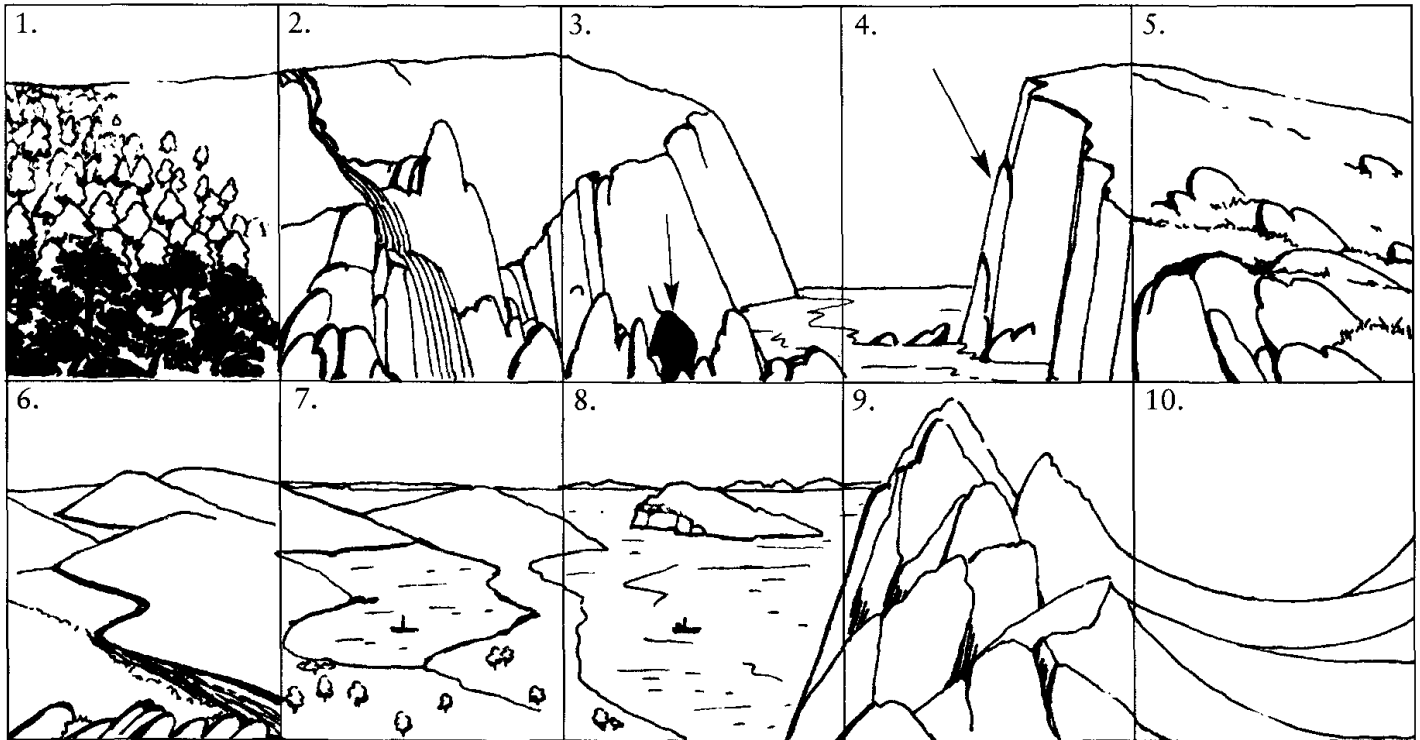
Are you worried about the environment? What do you do to help protect it?

83 The natural world

1 Natural features

Match the words and pictures below:

river lake island waterfall valley cliffs mountains rocks cave forest



A stream is smaller than a river. Hills are lower than mountains. The Andes, the Himalayas and the Alps are mountain ranges. Forests and woods are sometimes very similar, but use forest if it is very large. For example: the tropical rainforests; much of Sweden is covered by forest.

