

Speaking

1 Ask and answer the questions with a partner.

- What things can everyone do to help their local environment and the global environment?
- Which environmental problem concerns you the most?
- What sort of environments are your favourite places to go (eg beach, mountain, city)? How do these places make you feel?
- What could be done to improve the environment where you live?

2 A nature reserve is an area that is protected in order to support wildlife, but it is also for people to enjoy visiting. Which of these things do you think is most important for a nature reserve to have? Number them from 1 (most important) to 10 (least important). Then talk to your partner and ask what he/she thinks about each item.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a café ☐ • beautiful scenery ☐ • benches for visitors to sit on ☐ • car/bicycle parking ☐ • clean-up days ☐ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • good habitats for wildlife ☐ • good maintenance and no litter ☐ • guided tours for schools or the public ☐ • information boards ☐ • location away from busy roads ☐ |
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3 Work with a partner. You live near a nature reserve, but your local council is concerned and disappointed that the nature reserve is full of litter. Here are some ideas that the local council is considering to solve the problem. First, talk to each other about how successful each idea would be. Then decide which two ideas the council should choose. Use the words and phrases in the Language Bank to help you.



4 Work in pairs to discuss these questions.

- Is it more important to try to prevent global environmental problems or to protect your local environment?
- Do you think the quality of people's local environment affects their behaviour?
- What are the best ways to encourage people to care about the environment?



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In a discussion, if you're not sure which items to choose, it's OK to ask your partner what he/she thinks first and then see whether you agree or not. You can also ask them to explain their opinion if you're still not sure.

LANGUAGE BANK

Asking your partner's opinion
 What do you think about ...?
 What's your opinion of ...?
 Do you agree that ...?
 What would you say about ...?