



Geography and the natural world



1. Test your knowledge of geography with this quiz.

0. Which of these countries has the highest population?
A India B China C Japan D the USA
1. Africa, South America and Asia are all examples of _____.
2. Hokkaido, Iceland and Ireland are examples of _____.
3. Which of the following is not a mountain?
A Everest B Fuji C Mont Blanc D Manhattan
4. Choose the right word: The Himalayas, the Alps and the Andes are all examples of mountain **rangers / ranges / ranchers**.
5. Which of these rivers is the longest?
A The Thames B The Nile C The Amazon D The Mississippi
6. The Gobi, the Sahara and the Kalahari are all examples of _____.
7. The Atlantic, the Pacific, the Indian and the Arctic are all examples of _____.
8. Choose the right word: Niagara, Angel and Victoria are all examples of **cascades / fountains / waterfalls**.
9. Choose the right word: The Suez and the Panama are examples of **canals / channels / chanel**s.
10. Complete this sentence with an appropriate word: On our last holiday, we took a boat trip across _____ Geneva.
11. Complete this sentence with an appropriate word: Trees in the Amazon _____ are being cut down at an alarming rate.
12. What do you call the area of land between two groups of hills or mountains? _____
13. Quito is the only capital city which lies directly on the _____.
14. Complete this sentence with an appropriate word: When the _____ erupted, the town had to be evacuated.
15. Complete this sentence with an appropriate word: The _____ blew for five days, destroying houses and blowing down trees. (More than one answer is possible.)
16. Complete this sentence with an appropriate word: The ground shook violently during the _____.
17. What do we call a long period of hot, dry weather when crops and animals die?
A a blizzard B a flood C a drought D a tidal wave E a tornado
18. Do polar bears live at the North Pole or the South Pole? _____
19. If a hill is a low mountain, what is a stream? _____
20. Which of these cities is not in the Northern Hemisphere?
A Bogota B Bombay C Jakarta D Panama E Colombo



Weather



1. Match the first part of the sentence in the first column with a word in the second column and the rest of the sentence in the third column. In some cases, more than one combination may be possible. There is an example at the beginning (0).

0. A cool, pleasant ...	... mist ...	... rolled across the sky and hid the sun.
1. The torrential ...	...smog ...	... echoed across the valley and made everyone jump.
2. A roaring ...	... wind ...	... from her hair as she stepped into the house.
3. The clatter of ...	...thunderstorm ...	... but after it has broken, the humidity usually drops.
4. The crashing ...	...lightning ...	... and everyone decided to stay in out of the cold.
5. There was a sudden flash of ...	...clouds ...	... made it impossible to see more than a few metres ahead of us.
6. Thick, grey ...	...breeze ...	... covered the hills.
7. A thin, grey ...	...snow ...	... covered the town and made it difficult to breathe.
8. A dirty, yellow ...	...boiling ...	... hit the window and woke me up.
9. I loved the crunch of ...	...sun ...	... underfoot as I walked across the grass.
10. She shook the freezing ...	...rain ...	... shone down on the beach.
11. A howling, icy ...	...hurricane ...	... blew gently through the trees and took the edge off the heat.
12. A blazing ...	...thunder ...	... turned everything white and made driving conditions very bad.
13. A devastating ...	...frost ...	... and everyone decided to head for the beach.
14. Huge, fluffy ...	...blizzard ...	... destroyed buildings and knocked down trees.
15. Hot, humid air usually precedes a ...	...freezing ...	... which lit up the night sky.
16. The weather on that summer day was absolutely ...	...fog ...	... removed the last of the autumn leaves from the trees and turned umbrellas inside out.
17. The weather on that winter day was absolutely	...hailstones...	... poured down all day and the streets were full of people carrying umbrellas.



The environment



2. Read this article: For each of numbers 1–21, choose the most appropriate word. There is an example at the beginning.

Nowadays, it is difficult to avoid (0) environment/environmental issues. We are always told how (1) polluted / pollution is having an adverse effect on our (2) planet / earth. (3) Poisoned / Poisonous gases from factories destroy the (4) oxygen / ozone layer, contributing to the (5) hothouse / greenhouse effect, which results in global (6) warming / heating. (7) Acidity / acid rain is destroying forests. As more and more (8) rainforest / desert is destroyed, the threat to (9) wildlife / wild life increases, with several (10) dangerous / endangered species already on the verge of (11) extinction / extinct. In brief, we are heading towards an (12) ecological / ecology disaster.

