Unit 20 Destination B2

Weather and the Environment

TOPIC VOCABULARY IN CONTRAST

1. Choose the word which best fits each sentence.

1. Recent storms washed ashore a shocking amount of (*waste* / *rubbish* / *litter*).
2. When (*recycling* / *reusing*) plastic bottles make sure that they don't have any signs of wear and tear.
3. Living in a(n) (*suburban* / *urban*) area often means enjoying a quieter atmosphere, away from the hustle and bustle of the city.
4. The spread of COVID-19 has shown how interconnected our world is, with the virus affecting communities (*global* / *worldwide*).
5. Fossil records provide evidence of (*endangered* / *extinct*) creatures that roamed the Earth millions of years ago.
6. (*Urban* / *rural*) areas often experience higher temperatures due to the 'heat island' effect caused by concrete and asphalt.
7. Wildlife trafficking involves the illegal trade, smuggling, poaching, capture, or collection of (*endangered* / *extinct*) species and protected wildlife.
8. As greenhouse gas emissions blanket the Earth, they trap the sun's heat. This leads to (*global* / *worldwide*) warming and climate change.
9. 2 million pieces of (*rubbish* / *litter* / *waste*) are dropped every day across Britain, equating to 23 pieces per second.
10. The night sky in (*rural* / *urban* / *suburban*) areas is breathtaking, with countless stars visible due to minimal light pollution.
11. The (*climate* / *weather*) (*prediction* / *forecast*) for coastal areas warns of high tides due to an approaching storm.
12. Pollution poses a major threat to our fragile (*environment* / *wildlife* / *surrounding*), especially in densely populated (*rural* / *urban* / *suburban*) areas.
13. (*E-waste* / *E-litter* / *E-rubbish*) (*reusing* / *recycling*) is a great way to get rid of old electronics without having them end up in landfills.
14. Can (*climate* / *weather*) change scientists really make accurate (*forecasts* / *predictions*) about what the planet will look like in 50 years, a century from now?
15. Count the seconds between the (*thunder* / *lightning*) flash and the rumble of (*thunder* / *lightning*), divide by three, and that's how many kilometres away the storm is.

PHRASAL VERBS

2. Insert the missing preposition or the phrasal verb in the necessary form.

1. Think twice before you throw ..... a can or bottle.
2. Let's get inside – the rain's set ..... for the day.
3. I wouldn't ..... for that sort of behaviour from him, if I were you.
4. The fog finally cleared ..... , revealing the stunning view of the mountains.
5. The school dance was called ..... until further notice because of the unexpected power outage.
6. During the storm, the power lines were ..... off, leaving the residents without electricity for hours.
7. RRR stands ..... Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, and is an acronym widely used by anti-waste campaigns.

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8. The leaves on the trees start changing colour as summer dies ..... and autumn approaches.
9. Firefighters often talk about the fire triangle (heat, oxygen and fuel) when they are trying to ..... out a blaze.
10. Scientists often put climate change ..... to human activities, such as burning fossil fuels and deforestation.
11. The upcoming storm calls ..... securing outdoor furniture and making sure our windows are properly sealed to avoid any water leaks.
12. Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg argues that it's time to face ..... to an inescapable reality – the climate challenge ahead.

3. Translate into English using the correct form of the phrasal verbs from unit 20.

1. What does the WWF ..... (*обозначает*)? ~ It means World Wide Fund for Nature.
2. I hope it will ..... (*распогодится*) in time for the picnic.
3. If you need to ..... (*выбросить*) expired medications, read instructions for disposal.
4. The heatwave can be unbearable, especially when it ..... (*держится*) for days.
5. We must ..... (*принять, смириться*) to the fact that we're destroying our planet.
6. There's a sign informing smokers to ..... (*затушить*) their cigarettes before entering the building.
7. Due to the sudden thunderstorm, we had to ..... (*отменить*) our picnic plans for today.
8. Our new teacher says that she won't ..... (*терпеть*) talking or fooling around in class.
9. The increase in skin cancer cases is often ..... (*объясняется*) to excessive sun exposure without proper protection.
10. The WWF ..... (*требует*) an immediate ban on single-use plastic items, such as cutlery and cosmetic microplastics.
11. The hiking trail was ..... (*перекрыта*) by fallen trees, so we had to find an alternative route to reach our destination.
12. Do the winter months ..... (*угнетают тебя*)? If so, you might have seasonal depression, also known as 'the winter blues'.

COLLOCATIONS AND WORD PATTERNS

4. Fill in the missing prepositions.

1. Don't make a fuss ..... the small stuff; it's not worth it.
2. Wildfires easily get ..... control and spread over vast areas.
3. If you're ready to start going green, glance ..... this earth-friendly shopping list.
4. City dwellers tend to lose sight ..... the living world around them
5. Each of us can take control ..... air pollution by using public transport or carpooling.
6. Calm weather continues through the weekend except ..... tomorrow.
7. Don't rush your project; take your time, or you'll make a mess ..... it.
8. We all longed ..... a white Christmas, but all we got was rain and fog.
9. Sadness and guilt tend to come up when you feel disappointed ..... yourself.
10. Officials warned ..... aftershocks in the days following the earthquake.
11. How come Britain runs short ..... water each summer, when it's constantly raining?
12. Dolphins are amazing creatures that enchant and delight all those who catch sight ..... them.
13. Rain for the rest of the week. I know it can't be helped but I'm so disappointed ..... the weather.

