

Discussion point

1. What global issues are in the new moment?
2. Which issues are you most worried about? Why? Are there any you are not worried about?
3. Which ones affect your company, your working life, and you personally?



Countdown to crisis

Oil is running out, and the race is on to find an alternative source of energy. Over the last 40 years, oil has been used worldwide to give us food, warmth, chemicals, medicine, clothing and, most of all, mobility. But now Jeroen van der Veer, CEO of the oil multinational Royal Dutch Shell, has named the year that our needs will exceed the supply of oil. He predicts **global demand** for oil will rise dramatically in the next few years due to **population growth** and the rapid **economic development** of countries, such as China and India. He forecasts that, because of this, the **world supply** of oil will no longer be able to meet that demand as early as 2015.

Despite the urgency of this problem and the millions invested in **renewable energy** using sources, such as wind, waves, and sunlight, world governments are far from finding a solution. This means that, if we don't take the **oil shortage** seriously, the **energy crisis** will happen sooner than we think.

15. Read the text and find out when the global oil crisis is predicted to start.

16. Match the phrases in bold in the text to definitions 1-7 below.

1. energy whose source will always exist _____
2. the need for something in the world _____
3. an improvement in financial conditions _____
4. a time when energy will cause problems _____
5. an increase in the number of people _____
6. a situation where there is not enough oil _____
7. the amount available in the world _____

17. Use a word from A and a word from B to complete the sentences.

A	B
oil	supply
economic	crisis
population	energy
world	growth
renewable	demand
global	shortage
energy	development



1. People will take the energy crisis more seriously when they can no longer afford to run their cars.
2. The _____ of oil and gas is running out.
3. Where there is _____ the financial situation of a country improves.
4. Wind and water are sources of _____.
5. _____ means that there will be nine billion people living on the planet by 2050,
6. More countries need more oil these days so the _____ has increased.
7. Governments are hoping to find new oil fields to avoid an _____.