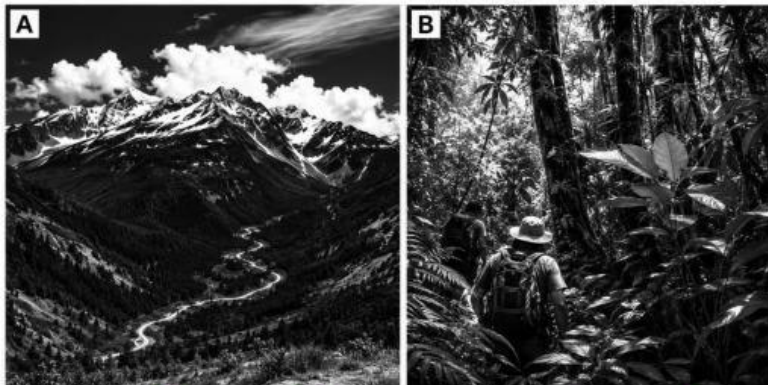
However, we can all do something to help protect the environment. For a start, we should try to (13) reserve/conserve energy (14) resources/resorts such as oil and coal, by turning down our central heating or making less use of our cars. Most cars use (15) leadless/unleaded petrol, but this still (16) injures / damages the environment. Secondly, since many everyday items such as glass and paper can be (17) recycled / recharged, we should try to re-use them rather than throwing them away. Thirdly, we can join (18) pressurising / pressure groups, which can be very effective in persuading governments to adopt greener (19) politics / policies such as (20) subsidising / subsidising public transport and (21) defending / protecting wildlife.



Geography, climate and weather



1. Look at the photographs below. Where do you think the places are?



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2. Read the description below. It is about one of the places. Put one word from the box into each gap.

flowers	Manali is surrounded by towering snow-capped mountain (1) <u>peaks</u>
orchards	and thick forests of pine (2) _____.
peaks	Clear mountain water flows
streams	through the narrow (3) _____ into the Beas River.
forests	Around the
paths	town, the landscape is breathtaking. The gentle wooded (4) _____
slopes	and (5) _____ of the hillsides are covered with wild flowers.
valleys	Above Manali, travellers can walk along the winding (6) _____
	and high mountain passes to the Himalayas.

3. Match the description to one of the photographs.

low	deep	shallow	<u>deep</u>	narrow	_____
muddy	cultivated	clear	_____	wild	_____
wide	straight	gentle	_____	high	_____
steep		winding	_____		

4. Write two or three sentences about the place in the other photograph. use words from 2 or 3.

5. Choose the best word to fit each gap in these definitions.

1. A <u>river</u> is bigger than a _____. Both of them are natural, but a _____ is manmade. A _____ happens when there is too much water.	stream flood	canal ~~river~~
2. A _____ is bigger than a _____ and in tropical areas is called a _____. When trees are cut down, the wood or _____ is used for furniture, houses, etc.	wood rainforest	forest timber
3. A _____ is higher than a _____. A _____ has one steep side and is often on the coast. A _____ is a natural hole in the side of a mountain, cliff or hill.	mountain hill	cliff cave
4. The _____ is the salty water which covers a large part of the Earth's surface. The _____ is very similar in meaning but is used for very large areas of water, e.g. the Pacific. A _____ is completely surrounded by land. When water drops suddenly from a high point to a low point, we call it a _____.	sea lake	ocean waterfall
5. We use _____ for the edges of a river and _____ for the edges of a sea or lake. An area of sand or stones beside the sea or a lake is called a _____. The _____ is where the land meets the sea.	banks beach	shores coast
6. The _____ is on the ground and we grow plants in it. When it is very wet it becomes _____ on the ground. In very dry places there is a lot of _____ blowing in the air.	sand dust	soil mud

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6. Read the email. Choose the correct word (A, B, C or D) for each gap.

Jackie,
I'm writing to tell you about my holiday. We went on bicycles and on the first day we cycled beside the Grand Union 1 _____, which was built in 1793 to carry goods from the Midlands to London. It was very relaxing. The next day we rode around a 2 _____. That took a few hours but there was a small sandy 3 _____ and a little 4 _____ where you could sit in the shade. We camped there and the next day we hired a boat. The only problem was there was a lot of thick 5 _____ at the side of the lake which we got stuck in. We weren't in danger because the water was 6 _____, but there was a risk of not being able to get the boat out. On another day we went for a walk to the top of a 7 _____. It wasn't very high but we had a lovely view. We came down the side and stopped in the village at the _____ for lunch in a really nice café. I'd recommend it. See you soon.

