

ENGLISH ID 2 UNIT 2.3.

2.3. What's the world's most serious problem?

1  2.5 Listen to extracts a–h and match them with the problems below.

- animal extinction
- climate change
- corruption
- crime
- disease
- pollution
- poverty
- unemployment

2  2.5 Listen again and match the numbers below to extracts a–h. There's one extra number.

- 1
- 13
- 30
- 88.2%
- 2,300
- 3,200
- 200,000
- 2,800,000
- 200,000,000

3 Match the words to definitions a–i.

- a A large curve of different colors which can appear in the sky when there's sun and rain.
- b When the moon goes between the Earth and the sun.
- c A sudden shaking of the Earth's surface.
- d A fire that moves quickly and out of control.
- e A huge storm that moves over water.
- f A long period of no rain when there isn't enough water for plants and animals to live.
- g A very large wave, usually caused by an earthquake at sea.
- h When a place becomes covered with water.
- i A storm with thunder and lightning.

- a hurricane
- a rainbow
- a flood
- a thunderstorm
- an eclipse
- a tsunami
- an earthquake
- a wildfire
- a drought



Connect

Search online about one of the types of natural phenomena in 3. Read about it, then share what you found out with a classmate.

4 Complete the posts with the words in the box and the past continuous of the verbs in parentheses.

drought earthquakes eclipse flood
hurricane lightning rainbow thunderstorm

Weird Weather Website

a Yesterday, there was an _____. It was really strange. When the sun went behind the moon, the temperature dropped for a few minutes. We _____ (watch) it in our yard with a special protective mask. It was amazing. BTW, I read a theory that this causes _____. Did anybody feel the ground move?

b During the first few months of this year there was a _____. There was no water, so the plants _____. (not grow). I work in agriculture, so I really depend on the weather. I won't make much money this year.

c There was a _____ in my town last night. There's a lot of water damage to buildings and possessions. Thankfully, I _____ (stay) with my grandparents, so I didn't have to move, but my neighbors had to leave their houses in the middle of the night.

d I love photography and I _____ (play) with my new camera the other afternoon when suddenly the sky went dark. There were these huge black clouds and a few hours later, a _____ started. I took some photos of the _____ hitting the ground. They're great photos, I'll post some.

e I _____ (watch) TV last night. It was a program about _____ Katrina in New Orleans. It was terrible. We don't get weather like that here, in fact, it _____ (rain) a few moments ago and now the sun is out and there's a beautiful _____.



5 ▶ 2.6 Read the three poems and underline the picture word sounds in each one. Listen to check.

a *I have two young cousins.
I call them "double trouble."
Everywhere they go they cause
problems for their mother.*



/ʌ/

b *This is a story about a house in the clouds,
Two thousand steps up, three thousand steps down.
The sun was hot in summer,
The wind was loud at night.
The couple couldn't live there,
So they found a place in town.*



/aʊ/

c *It would be good to visit Hollywood.
If you get a chance to go, you should.*



/ʊ/

6 ▶ 2.7 Make it personal Listen and answer. Write or record your answers.