

Environmental Concerns

Task: Different National Environmental Concerns and Solutions

Activity 1: Listening

Welcome to a practice listening task for the ISE 2.

You are going to hear a talk about **different national environmental concerns and solutions**. You will hear the talk twice. The first time, just listen. Then I'll ask you to tell me generally what the speaker is talking about. Are you ready?

Audio Script

These days we are made aware of so many environmental concerns. We are aware in ways that many people in the past used to not be. However, the question is which is more worrisome than the others?

So to continue, there is no question air pollution has been a major consideration in environmental problems recently. This has mainly happened due to the increase in transportation these days. On the one hand, most families have at least one car, if not two. On the other hand, more airplanes have been used and therefore emit most air contamination. The experts have commented that this can be harmful to humans and anything living, since we are breathing in all the air pollutants. Now, if we look at deforestation, this is something else to be concerned about. Deforestation is a contributor to global warming. More greenhouse gases are created and the water cycle is also affected, as well as the soil and the biodiversity. By having more trees **cut down** and not replaced, we also have less oxygen created in the world. Although there are many other environmental concerns, water pollution is also one that ought to not be ignored. Most of the time this is caused by human activity. This can harm the aquatic ecosystem and any lifesource that depends on the water source. If sea life had been affected before it has been captured as a food source, then it can well harm the health of those that consume it. If we are not careful this could **wipe out** many species in the oceans and rivers.

Despite all these problems, they are not without solutions. For instance, with different sorts of transports, as their energy source is replaced with alternatives sources, like solar, wind or geothermal. You must consider that this will help keep the air clean. When it comes to deforestation, there are also some aspects that the government should take an active role in. If the government were to ban clear-cutting forest, then it would keep a total depletion of a forest from happening, which is quite practical. Reforestation for cut trees is just as important to make sure that cut trees are being replaced and as a result we **look after** the world's oxygen source. Furthermore, as for water pollution, many factories that could contaminate the water, may be persuaded to not do so by the large fines that the government places over such acts. It might also be a good idea to have programmed testing of water sources, especially for areas that are used for fishing. Citizens can also do their part by not throwing litter into water sources, like rivers and beaches. If people had been aware of the harm that this does, they would have been more careful with their litter and **throw it away** in the designated waste bins.

It all boils down to that we only have one world that we need to take care of for future generations. Through reports of effects on the earth, we have been seeing that we are progressing in our efforts, but we still have a way to go and have to face up to all the environmental problems that have been caused by humans.

Can you tell me in one or two sentences what the speaker was talking about?

Now listen to the talk again. This time make some notes as you listen, if you want to. Then I'll ask you to tell me which problems can be caused by national environmental issues and their possible solutions.

Now tell me which problems can be caused by national environmental issues and their possible solutions. You have one minute to talk.

This is the end of the listening task.

Answers:

<p>Problems with environmental Issues</p>	<p>Air Contamination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increased transportation ● Harmful to humans / Breathing in Air Pollutants <p>Deforestation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contributor to global warming ● More greenhouse gases, water cycle, soil and biodiversity affected ● Less oxygen <p>Water Pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Caused by human activity ● Harm aquatic ecosystem / Any lifesource / Harm health
<p>Solutions with environmental Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Replacing energy sources ● Ban clear-cutting forest ● Reforestation for cut trees ● Placing large fines ● Testing water sources /Not throwing litter into water sources

Marks: +_ / +10

Activity 2: Reading

Find grammar in the audio script and highlight it, writing behind the grammar: For example:
You must know that... = You **must [modal verb: must]** know that

Grammar list:

- Second conditional
- Simple passive
- Used to
- Relative clauses
- Modal verb: Must
- Modal verb: Should / Ought to
- Modal verb: May / Might
- Third conditional
- Present perfect continuous
- Past Perfect Simple
- Reported speech / Reported Verb
- Linking expressions: Although
- Linking expressions: In spite of / despite all
- Cohesive devices: So to continue,

Once you have found all the grammar, write down some vocabulary and ideas in the audioscript.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Activity 3: Writing

Write an essay for your teacher (150 to 180 words) about environmental issues, talking about some of the problems and possible solutions.

- >> Explain what are some of the environmental issues that exist
- >> Say what are some of the causes
- >> Suggest some possible solutions

Plan your writing with the grammar, writing format, and ideas from the writing prompt before starting.

Activity 4: Speaking

Now, think about having a two minute conversation about: What is the environmental issue that causes you the most concern and what can be done to better this problem? You can use ideas from the listening activity and/or add your own ideas.

What ideas can you use?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

What questions can you ask?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.