Love, Maria

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| 1 A stream | B sea | C flood | D river |
| 2 A sea | B ocean | C lake | D waterfall |
| 3 A banks | B shores | C beach | D coast |
| 4 A wood | B forest | C rainforest | D timber |
| 5 A sand | B soil | C dust | D mud |
| 6 A little | B shallow | C narrow | D gentle |
| 7 A mountain | B cliff | C hill | D cave |

Vocabulary note

Some words can have more than one meaning, and the second meaning can often be idiomatic:

*I've got a **mountain** of work to do. = a lot of work*

*There was a **flood** of applications for the job. = suddenly a large number of applications.*

7. Read these sentences about two different climates. Guess which are about picture A and which are about picture B in 1. Write A or B next to each one.

- It is always hot and humid. B
- Summers are mild and wet.
- As it's near the Equator, there is little difference in temperature between the warmest and the coolest months.
- Rain falls nearly every day and there is no dry season.
- In winter the temperature drops to below 0°C.
- In the rainforest, the morning of almost every day begins with a clear blue sky.
- The area is often cut off because of snow.
- By mid-afternoon every day there are sudden hard downpours and thunderstorms are common.
- The heavy snowfall in winter attracts skiers and tourists.
- It can rain heavily in July and August during the monsoon.
- The temperature at night is 20°C–25°C but during the day it rises to above 30°C.
- Skies are often cloudy in the mountains, whether it is summer or winter.

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8. Check your answers and then put the sentences into two paragraphs to make two separate descriptions, keeping the sentences in the same order as in 3.1. Join some of them with and and but. Use your notebook.

9. Listen to a description of the climate in another country. Which part of the world do you think it is? 2

10. Using 7–8 to help you, write a description of the climate in your country in your notebook.

11. **COMMON EXPRESSIONS:** Each of these sentences is about different weather conditions. Write rain, snow/ice, sun or wind next to each one.

1. I nearly fell over because the path was slippery. snow/ice
2. There was a strong breeze coming off the sea. _____
3. The heatwave went on for weeks. _____
4. We got caught in a shower. _____
5. They had fine weather for the match. _____
6. The lake was frozen so we went skating. _____
7. My feet were soaked because I trod in a puddle. _____
8. They couldn't get home because of the blizzard. _____
9. The gale blew the tree down. _____
10. It poured all day. _____
11. The ground was covered in frost. _____
12. The hailstones were as big as golfballs. _____

12. **WORD BUILDING:** Make the weather nouns below into adjectives. Be careful with spelling.

breeze breezy
storm _____
cloud _____

wind _____
rain _____
dust _____

sun _____
ice _____

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EXAM PRACTICE

READING – Part 2

You are going to read a magazine article about a mountain in Africa. Five sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences (A–F) the one which fits each gap (1–5). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

On a clear day, Mount Kilimanjaro is visible from Nairobi. However, when the sun is low and the clouds are light, the enormous, snow-capped peak appears to be floating in space. 1 _____

Kilimanjaro is 5,895 m above sea level and is on the Equator. 2 _____ They'll start in tropical temperatures, go through milder weather to high alpine desert and then permanently snow-capped summits.

Despite its tremendous altitude, it is possible to get to the top without any technical climbing ability. With its accessible slopes, abundance of porters and relatively mild climate, the trek to the summit is considered a moderately easy climb in mountaineering circles. 3 _____

The ascent is recognised as one of the great walks of the world by the climbers who complete it. 4 _____ They will take home memories of colourful scenery, stunning natural beauty, warm and friendly locals and a unique sense of isolation. This last impression is reinforced when they realise that until more than 100 years ago, nobody had ever climbed this vast volcano.

Ever since Hans Meyer's first ascent in 1889, more and more people have tackled the mountain. 5 _____ Be aware of the scenic variety, remoteness and popularity of each option, but most importantly, be aware of the degree of difficulty. The ascent is a gruelling but wonderful trek with magnificent views, unmatched in Africa. Whichever route you opt for, to make the most of it, walk slowly with your eyes open. Then you'll come home with something far more valuable and important than a summit certificate.

- A. Those who do so will be rewarded by what they see.
- B. As a result of this, trekkers will go through several different climates in the course of only five or six days.
- C. Even so, surprisingly few people make it all the way there.
- D. This is the most difficult path to follow.
- E. If you'd like to join them, it's essential to select the route that is most appropriate for you.
- F. At such times, that kind of beauty appears almost supernatural.

