

## ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

(Module Test)

### I. Unscramble the words to match to their proper definitions.

1. LECRECY; 2. TALUPONTL; 3. FOSINODETATRE; 4. WABERELEN;  
5. RETILT.

1. to treat or process (used or waste materials) so as to make them suitable for reuse (v.) .....  
2. a substance that makes land, water, air, etc., dirty and not safe or suitable to use (n.) .....  
3. the act of cutting down or destroying large number of trees without planting more to replace them (n.) .....  
4. a resource that can be produced by a natural process, and is not limited (adj.) .....  
5. small pieces of rubbish that have been left lying on the ground in public places (n.) .....

### II. Match each word / phrase with its definition.

1. carbon footprint: .....; 2. greenhouse effect: .....; 3. air pollution: .....; 4. smog: .....; 5. acid rain: .....; 6. water pollution: .....; 7. biodiversity: .....; 8. global warming: ..... 9. ozone depletion: .....; 10. sustainability: .....

a. The contamination of water sources with harmful substances.  
b. The gradual weakening of Earth's ozone layer.  
c. The measure of the impact of human activities on the environment in terms of greenhouse gases produced.  
d. The variety of life forms within a given ecosystem, biome, or the entire Earth.  
e. The gradual increase in the Earth's average temperature.  
f. A dense, hazy form type of air pollution formed by the interaction of various pollutants, primarily ground-level ozone, with particulate matter (small particles), nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds.  
g. The process where heat is trapped in the Earth's atmosphere by gases like carbon dioxide.  
h. The presence of harmful substances in the air.  
i. Rainfall made acidic by pollutants in the atmosphere.  
j. Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the needs of future generations.

### III. Fill in the blanks using a word from the list.

weather	exhaust	on	greenhouse	recycling	atmosphere
fuel	resources		environmental	energy	

In recent years, the number of (1) ..... problems has increased dangerously. One of the most serious problems is changes to the (2) ....., which has led to the (3) ..... effect: this is making most climates warmer. It is already affecting several areas of the world with unusual (4) ..... causing draughts or heavy storms. Cutting down on (5) ..... fumes from vehicles would help solve the problem. Natural (6) .....

..... such as oil and coal are not endless, so using other forms of (7) ..... such as wind, sun, water, and even sea waves would help preserve our planet. Very soon we will be able to drive cars in cities and towns that run (8) ..... electricity – a much cleaner (9) ..... than petrol. And we can also help to reserve finite resources by (10) ..... things made of glass, aluminium, plastic and paper.

#### **IV. Match the halves of the sentences.**

1. Rainforests are threatened
2. Deforestation is
3. Mining involves
4. The expansion of agriculture for food production,
5. These activities have devastated global rainforests,
6. If current rates continue,
7. The loss of rainforests
8. Rainforests also regulate the planet's climate
9. In conclusion, rainforests are facing numerous threats, from deforestation and logging to mining and climate change.
10. If we want to preserve these unique and invaluable ecosystems for
  - a. would harm the environment and species found only there.
  - b. extracting minerals from the earth, leading to destruction of vast rainforest areas.
  - c. especially meat, clears large areas of rainforest for cattle ranching and crop cultivation like soybeans and palm oil.
  - d. the removal of large forest areas for logging, farming, or infrastructure.
  - e. with over half destroyed in the last fifty years.
  - f. by deforestation, mining, and agriculture.
  - g. and water cycle.
  - h. they could disappear within the next hundred years.
  - i. future generations, we must take immediate action to protect them
  - j. facing numerous threats, from deforestation and logging to mining and climate change.