2 Collocations

Match these adjectives and nouns:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| 1. thick or dense | a. path |
| 2. fertile or arid | b. hill |
| 3. winding or mountain | c. land |
| 4. steep or gentle | d. shore |
| 5. sandy or rocky | e. forest |

Put two of the following adjectives with opposite meanings in front of each of the nouns:

flat deep high low hilly shallow

6. , countryside
 7. , tide
 8. , river

Now use some of the adjectives from 1-8 above to complete these sentences:

9. At tide you can walk across the sand to that island.

10. Cycling into work is OK, but cycling home isn't easy. There's a really hill!
 11. We should be able to get across the river here – it's quite
 12. Be careful if you go swimming here. The water's quite
 13. The land in this part of the country is very We can grow anything here.
 14. The Netherlands is incredibly There are hardly any hills at all.
 15. Mushrooms grow best on the floor of , damp forests.
 16. The countryside round here is very so not many people use a bike.

The shore is where the land meets the sea, or the side of a lake.

At high tide we say the tide's in. At low tide we say the tide's out.

3 Describing the natural world

In the following texts one of the words or phrases in green is wrong. Delete it.

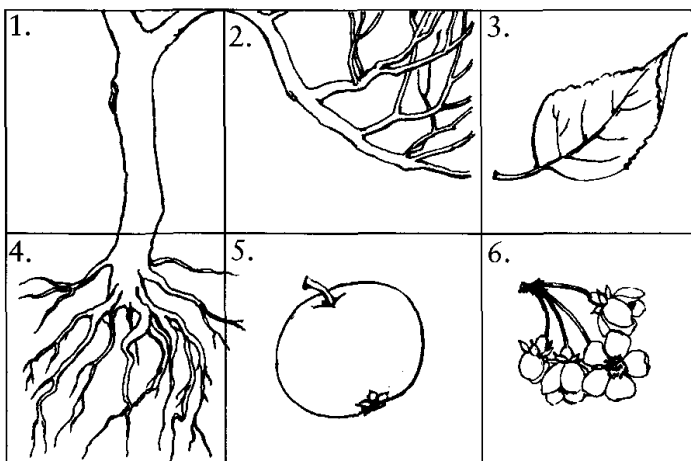
- My favourite part of England is Cornwall. There's some absolutely beautiful nature / countryside / scenery there. There's a pretty little fishing village by the sea / on the coast / on the beach called Clovelly. There's a path that follows / leads / goes out of the village to a beautiful 14th-century church.
- Bath is one of my favourite places. The river runs / flows / leads right through the centre of the city. It's a very relaxing place and at the weekend people sit and picnic by the side / on the bank / on the shore of the river.
- Costa Rica is one of the most beautiful places I have ever visited. Wherever you go, you can see the tops / peaks / ends of volcanoes, some of which are still active / alive. Almost as soon as you leave town, you find yourself deep in the wood / jungle / rainforest.

Landscape is a very difficult word to use correctly in English. It is usually better to use countryside or scenery.

4 Trees and flowers 1

Match the words with the pictures:

roots trunk branch leaf fruit blossom



5 Trees and flowers 2

Use your dictionary to translate the following. Mark each of them (T) trees or (F) flowers:

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1. oak ... | 7. willow ... |
| 2. rose ... | 8. lily ... |
| 3. tulip ... | 9. daffodil ... |
| 4. birch ... | 10. chestnut ... |
| 5. olive ... | 11. carnation ... |
| 6. fir ... | 12. chrysanthemum ... |

Blossom is the flowers of a tree (cherry blossom, orange blossom). Buds are flowers before they open. Once they are open all the petals spread out. All trees and plants produce seeds which fall to the ground in autumn. You plant seeds in soil. The plural of leaf is leaves.

6 Famous places

Match the words on the left with a word on the right to make the name of a famous place:

- | | |
|----------------------|------------|
| 1. The Pacific | a. Canyon |
| 2. The Dead | b. Falls |
| 3. The Sahara | c. Garda |
| 4. The Great Barrier | d. Rock |
| 5. Grand | e. Ocean |
| 6. Mount | f. Reef |
| 7. Niagara | g. Ness |
| 8. Ayers | h. Sea |
| 9. Lake | i. Everest |
| 10. Loch | j. Desert |

7 Revision

Which is bigger?

- a forest or a wood?
- a stream or a river?
- a lake or a sea?
- a sea or an ocean?
- a mountain or a hill?
- a tree or a bush?