Exam tip

*In the exam, seven sentences will be removed and the text will be longer.
Both vocabulary and grammar help you decide where to put each sentence.*

SPEAKING – Part 2

Look at the photos in the exercise again and think about your answers to these questions.

- What can you see in each photograph?
- What is different about the two places?
- What season do you think it is? What is the weather like?

Exam tip

*Compare the two photographs, but also be ready to give your own opinions.
What would you enjoy about each place?
What would you find difficult?*

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Science, the environment



1. Tick the things that you think a scientist might do during a typical day at work.

☐ Work as part of a team
☐ Enter data into a computer
☐ Make an exciting discovery
☐ Make observations
☐ Test a theory
☐ Analyse statistics
☐ Attend a conference
☐ Carry out an experiment
☐ Work outside

2. What will these scientists study?

Match 1–7 with A–G.

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Physicist | A. Rocks |
| 2. Biologist | B. Substances |
| 3. Ecologist | C. Stars |
| 4. Chemist | D. The environment |
| 5. Mathematician | E. Living things |
| 6. Geologist | F. Matter and energy |
| 7. Astronomer | G. Numbers and shapes |

3. Complete the table.

person(noun)	astronomer			ecologist			
subject(noun)	astronomy		chemistry			mathematics	
adjective		biological			geological		physical

4. Read Texts A and B and answer the questions with A, B or Both A & B. Which scientist...?

A Isaac Newton (1642–1727) had a profound impact on astronomy, physics and mathematics. He was raised by his grandparents, and it was thanks to an uncle that he went to university to study mathematics. He made the first modern telescope and developed a branch of mathematics known as calculus. He is also famous for developing the scientific laws of motion and the law of gravity, which formed the basis of all models of the cosmos.

B James Lovelock (1919–) first graduated as a chemist and then obtained degrees in medicine and biophysics. He has produced a range of technical instruments, many of which are used by NASA in space exploration. He is most famous for the "Gaia Theory", which considers the planet Earth as a living being, capable of changing and restoring itself. He has brought his concern about climate change to the attention of both the public and the scientific world.

- Obtained a degree in chemistry?
B
- Invented scientific instruments?

- Was worried about the future of the Earth?

- Developed theories of global importance?

- Was keenly interested in green issues?

- Showed a talent for mathematics?

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Vocabulary note

Scientists **do** an experiment, a test or research, but they **make** a discovery.

5. COMMON EXPRESSIONS: There are currently many problems with the environment. Match the two halves of the sentences.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Global warming means that | A. Pollute the air in most cities. |
| 2. Heavy traffic and exhaust fumes | B. Which is taken to landfill sites. |
| 3. The emissions produced by factories | C. Have caused serious flooding. |
| 4. The pesticides used on crops in the countryside | D. Create acid rain which destroys crops. |
| 5. Heavy rain and rising water levels in rivers | E. The weather is becoming hotter and drier. |
| 6. Most households produce large amounts of waste | F. Are dangerous to birds and other wildlife. |

6. Put a tick against the problems which exist in your country.

7. Schools are teaching their pupils about pollution and the need to live in sustainable buildings which cause no damage to the environment. Read the newspaper article below and answer the questions.

THE SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL

Within 30 years, most scientists expect us to be living in a much harsher world, where droughts, storms and floods are stronger and more frequent, where extremes of heat and cold are greater, and where oil and coal are nearly used up. It is therefore vitally important that schools teach

their pupils this, and are located in buildings which are environmentally sustainable. Cassop Village Primary near Durham is one such school. It has a wind turbine and solar panels. It got rid of its oil-fired heating years ago. It can generate all of its own electricity, so its running costs are low.

Contrast this with a certain city school where the head teacher knows only too well that he is throwing away money and resources trying to heat, light and ventilate a building that is a furnace in summer and an icebox in winter. As he says, "It was built in the 1970s and it should be pulled down".

In the article, find words for:

1. Three types of extreme weather _____
2. Two resources that may be in short supply in 30 years' time _____
3. Two alternative forms of energy _____
4. Three ways that power is used to make a building more comfortable _____
5. Three phrasal verbs _____

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8. Look at these expressions. Which would you use to describe the two schools above?

wasteful • environmentally friendly • expensive to maintain • efficient • cheap to run

Village school: _____

City school: _____

9. How would you describe your school, college or place of work? Is it environmentally friendly? Write two or three sentences about it.

