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# Check Your English

## Grammar

### 2

### **Choose the correct relative pronoun to complete the sentences.**

- 1 Mr. Smith, (**who** / **that**) is my friend, has worked in the National Reserve for five years.
- 2 The Askania Nova, (**which** / **that**) I visited last year, is a great home for wildlife.
- 3 I finished reading an article about climate change (**that** / **who**) was really interesting.
- 4 An environmental conference (**which** / **who**) will take place in Berlin next Monday is rather important.
- 5 I finished reading the book about nature, (**which** / **whose**) was made into a film.
- 6 Pesticides are chemicals (**that** / **who**) are used for killing insects.

## Listening

### 3

### **Listen to the interview and answer the questions below.**

1 What organisation does Jane present?

2 What is the topic of the interview?

3 What is the amount of driving cars in East Los Angeles per day?

4 What are three health problems caused by heavy traffic?

5 Is traffic in Los Angeles faster or slower than forty years ago?

## Reading

### 4 Read the text and fill in the table after it.

#### WHAT'S HAPPENING TO OUR ENVIRONMENT?

Many people believe that the way we live our lives today is having a very damaging effect on the environment. Here are some examples of the kinds of problems we face, followed by some things that we can do to help protect our environment.

**The Greenhouse Effect.** Pollution from cars, factories and power stations is causing harmful greenhouse gases to build up in the Earth's atmosphere. These gases prevent heat from escaping, and as a result our planet is getting warmer. This process is known as global warming.

Global warming is causing the ice at the North and South Poles to melt and sea levels and sea temperatures to rise, leading to serious flooding and violent storms in many parts of the world. In other places, there will be less rain and the land will be turned into desert.

**Pollution.** The biggest polluter today is the car. Exhaust fumes are the main cause of poor air quality, which can make people feel ill and have difficulty in breathing. This problem is especially bad in cities, where the number of cars is increasing every year, causing serious congestion and filling the air with smog. Governments try to improve the situation by encouraging people to use their cars less or buy cars that do not use as much fuel.



All over the world, wildlife habitats are being destroyed. There are many endangered species that could soon become extinct. Rainforests are being cut down so that people can grow crops and feed the world's increasing population. Modern farming methods, for example using pesticides and genetically

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modified crops, are having a very bad effect on the food chain. Killing insects may be useful for growing crops, but it reduces the amount of available food for other animals and birds.

**Climate change** is also making conditions difficult for some animals. In the Arctic, the ice is melting, threatening the survival of animals such as polar bears.

The problem	The reason	The effect

I CAN ... 

- read about and understand the importance of nature parks and reserves
- read and understand information about environmental problems
- listen to and understand harmful effects of human activities
- talk about ecological problems
- discuss the ways to improve the environment
- understand and use Relative Clauses
- write an opinion essay