

LISTENING PRACTICE – THE ENVIRONMENT

LISTENING 1

Why is it so important that we limit the rise in temperature to 1.5°C? Watch this video to find out.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

Vocabulary

1. a heatwave
2. a species
3. carbon
4. a coral reef
5. an impact
6. a greenhouse gas
7. global
8. to suck something out

Definition

- a. relating to the whole world
- b. a rock-like structure under the sea which provides a home for many fish and other sea animals
- c. a period of time when the weather is much hotter than usual
- d. a group of animals or plants which are the same and can reproduce with each other
- e. a chemical substance that is found in all living things and especially in coal, oil, etc.
- f. to pull something out with great force
- g. a powerful effect
- h. a gas (such as carbon dioxide) that scientists think is making the Earth get hotter

Task 1

Write the statements in the correct groups.

plant trees	6 per cent of insect species will disappear	18.5 per cent of people will be affected by heatwaves
some coral reefs will disappear	buy less meat, especially beef	buy fewer new clothes
18 per cent of insect species will disappear	walk or ride a bike	all coral reefs will disappear
		37 per cent of people will be affected by heatwaves

What will happen with a 1.5°C rise	What will happen with a 2°C rise	What we can do to help

Task 2

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

twice	billions	average	high	by
half	compared	major	to	of

1. Today, the temperature of the planet is about 15°C.
2. Scientists think that temperatures may rise 3–5°C by 2100.
3. Although a degree doesn't seem very much, it could make a big difference.
4. Eighteen per cent insects on Earth will disappear if the temperature rises by 2°C.
5. This is to six per cent disappearing at 1.5°C.
6. If there is a 2°C rise, the number of people will be affected by heatwaves.
7. We will be in a better situation if we limit the rise 1.5°.
8. We need to plant of trees.
9. Beef production generates a amount of greenhouse gases.
10. The fashion industry is a source of greenhouse gases.

LISTENING 2.

Watch the video and choose the correct answer.

1) According to the speaker, greenhouse gases are produced by...

- a) heat from the sun
- b) the actions of people
- c) the sun's rays, and also the actions of people
- d) the video doesn't say

2) Which of these things is a greenhouse gas?

- a) carbon monoxide
- b) carbon dioxide
- c) oxygen
- d) the video doesn't say

3) Which of these ways to generate power provides a clean source of energy?

- a) gas
- b) oil
- c) wind power
- d) they are all clean sources of energy

4) Which of these things can help reduce levels of carbon dioxide?

- a) driving to work
- b) heating with coal instead of gas
- c) using public transport
- d) leaving your TV on standby, rather than switching it off

5) Which of these predictions about climate change does the video make?

- a) If the planet gets warmer, then polar bears will become extinct
- b) If the planet gets warmer, then we can expect more floods
- c) if the planet gets warmer, then fuel will become less expensive
- d) if the planet gets warmer, then sea levels will rise

6) The word extinct means...?

- a) to become scarce or rare
- b) in need of protection
- c) to become endangered
- d) something that has died out, and no longer exists

7) Choose the best answer to complete this statement:

If the planet continues to heat up, ___ ___ ___ expect to experience more extreme weather.

- a) then will we
- b) then can we
- c) then we can
- d) then should we

8) Which of these things isn't mentioned in the video?

- a) wave energy
- b) car pooling
- c) coral reefs
- d) heat waves