10. We can all do something to help the environment. Mark the sentences below true (T) or false (F) for you.

How Green Are You?

1. I recycle as much of my rubbish as I can.
2. I switch off electrical equipment once I have used it to avoid wasting power.
3. I never sleep with the air conditioning on.
4. I buy organic food which is produced in my local area.
5. I put on an extra sweater rather than turn up the heating.
6. I walk or use public transport rather than drive.

Which of the things in 1—6 is easiest for you personally to do? Which do you think has the most benefit for the environment?

11. Read the speech below from a local council meeting about pollution and choose the correct answer: A, B, C or D.

It is now widely accepted that pollution (1) ____ humans, the environment, and buildings. Some pollution spreads across local and national boundaries and lasts for many generations. Many chemicals do not biodegrade and gradually (2) ____ in the food chain. So, if the crops in our fields are sprayed carelessly, the pesticide has an immediate effect on local wildlife and can ultimately (3) ____ in our food.

Burning fossil fuels — oil, gas and coal — also (4) ____ pollution, in particular carbon dioxide, which is a major contributor to global (5) _____. In our region, eight out of the ten hottest years on (6) ____ have occurred during the last decade. We should therefore (7) ____ the use of renewable energy resources such as wind and solar energy, because these do not (8) ____ carbon dioxide.

However, the biggest single cause of pollution in our city is traffic. Poorly maintained, older vehicles and bad driving techniques (9) ____ the problem worse, and this pollution has been directly (10) ____ to the rising number of asthma sufferers in our region. We should be aiming to gradually (11) ____ vehicle use in the city on high pollution days and educate the public on the importance of purchasing (12) ____ friendly vehicles and maintaining them to a high (13) _____.

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------|--------------|----------------|
| 1 A injures | B hurts | C wounds | D harms |
| 2 A build up | B get on | C grow up | D breakthrough |
| 3 A turns out | B end up | C put across | D keep back |
| 4 A gives | B leads | C begins | D causes |
| 5 A heating | B melting | C record | D thawing |
| 6 A account | B record | C document | D report |
| 7 A encourage | B advance | C help | D forward |
| 8 A bring | B design | C create | D invent |

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9 A increase	B make	C do	D grow
10 A joined	B combined	C associated	D linked
11 A keep out	B put by	C cut down	D drop out
12 A universally	B atmospherically	C globally	D environmentally
13 A degree	B grade	C mark	D standard

EXAM PRACTICE

USE OF ENGLISH Part 3

Read the text. Use the word in capitals to form a word that fits in each space.

There is an example at the beginning.

CENTRE FOR ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY (CAT)

We offer practical (0) *solutions* to some of the most serious problems facing the human race, such as climate change, (1) _____ and the waste of resources. By living by example, we aim to show that living more (2) _____ is easy and can provide a better quality of life. We have a particular interest in renewable energy, energy (3) _____ and growing fruit and (4) _____.

We promote our ideas in a (5) _____ of ways. Our Visitor Centre, which has interactive displays showing (6) _____ issues, is open seven days a week. CAT also provides a free (7) _____ service, answering inquiries on a range of topics.

We also offer a range of (8) _____ throughout the year, and can offer six-month (9) _____ to volunteers at our centre, lasting from a day to a year, wanting to work as (10) _____.

SOLVE
POLLUTE

SUSTAIN
EFFICIENT
ORGANIC
VARY
GLOBE
INFORM

MASS
RESIDENT
PLACE

LISTENING Part 4

You will hear an interview with an Australian sheep farmer called Gina who is talking about her work and plans for the future. Choose the best answer (A, B or C). 19

1 What does Gina say about sheep farming in Australia? A It is the main source of employment. B It takes place all over the country. C It is concentrated in rural areas.	5 What made Gina become interested in a new source of energy? A It will make her farm self-sufficient. B It fits in with her "green" view of life. C She is able to earn money from it.
2 What is the main challenge facing farmers who produce wool? A Competition from manmade materials B Falling production levels C Increasingly dry weather	6 What does Gina say about the advice she has received in England? A It has helped her lead a more sustainable lifestyle. B It has taught her to analyse financial issues. C It has convinced her that she has to give up.
3 Gina says that in the future, wool will be most used in A manufacturing B insulating C making clothes	7 How does Gina feel about her plans? A She is worried about high costs. B She is aware that her plans need adapting. C She is confident that she can succeed.
4 What alternative form of energy is Gina investigating? A Solar B Tidal power C Wind	

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