| B2 | World's Coral Reefs in Danger | LIU027 |
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**Use the word in brackets to form a new word that fits into each blank.**

A recent study shows that the world's coral reefs have been showing signs of strong bleaching due to global **(1)** _____ **(WARM)**. In the 1980s bleaching was a rare **(2)** _____ **(OCCUR)** which came about every 25 years. Now the rate has risen to about once every five years. **(3)** _____ **(ENVIRONMENT)** predict that by 2050 bleaching will happen every year or two.



*Bleached Coral Reef at Heron Island, Great Barrier Reef*
*Image: Acropora at English Wikipedia [CC BY-SA 3.0]*

Bleaching is caused when warm water breaks down the algae inside the reefs. They provide food for the corals and keep them **(4)** _____ **(HEALTH)**. When algae fall off, corals suffer a **(5)** _____ **(LOSE)** of colour and can die within a short period of time. Even if the water **(6)** _____ **(SURROUND)** the reefs gets colder again it may take years for the damaged reefs to recover **(7)** _____ **(COMPLETE)**.

While bleaching is especially a problem in the waters of the Caribbean Sea and Western Atlantic, reefs around Australia and South Africa have hardly been hit. In **(8)** _____ **(ADD)** to the warming temperatures of the oceans, coral reefs are also **(9)** _____ **(DANGER)** by **(10)** _____ **(POLLUTE)** and overfishing.

Coral reefs are an important ecosystem. They are home to 25% of all marine species and provide a habitat for **(11)** _____ **(COUNT)** types of fish. Reefs protect **(12)** _____ **(COAST)** regions from flooding and tidal waves. Coral reefs are also tourist **(13)** _____ **(ATTRACT)** that lure millions of people every year. The tourist industry around the Great Barrier Reef in Australia, for example, is worth about 5 billion dollars a year.



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