

LISTENING

I. Listen to a man telling about a historic natural disaster of China. Fill the gaps with the missing words.

- Over 100,000 people were killed in the (1) floods, but the survivors had problems of their own. The floods killed crops, washed out grain storage (2), leveled houses, and destroyed roads. Many rural communities were (3) and stranded without food, and without any way for aid to reach them.
- Ultimately, this is why the death toll was so high. Millions of people (4) to death, disease swept through weakened communities, and homeless (5) were stuck without shelter.

Listen again. Decide if the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

6. Most of China was flooded in that disaster.
7. A few decades before that time, China had suffered seriously from the wars.
8. The ground was still submerged until the winter.
9. Some people in the disaster even had to eat the dead to survive.

II. Listen to a man talking about available means of transport to travel around Britain. Decide if the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

1. Travelling in Britain is not very difficult.
2. If you are visiting most big cities in your trip, you shouldn't take a train.
3. You can easily get the best deals in hiring a car without booking in advance.
4. You can travel by horse in some places in Britain.
5. You can't take taxis at all main stations.

Listen again. Answer the questions below.

6. If you travel a lot in Britain by train, what should you buy? Can you buy it before you come to the UK?
7. Besides large train stations, city centre outlets, where can you hire a car?
8. Besides bike and horse, what means of transport is suitable for visiting local areas?
9. What means of transport is available at all main coach and train stations?

III. Listen to a man talking about land pollution. Fill in the gaps with the missing words.

Definition

- degradation or (1) of earth's surface and soil.
- caused by (2)

Effects

- lack land for inhabitants because (3) keeps rising.
- develop serious illnesses like (4)

Solutions

- reduce the need for sending waste to landfills by (5)
- reduce the use of harmful agricultural chemicals thanks to (6) food and farming.

Listen again. Fill in the gaps with the missing words.

- The biggest problem comes when (7) land is returned to use, either as building or agricultural land. Houses might be built on former (8) sites that haven't been cleaned up properly. Or people might get their water from rivers supplied by groundwater contaminated by (9) sites or mine workings.
- Even so, public concerns about food and chemicals have led to the withering of a once profitable (10) in some countries, at least.

