

Topic vocabulary: Nature

see page 233 for definitions

agriculture (n)	evacuate (v)	global warming (n phr)	instinct (n)
appreciate (v)	exploit (v)	greenery (n)	natural disaster (n phr)
catastrophe (n)	famine (n)	habitat (n)	resource (n)
crop (n)	flood (v, n)	harvest (v, n)	scarce (adj)
drought (n)	fossil fuels (n phr)	hurricane (n)	species (n)

Phrasal verbs

chance upon	find or see someone or something when you did not expect to	kill off	destroy living things so that most or all of them are dead
come across	meet someone or find something by chance	put down to	if you put something down to a particular reason, you think it has happened for that reason
cool down	become cooler, or make something cooler	slip up	make a careless mistake <i>slip-up</i> (n)
cut back (on)	reduce the amount of something, especially money that you spend	spring up	appear or be produced suddenly and quickly
die out	become weaker or less common and then disappear completely	store up	keep a lot of something so that you can use it later; do something that will cause problems in the future
dig up	remove something from under the ground by digging; dig holes in an area of land; find information by searching carefully	throw out	get rid of something that you no longer want, for example by putting it in a dustbin; force someone to leave a place or group; if someone in authority throws out a plan, proposal, etc they refuse to accept it
dry up	if something dries up or is dried up, all the water comes out of it; stop being available	throw up	produce something new or unexpected; cause something such as dust or water to rise into the air
get through	use or finish something; manage to deal with a difficult situation or stay alive until it is over; finish dealing with some work, a subject, etc		
heat up	make something hot; become hot		

N Use the word given in capitals to form a word that fits in the space.

WWF

The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) has been involved in (1) (**CONSERVE**) since its foundation in 1961. Its (2) (**INTEND**) has always been to protect (3) (**WILD**) against the effects of human activity. Working very closely with both expert (4) (**ECOLOGY**) and ordinary local people, the organisation aims to help those animals (5) (**THREAT**) by the destruction of habitats. Economic growth and tourism force some species to the brink of (6) (**EXTINCT**). (7) (**FORTUNE**), the WWF work hard to ensure that animals such as the giant panda will (8) (**PROBABLE**) survive for a few more years yet. Refusing to accept that the problems are (9) (**MOUNT**), the WWF works tirelessly on a (10) (**SEEM**) never-ending list of projects, all of which help to protect the diversity of life on Earth.

O Complete the sentences by changing the form of the word in capitals.

- 1 The chances against this kind of unusual are very high. **OCCUR**
- 2 I'm not convinced that there's a link between pollution and global warming. **CAUSE**
- 3 The of the cliffs by the sea has completely changed the landscape. **ERODE**
- 4 Female animals have an need to protect their young. **INSTINCT**
- 5 The police are investigating the disappearance from the zoo of a number of animals. **MYSTERY**
- 6 We knew that getting between the whale and the ship was , but it was the only way to stop them hunting. **RISK**
- 7 What's your of the situation? **ASSESS**
- 8 We have to wait for conditions to launch the boat. **FAVOUR**
- 9 The expedition travelled miles in search of the mountain gorilla. **ELUDE**
- 10 Following the of the volcano, hundreds of villages were destroyed. **ERUPT**

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D If the word or phrase in bold is correct, put a tick. If it is incorrect, replace it with a word or phrase in bold from another sentence.

- 1 The earthquake was a real **resource** and destroyed most of the buildings in the city.
- 2 They are going to **harvest** the local people because the volcano might erupt.
- 3 We need to find alternatives to **catastrophe** before we destroy our planet.
- 4 There's so much **fossil fuels** in England during the summer.
- 5 The panda is threatened by the destruction of its **greenery**.
- 6 They were planning to **evacuate** the grapes the next day and nobody could have predicted the storm.
- 7 Some animals seem to know by **species** when bad weather is on the way.
- 8 The oil fields are a vast natural **habitat** that belongs to all the people, not just a few businessmen.
- 9 The sparrow is becoming increasingly **scarce** in this area.
- 10 Scientists claim to have identified a new **instinct** of monkey.

E Circle the correct word or phrase.

- 1 It seems that **agriculture** / **crop** first developed in the Middle East.
- 2 Coffee is a very important **agriculture** / **crop** in Brazil.
- 3 The **drought** / **famine** was caused by war in the region.
- 4 If the **drought** / **famine** continues, the government is planning to introduce a ban on washing cars.
- 5 You have to stop and get out of your car to really **appreciate** / **exploit** the natural beauty of the area.
- 6 Why do you think that we don't have the right to **appreciate** / **exploit** nature to make money?
- 7 Some scientists still dispute that **global warming** / **natural disaster** is caused by human activity.
- 8 Over half a million people were forced to leave their homes as a result of the recent **global warming** / **natural disaster**.
- 9 It's been raining for days and there's a real danger of **floods** / **hurricanes** if it doesn't stop soon.
- 10 This area is frequently hit by **floods** / **hurricanes** that start at sea and then move inland.

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Phrasal verbs

F Write one word in each gap.

Global warming

There has been a steady rise in the average temperature around the planet over the last hundred years or so, and the majority of scientists put it (1) to human activity. The solution, they claim, is to cut back (2) our consumption of fossil fuels, which produce the carbon dioxide that drives global warming. However, some scientists argue that the historical evidence shows that over time the Earth heats (3) and cools (4) naturally. According to them, we should just continue to get (5) the fossil fuels that are available and find alternatives when they run out. Whatever the cause of global warming, the increase in temperature is undeniable. It is predicted that over the next few decades many species will die (6) as once fertile areas turn to desert. Seas will rise in some areas and rivers will dry (7) in other areas, killing (8) animal and plant life that rely on them. It looks like this debate will only get more intense.

Idioms

M Complete each dialogue using the appropriate form of an idiom in the box.

act of God • come rain or shine • down on your luck • draw the short straw • have green fingers
let nature take its course • no rhyme or reason • out of the blue • the luck of the draw • touch wood

- 1 'I feel sorry for Mrs Shepherd.'
'Yes, she does seem to have been rather lately, doesn't she?'
- 2 'I'm sure Carol will get over the divorce eventually.'
'Yes, I think we should just and see what happens.'
- 3 'I couldn't believe it when I saw him.'
'It must have been a real shock when he turned up after all these years.'
- 4 'Does Dave still go to the football every week?'
'Oh, yes. You know him. He's there
- 5 'How come the company chose you to go to New York?'
'I don't know. It was just , I guess.'
- 6 'Why wasn't there any warning before the floods?'
'Well, it's not easy to predict that kind of , is it?'
- 7 'I don't understand Harry's decision.'
'Me neither. There seems to be to it.'
- 8 'Who's babysitting tomorrow night?'
'Well, I , so I'm staying in while the others go out.'
- 9 'I'm so looking forward to the wedding this weekend.'
'The weather should be good,
- 10 'I love your garden!'
'Thanks. Yes, I suppose I've always