#### **V. Listen to a conversation between a resident and a recycling center employee. Check the items that can be recycled.**

1. soda bottles	4. styrofoam
2. heavy-duty bags	5. plastic food containers
3. grocery bags	

#### **VI. Listen to a conversation between an environmental scientist and a government official. Mark the following statements as true (T) or false (F).**

1. To create a water reservoir, the state would have to make people leave the area. T / F
2. The area has too little water to rely on hydropower. T / F
3. The woman recommends pursuing wind farms. T / F

#### **VII. Listen to the recording and decide if these sentences are true or false.**

1. There are three differences between fossil fuels and renewable energy.	<b>T / F</b>
2. Solar panels have become much less expensive since the year 2000.	<b>T / F</b>
3. There are no problems with using wind turbines.	<b>T / F</b>
4. Ground source heating is perfect for producing electricity in cities.	<b>T / F</b>
5. Climate change can have a negative effect on hydropower.	<b>T / F</b>

### **VIII. Read the article and choose the correct options to answer the questions.**

#### ***Why can't we throw our trash into a volcano to burn it?***

It's true lava is hot enough to burn up some of our trash. During the 2018 eruption of Kilauea volcano in Hawaii, the lava reached over 2,000°F (1,100°C) — hotter than the surface of Venus and enough to melt many types of rock. This is similar to waste incinerators, which burn garbage at similar temperatures. However, not all volcanoes produce such hot lava. Kilauea's basalt lava is hotter and more fluid than the thicker, cooler dacite lava at places like Mount St. Helens, where surface temperatures during the 2004–2008 eruption were around 1,300°F (704°C). Even at 2,000°F, lava cannot melt everything. It can destroy food scraps, paper, plastics, glass, and some metals, but stronger materials like steel, nickel, and iron would survive.

Moreover, very few volcanoes actually have lava lakes — only about eight, including Kilauea, Mount Erebus in Antarctica, and Nyiragongo in Congo. Most volcanoes have craters filled with solid rock or water, not molten lava. Throwing trash into a lava lake would also be extremely dangerous. The thin crust on the surface can easily break if something heavy falls in, causing explosions. This happened at Kilauea in 2015, when rocks fell into the lava and triggered a violent blast.

Suppose it was possible to dump trash safely into a lava lake: What would happen to the trash? When plastics, garbage and metals burn, they release a lot of toxic gases. Volcanoes already give off tons of toxic gases, including sulfur, chlorine and carbon dioxide. Sulfur gases can create acidic fog, which we call "vog," for "volcanic fog." It can kill plants and cause breathing problems for people nearby. Mixing these already-dangerous volcanic gases with other gases from burning our trash would make the resulting fumes even more harmful for people and plants near the volcano. Finally, many indigenous cultures consider volcanoes as sacred places. For example, native Hawaiians believe that Halema'uma'u crater at Kilauea is the home of Pele, the native Hawaiian goddess of fire. Dumping trash there would be a huge insult to their traditions and beliefs.

#### **1. Which materials would NOT melt even at 2,000°F?**

- A. Plastics and paper
- B. Food scraps and glass
- C. Steel and nickel
- D. Some types of rock

#### **2. How does Kilauea's lava compare to that at Mount St. Helens?**

- A. It is cooler and thicker.

- B. It is hotter and more fluid.
- C. It is colder and less fluid.
- D. It is hotter but thicker.

**3. Why is it hard to throw trash into a volcano?**

- A. There are very few active volcanoes.
- B. Most volcanoes have water inside them.
- C. Only a few volcanoes have active lava lakes.
- D. Volcanoes are always too cold.

**4. What could happen if something heavy falls onto the crust of a lava lake?**

- A. The object would freeze.
- B. It would cause an explosion.
- C. It would float on the lava.
- D. It would sink quietly.

**5. What is "vog"?**

- A. A type of volcanic rock
- B. A volcanic earthquake
- C. Acidic fog caused by volcanic gases
- D. A sudden eruption

**6. Why would dumping trash into volcanoes be disrespectful?**

- A. It would disturb scientific research.
- B. It would offend indigenous cultures who view volcanoes as sacred.
- C. It would cause the volcano to erupt.
- D. It would endanger nearby cities.