

Objective: to activate students' background knowledge



Environmental pollution is an incurable disease.

It can only be prevented.

Barry Commoner

Warming-up

1. Work individually. Compare the photographs and say what topic both photos are connected to? What kind of pollution is the most dangerous?



Useful expressions:

Both these pictures make me think of ...

I (don't) like this picture because ...

From my point of view ...

Essential vocabulary

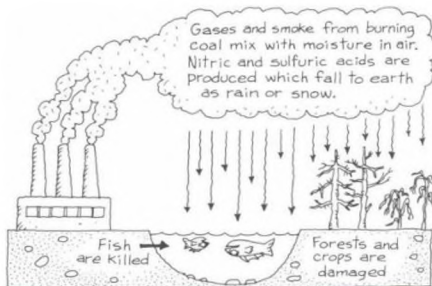
<u>Nouns</u>	<u>Verbs</u>	<u>Adjectives</u>	<u>Phrasal verbs</u>
importance (n) habitat (n) biodiversity (n)	to reduce (v) to contaminate (v) to relate (v)	hazardous (adj) harmful (adj) relevant (adj)	to die out to get back to nature to be under threat
<u>Phrases related to pollution</u>			
Melting of the ice caps	Road and air traffic		
Increased energy consumption	Burning of household waste		
Industrial development	Induce illnesses in plants, animals and humans		

2. *Make up sentences of your own with words and word-combinations from essential vocabulary.*

Reading

3. *Read the text and choose the best title to it.*

Environmental Pollution. There are three types of environmental pollution: air, ground, and water pollution.

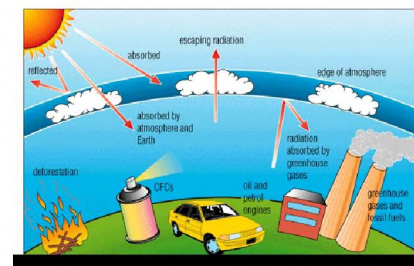


Air Pollution. Historically, air pollution comes from industries and transport. Factories, power stations and cars burn oil and coal. This rises into the air as different forms of sulphur and nitrogen. The sulphur and nitrogen combine

with water in the air to make sulphuric or nitric acid. This falls to the ground as **acid rain**.

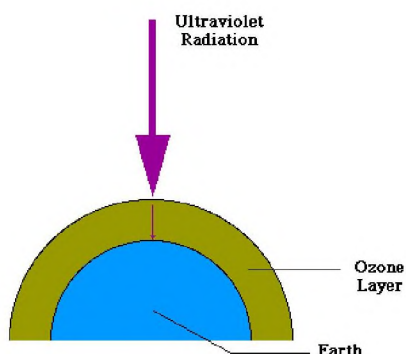
We burn large quantities of coal and oil, and this creates millions of tonnes of acid rain. The wind carries the rain long distances, and this creates problems. One country makes acid rain, and it falls to the ground in another country, for example, Canada gets a lot of acid rain from the USA, and Norway gets a lot of acid rain from Britain.

The Greenhouse Effect. Industrial countries also cause the greenhouse effect (also called “global warming” or “climate change”). Burning coal and oil produces carbon dioxide (CO₂). The (CO₂) increases in the Earth’s atmosphere, and retains heat from the sun (it works like the glass in a greenhouse - it lets heat in, but doesn’t let the heat out).



The Earth is getting hotter. Weather patterns are changing: some places have no water for years, and some places have floods. When a country has no water, the effects are very hard- in Chile in 1999, the result was

electricity cuts around the country. There was no water for the hydro-electric power stations.



Ozone Layer Depletion. The ozone layer is a band of gas around the Earth. It protects us from dangerous ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun. It is vital to human and animal survival.

Unfortunately, we are producing chemicals which destroy the ozone layer. The damage starts in the Antarctic and spreads. Sheep in the Magallanes are becoming blind because the ozone layer is thinner. In Australia, a lot of people are getting skin cancer from the sun.

4. Read the text again. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F) or is the information not mentioned (NM) in the text?

- 1) You can see the effects of ozone layer depletion in Chile.
- 2) The text describes different types of air pollution.
- 3) Canada sends acid rain to the USA.
- 4) Global warming is also called climate change.
- 5) Industrial countries cause the “greenhouse effect”.

5. Answer the questions after the text.

- 1) Which problems are described in the text?
- 2) Is the writer worried or not worried about environmental problems?
- 3) What is ozone layer?
- 4) Why are sheep in the Magallanes becoming blind?
- 5) Where are a lot of people getting skin cancer from the sun?

6. Complete the chart as shown.

Noun	Verb	Adjective
description		
	to damage	
pollution		
	to solve	
		changing

Writing

7. Write an essay discussing problems with environmental pollution that have become so serious that many countries are trying to solve them. Suggest possible solutions and give your own opinion. You should explain, giving reasons in support of your answer. Write 220-260 words in appropriate style. (<http://www.ieltsmentor.com/writing-sample/writing-task-2/1498-ielts-writing-task-2-sample-472-problems-with-environmental-pollution-have-become-serious>).

Speaking

8. Think about your answers to these questions.

- 1) What different forms of pollution do you know? What kind of pollution is worst for our health?
- 2) What do you know about air, marine and river pollution?
- 3) Which countries cause the most pollution?
- 4) What will happen if we keep polluting the environment?
- 5) What simple, everyday thing could help reduce pollution most?

9. Describe a place you visited that has been affected by pollution.

You should say:

- where it is;
- why and when you went there;
- how it has been affected by the pollution;

and explain what are the reasons for this pollution.




(Example: <http://www.ieltsmentor.com/cue-card-sample/2497-place-you-visited-that-has-been-affected-by-pollution>).

10. Work in a group. Take part in the role – play “Environmental problems”. Discuss the Recycling.

Role A	Role B
<p>You believe in recycling and doing all in your power to help the environment. Your friend is totally against recycling because she/he thinks it is all a lie, that nothing will help the environment and it's just a means to charge you more for energy and eco-friendly appliances. Try to give solid arguments in favour of recycling and reusing.</p>	<p>You believe that recycling is a sham. It is a means to charge you more money for energy and appliances. Your friend is very eco-conscious and will try to convince you to make an effort towards looking after the environment.</p>

Home project

11. Make ppt presentation about effects of pollution: 1) on people; 2) on the environment.

Effects of pollution on people		
Breathing problem	Headache	Disease / sickness
		
Effects of pollution on the environment		
Hole in the ozone layer	Acid rain	Smog
<p>Hole in the Ozone Layer?</p> 