

Complete the text with the right form of the words in brackets.

Environmental issues in the UK encompass a range of challenges _____ (affect) the country's ecosystems, biodiversity, and public health. Some of the key issues include:

Climate Change:

The UK experiences _____ (vary) impacts of climate change, including more frequent and severe heatwaves, storms, flooding, and droughts.

To mitigate climate change, the UK has set _____ (ambition) targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This includes the Climate Change Act, which aims to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.

Transitioning to _____ (new) energy sources such as wind, solar, and hydroelectric power is a key strategy. The UK has made _____ (signify) investments in offshore wind farms and plans to phase out coal-fired power plants.

Air Pollution:

Urban areas, _____ (particular) London, suffer from high levels of air pollution, primarily from vehicle emissions, _____ (industry) activities, and domestic heating.

Air _____ (pollute) contributes to respiratory diseases, cardiovascular problems, and premature deaths. Vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and individuals with pre-existing health conditions are particularly at risk.

Efforts to combat air pollution include promoting cleaner _____ (transport) technologies (e.g., electric vehicles), implementing low-emission zones, and encouraging the use of public transportation and cycling.

Biodiversity Loss:

Habitat _____ (destroy), pollution, invasive species, and climate change _____ (threat) the UK's biodiversity. Loss of habitats such as wetlands, woodlands, and grasslands endangers native species such as birds, mammals, insects, and plants.

Conservation efforts involve establishing _____ (protect) areas, restoring degraded habitats, reintroducing native species, and implementing biodiversity action plans.

Public _____ (aware) campaigns and educational initiatives aim to engage communities in conservation activities and promote biodiversity-friendly practices such as wildlife gardening and habitat _____ (restore).

Plastic Pollution:

Plastic pollution is a significant _____ (environment) issue affecting marine ecosystems, wildlife, and human health. Single-use plastics, microplastics, and plastic waste from land-based sources contribute to pollution in oceans, rivers, and coastal areas.

The UK government has _____ (implement) measures to tackle plastic pollution, including bans on single-use plastic straws, stirrers, and cotton buds. Additionally, initiatives to reduce plastic packaging and promote recycling are _____ (be) pursued.

Public awareness campaigns encourage individuals to reduce their plastic _____, (consume) recycle responsibly, and participate in beach clean-ups and litter _____ (collect) activities.

Waste Management:

The UK faces challenges in waste management, including limited landfill space, inefficient recycling systems, and _____ (legal) dumping. Household waste, _____ (commerce) waste, and industrial waste contribute to environmental pollution and resource _____ (deplete).

Efforts to improve waste management involve promoting waste _____ (reduce), increasing recycling rates, and implementing stricter regulations on waste _____ (dispose) and recycling practices.

Circular economy principles, such as reducing, reusing, and recycling materials, are being promoted to minimize waste generation and maximize resource _____ (efficient).

Deforestation:

While the UK has made efforts to conserve its forests, deforestation remains a concern due to _____ (urban), agricultural _____ (expand), and infrastructure development. Deforestation threatens biodiversity, carbon sequestration, and ecosystem services.

Conservation efforts include reforestation projects, afforestation initiatives, and _____ (sustain) forest management practices. Protecting and expanding forested areas through national parks and nature reserves is also important.

Public awareness campaigns highlight the _____ (important) of forests for biodiversity conservation, carbon storage, and climate regulation. Sustainable forestry practices and certification schemes promote responsible forest management.

Water Pollution:

Pollution from _____ (**agriculture**) runoff, sewage discharge, industrial effluents, and urban runoff contaminates rivers, lakes, and coastal waters. Nutrient pollution, chemical pollutants, and microplastics degrade water quality and harm aquatic ecosystems.

Water pollution poses risks to human health, aquatic biodiversity, and ecosystem functioning. It can lead to eutrophication, algal blooms, fish kills, and habitat _____ (**degrade**).

Strategies to address water pollution include improving wastewater treatment, reducing agricultural runoff through _____ (**good**) land management practices, and implementing pollution control measures in industrial sectors.

Sustainable Agriculture:

Agriculture accounts for a significant portion of the UK's greenhouse gas _____ (**emit**), land use, and environmental impact. Intensive farming practices, _____ (**pest**) use, and monoculture cultivation can degrade soil quality, pollute waterways, and harm biodiversity.

Sustainable agriculture practices such as organic farming, agroforestry, crop _____, (**rotate**) and integrated pest management aim to minimize environmental impacts while promoting soil health, biodiversity, and food _____ (**secure**).

Government subsidies, agricultural policies, and certification schemes support farmers in adopting sustainable practices and transitioning to more environmentally _____ (**friend**) agricultural systems. Consumer demand for sustainably produced food also drives market incentives for farmers to adopt eco-friendly practices.