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14. No one wants to reach their holiday destination after a 10-hour flight feeling ..... the weather.
15. Maturity means owning up to your mistakes and taking responsibility ..... your behaviour.
16. If we don't take action to protect the environment, our planet might come ..... an end sooner than we think.
17. Yesterday's storm left the whole neighbourhood ..... a mess with fallen branches and scattered trash everywhere.
18. If you say that something is ..... the end of the rainbow, you mean that people want it but it is almost impossible to obtain or achieve.
19. Thinking it's a waste ..... time to learn about climate change is a dangerous mindset; we all need to be informed.
20. Modern devices and social media apps are designed to keep you engaged, but there are ways to take have control ..... your tech.
21. We were amazed by the waterfall ..... first sight, but we were even more stunned by the rainbow that appeared behind it.
22. Your brain is designed to be aware ..... potential dangers in your surroundings. It's how early humans survived.
23. The weather report warned ..... heavy snowfall, advising people to stay indoors and avoid unnecessary travel.
24. Glaciers in the Swiss Alps were covered ..... blankets to prevent them ..... melting in the extreme summer heat.
25. Are you familiar ..... the concept of a carbon footprint? It's the effect that our daily activities have ..... the Earth's climate.
26. The notorious pandemic caused by the COVID-19 virus that emerged ..... the end of 2019 had a disastrous effect ..... public health all ..... the world.

5. Fill in the gaps with one word which can be used in both sentences (use the collocations from unit 20).

1.

Before you buy anything new, ... a look at what you already have.

Let's all ..... control of our planet's future by making eco-friendly choices.

2.

There's a myth that a pot of gold can be found at the ..... of a rainbow.

The relentless rain finally came to an ..... , leaving behind puddles and fresh petrichor in the air.

3.

They ..... a mess of their project and had to start over from scratch.

Granny ..... a fuss about her health, and went to the doctor for every little symptom.

4.

Simulations of black holes based on the laws of physics can show us what they might ..... like.

Let's take a ..... at some fascinating facts about the planet we call home.

5.

If you want more freedom, prove that you can ..... the responsibility for your actions.

Understanding complex scientific concepts may ..... a long time, but curiosity drives the process.

6.

He was driving too fast on the icy road and ..... control of his car, crashing into a tree.

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We ..... sight of the island half way through the sail because of the fog.

7.

Complaining about the weather won't change it; it's better not to make a fuss – it's a ..... of time. The latest statistics suggest that every UK household produces nearly a tonne of ..... every single year.

WORD FORMATION

6. Complete the sentences by changing the form of the words in brackets.

1. Ultraviolet filters found within chemical sunscreens may be ..... to the environment. [HARM]
2. Coral reefs are formed ..... by tiny organisms called polyps. [NATURE]
3. Rising sea levels due to melting ice caps is a ..... consequence of climate change. [DANGER]
4. The main sources of ..... are household activities, factories, agriculture and transport. [POLLUTE]
5. Climate change is happening ..... , but the effects can differ locally. [GLOBE]
6. The report contains several ..... or misrepresentations of facts. [ACCURATE]
7. Groundwater around the world is hitting ..... low levels. [DANGER]
8. About three-quarters of Earth's freshwater is ..... in glaciers and ice caps. [FREEZE]
9. A white Christmas now looks ..... as milder weather is on the way. [LIKE]
10. ..... friendly energy sources include water and wind power. [ENVIRONMENT]
11. With around 60 individuals left of its species, the Javan rhino is the most ..... animal on the planet. [DANGER]
12. Parking in ..... areas has become an issue of great inconvenience and distress to the dwellers. [RESIDENT]
13. Among YouTube videos about emerging infectious diseases, 20–30% were found to contain ..... or misleading information. [ACCURACY]
14. The calming effects of nature helps to ..... our blood pressure and reduce the production of stress hormones. [LOW]
15. Local ..... have joined forces to try and save a 350-year-old wall in a conservation area around the castle. [RESIDE]
16. Contrary to popular belief, tanning beds are not ..... . On the contrary, they have been linked to long-term skin damage and skin cancer. [HARM]
17. Sustainable ..... aims to balance economic growth with ..... protection. [DEVELOP; ENVIRONMENT]
18. Forecasters say the period of ..... hot weather is ..... to last until around the end of July. [EXTREME; LIKE]
19. Various accounts on social media ..... claim that ..... warming is a hoax. [ACCURATE; GLOBE]
20. ..... advocate the protection of the ..... environment through changes in public policy and individual behaviour. [ENVIRONMENT; NATURE]

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