



Global Environmental

Task: Plastic Pollution and its Impact

Activity 1: Listening

Welcome to a practice listening task for the GESE 9.

You are going to hear a talk about plastic pollution and its impact on the ocean and marine life. 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

Plastic pollution harms marine life, ecosystems, and human health. Collective action is needed to mitigate its impact and protect our oceans. One of the ways individuals can contribute to this effort is by reducing their plastic consumption and properly disposing of plastic waste. How long can we continue to ignore the devastating impact of plastic pollution on our oceans and the life within them?

Plastic pollution is a pressing issue that poses a threat to both marine life and human health. Each year, an estimated 8 million metric tons of plastic end up in the oceans, contributing to the buildup of microplastics that take hundreds of years to decompose. On top of that, the majority of plastic in the ocean comes from land-based sources such as litter and improperly disposed of waste. Hence, plastic pollution affects not only marine life but also human health, since microplastics can be found in the seafood we eat and the water we drink. This means that the problem could have been avoided if we considered putting in place and practicing proper waste management. That is to say, the responsibility for plastic pollution lies not only with individuals but also with governments and corporations. Namely, each entity must take action to reduce their plastic waste and increase their efforts towards recycling and sustainable alternatives. Only when we work together to reduce our reliance on single-use plastics, such as straws, plastic bags and water bottles, which are major contributors to plastic pollution, and increase recycling efforts can we hope to make a significant impact on this issue.

Plastic pollution is a growing problem that affects not only marine life but also the environment and human health. In other words, it's a global problem with far-reaching consequences. Whereas plastic bags, straws, and packaging are convenient and affordable, they contribute to the plastic waste that ends up in our oceans and forms marine debris. What is more, plastic particles can harm marine animals by entangling or being ingested by them, resulting in death or long-term health problems. Plastic pollution can also have long-term effects on ecosystems, disrupting food chains and habitats. For instance, ocean gyres have been seen accumulating massive amounts of plastic waste, which can last for hundreds of years. In addition, experts have noticed that plastic pollution has also been damaging coastal economies, which in turn affects tourism and the fishing industry. Also, in a broader view, plastic pollution contributes to climate change, as the production and disposal of plastic releases greenhouse gases. Apart from that, ocean gyres have been seen

accumulating massive amounts of plastic waste, which can last for hundreds of years. Nevertheless, there are solutions to mitigate the impact of plastic pollution, such as using biodegradable alternatives, seeking to reduce plastic use, and promoting proper disposal and recycling. It is essential to take collective action to address this global issue and protect our oceans for future generations.

In short, plastic pollution is a pressing global issue with severe consequences for the environment, human health, and marine life. Plastic waste, including items such as bags, straws, and packaging, contributes to the problem and harms marine animals through entanglement and ingestion. However, there are solutions available, and collective action is essential to mitigate the impact of plastic pollution and protect our oceans for future generations.

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 about the information and the impact of plastic pollution.

Now tell me about the information and the impact of plastic pollution. You have one minute to talk.

This is the end of the listening task.

Answers:

<p>Information of plastic pollution:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is estimated that 8 million metric tons of plastic end up in the oceans each year. • Plastic can take hundreds of years to decompose and break down into smaller pieces known as microplastics. • The majority of plastic in the ocean comes from land-based sources such as litter and improperly disposed of waste. • Plastic pollution affects not only marine life but also human health, as microplastics can be found in the seafood we eat and the water we drink. • Single-use plastics such as straws, plastic bags, and water bottles are major contributors to plastic pollution.
<p>Impact on plastic pollution:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic pollution harms marine life by entanglement or ingestion, resulting in death or long-term health problems. • Plastic pollution can have long term effects on the ecosystems, disrupting food chains and habitats. • Plastic pollution can damage coastal economies, affecting tourism and the fishing industry.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Plastic pollution contributes to climate change, as the production and disposal of plastic releases greenhouse gases.● Ocean gyres have been seen accumulating massive amounts of plastic waste, which can last for hundreds of years.
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Grammar Used in the listening task:

- Verbs with infinitive or Gerunds
- Passives with Modal Verbs
- should / must / might / could + perfect infinitive
- wish / hope / if only
- either....or (else)..... / neither.....nor.....
- hence / whereas / what is more / On top of that
- namely / in other words / for instance / that is to say
- Inversion:
 - Little did I know / realize / think (Little did I know that I would end up moving here.)
 - Only by....will you.... (Only by working hard will you pass your exam.)
 - Only when....did I.... (Only when he explained it did I understand it.)
 - No sooner.....than.... (No sooner had we left than it started raining.)