

Sustainable development

Think globally, act locally

1. Read and listen to the text. Check your answers.

SB English Plus 8 page 17 ex.2 track 1.17



In 1992, the leaders of more than 100 countries met at the Earth Summit, a United Nations conference in Rio de Janeiro. They discussed issues which affect the ¹ ___, such as pollution and climate change, and talked about possible ² ___ to these problems. At this conference, they adopted a global strategy for 'sustainable development'. This means economic and social development which doesn't destroy the environment. One of the most important parts of their strategy is now called 'Local Agenda 21'.

The idea behind Local Agenda 21 (21 refers to the 21st century) is that if a lot of people do small things locally, then they can have a big impact nationally and an even bigger impact globally. For example, if one person decides to take the bus to work rather than drive a car, or always ³ ___ their rubbish, it only makes a very small difference. However, if millions of people across the world do the same, the impact is huge. It's easy for every individual to do something small every day – at home, at school, or at work.

Local Agenda 21 encourages a collective responsibility towards the environment. For it to be effective, everyone in a ⁴ ___ needs to work together. Local councils need to provide good ⁵ ___, such as recycling and public transport, and people need to use them. If everyone plays their part in a small way, they can both improve their local area and help to ⁶ ___ the global environment.



save	solutions
facilities	community
environment	recycles

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

2. Read and listen to the text. Write true or false.

- 1 21 people met at the Earth Summit.
- 2 Sustainable development means environmentally friendly development.
- 3 Using public transport is better for the environment than driving.
- 4 It's difficult to contribute to Local Agenda 21.
- 5 Local Agenda 21 can only be successful if a lot of people help.
- 6 People don't need the help of local councils.



3. Think about things at your school which have a negative impact on the environment. What could you do to improve these things? Make a list of 3 problems and 3 solutions.

№	Problems	Solutions
1	A lot of students come to school by car. The cars pollute the air outside the school.	Find out which students live near each other. Encourage them to come to school together in the same car.
2		
3		