

## Communication and Cultural Awareness

## How do we humans affect our planet, positively and negatively?

## Both Sides of Human Intervention

Read the following passage and consider our positive and negative effect on our planet.

Humans have inhabited the planet for about 2 million years, and during this time many events have occurred. Human intelligence has created several things; many of them have helped humanity face **diseases** and **threats**.

Discoveries and inventions such as **vaccines** and antibiotics have saved thousands of lives. The printing press has allowed us to share more knowledge and transportation has helped us move around the world and **trade** with other countries. Technology has shortened distance in communication and informs us in seconds of events all around the world.

However, not all inventions are positive. Other discoveries, like technology used for war and mass destruction, as well as nuclear, chemical, or biological bombs are extremely dangerous and might lead humans to extinction.

Industry causes high levels of pollution and releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, and lots of toxic chemicals are dumped into rivers and seas. Global warming is a reality. Everyday activities such as producing our food, commuting, using plastic, large-scale fishing, monoculture plantations, among others; are destroying our planet little by little. We hear about hundreds of plant and animal species that are endangered or even extinct. We need to take responsibility for our actions that affect our planet.

Make a list of all positive and negative effects of humans found in the text.

## 1 Positive

## 2 Negative