

2B VOCABULARY | Threats to the environment

- 1 ★ Match the compound nouns from the box with the definitions.
- endangered species exhaust fumes greenhouse effect
ozone layer renewable energy toxic waste
water scarcity wind turbine

- 1 Types of animals in danger of extinction. endangered species
- 2 Lack of water. _____
- 3 Power produced by wind, sun, etc. _____
- 4 A machine used to produce electric power. _____
- 5 Chemicals and other harmful waste products. _____
- 6 Poisonous gases produced by engines of non-electric vehicles. _____
- 7 Part of the stratosphere which limits the amount of ultraviolet radiation reaching the Earth. _____
- 8 Process by which gases trapped in the atmosphere cause the planet to heat up. _____

- 3 ★★  Find the stressed word in these compound nouns. Listen and check.

- 1 climate change
- 2 industrial waste
- 3 wind turbine
- 4 endangered species

- 4 ★★ Complete the signs with one word in each gap.

SAVE OUR TREES. STOP ¹ACID RAIN!

Burning fossil fuels = a hole in the ozone
² _____. Stop the cycle of destruction!

MAKE PUBLIC TRANSPORT FREE TO
REDUCE VEHICLE ³ _____.

CLOSE FACTORIES THAT PRODUCE
⁴ _____ WASTE NOW!

The planet belongs to all living things: protect
⁵ _____ species and stop habitat ⁶ _____.

WATER ⁷ _____ WILL LEAD TO WAR!
WE ARE THIRSTY FOR CHANGE!

- 2 ★ 2B VOCABULARY Complete the sentences with one word in each gap.

- 1 Acid rain is sometimes strong enough to damage the paint on your car.
- 2 Exhaust f _____ are extremely dangerous to human health.
- 3 Sometimes the only way to save an e _____ species is to move the last remaining animals to a zoo.
- 4 Known deposits of f _____ fuels may run out in the next 50 to 150 years.
- 5 Could technology provide a solution to global h _____?
- 6 The disastrous landslide was caused by soil e _____ after trees were cut down higher up the slopes.
- 7 Vehicle e _____ are only one of the many causes of climate change.

- 5 ★★ Complete the conversation with the compound nouns from Exercises 1 and 2.

- Presenter** On today's podcast – Peter Crumb, environmental activist. Peter, what's the biggest environmental issue the planet is facing?
- Peter** I think it has to be ¹global heating, by which I mean rising temperatures caused by the build-up of gases in the atmosphere, a process otherwise known as the ² _____. We continue to burn ³ _____ despite knowing the harm they do to the environment and that they are certain to run out in the near future.
- Presenter** Yes, and we continue to drive cars that pollute the air with their ⁴ _____.
- Peter** Indeed. You see, our refusal to properly adopt ⁵ _____ sources, such as solar power or wind farms with their majestic ⁶ _____, is likely to mean things will get worse before they get better.
- Presenter** And do you think we are ever likely to change our behaviour?
- Peter** Well, I think public opinion is changing.