

Vocabulary

1 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- 1 We want to get some *solar* / *sun* panels for our roof.
- 2 A lot of trees are cut down through illegal *logging* / *recycling*.
- 3 Cars are not very good for the *environmental* / *environment*.
- 4 It's better to use public *transport* / *travel* than to drive.
- 5 Are you concerned about the problem of climate *quality* / *change*?

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2 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- 1 It's important to *recycle* / *produce* paper so that it doesn't end up on rubbish tips.
- 2 The increased use of cars leads to air *quality* / *pollution* in cities.
- 3 We've installed some solar *panels* / *energy* on the roof.
- 4 The ice in Antarctica is *producing* / *melting* because of climate change.
- 5 Wind power is a kind of *renewable* / *endangered* energy.

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Grammar

4 Complete the sentences with *a*, *an*, *the* or – (no article).

- 1 I wanted to be _____ firefighter when I was a child.
- 2 Vatican City is _____ smallest country in the world.
- 3 The company has invented a new kind of vacuum cleaner and everyone hopes they will present _____ machine at their annual conference.
- 4 We live in _____ 21st century.
- 5 I think that _____ people will live longer in the future.

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5 Complete the sentences with the correct relative pronouns.

- 1 John, _____ had never been interested in the environment, suddenly joined Greenpeace.
- 2 The price of kale, _____ is a vegetable similar to wild cabbage, has doubled over the last couple of years.

- 3 You can get to the island by ferry in about 10 minutes, _____ is very convenient for tourists.
- 4 Jo, _____ grandfather was a tribal chief, wants to learn more about Native Americans.
- 5 A national newspaper has just chosen Solihull, _____ I grew up, as the best place to live.
- 6 Mount Etna, _____ is a volcano in Italy, has been extinct for many years.
- 7 We decided to visit New Zealand, _____ my cousins live.
- 8 Jack, _____ parents are biologists, knows a lot about animals.
- 9 My dad, _____ is a farmer, cares passionately about the environment.
- 10 It's very easy to get around by public transport, _____ is great.

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Reading

3 Read the text. Choose from sentences A–F the one which fits each gap (1–5). There is one extra sentence.

- A These included pouring water onto roads to reduce the amount of dust flying in the air.
- B The one that the people were watching that morning was for a holiday company.
- C These ideas should help to reduce pollution in the future, which will improve health standards in major cities.
- D This is the time of year when more coal is burned to heat people's homes.
- E Another target is older, more polluting cars. The worst offenders will be banned.
- F However, as the real one was hidden, they had to do this on giant TV screens.

MISSING SUN

Pollution in many of the world's cities is becoming a major health problem. One of the worst affected is Beijing, the capital of China. Air quality was dangerously low on 58 days last year. Winter months are especially bad. **(1)** _____ There is also less wind to blow the smog away. At this time of year, pollution levels are sometimes 20 times higher than the WHO (World Health Organisation) considers safe. This causes illnesses and on the worst days old people and children are advised to stay indoors. Visibility is sometimes so bad that motorways have to close because of the danger of accidents.

In early 2014, some newspapers and websites showed a frightening vision of the future. On a smoggy morning, residents of Beijing watched the sunrise.

(2) _____ The smog was so thick that the real sunrise was completely invisible. While the smog and the masks the people were wearing were real, the films of the sunrise were nothing unusual. The screens show adverts all the time. **(3)** _____ The same advert is shown quite often, whatever the weather. Either the photographer was lucky or he knew exactly how the image would look and waited until he got the photo he wanted. Although the news reporting was inaccurate, it might have done something to raise awareness of how bad the problem has become. Politicians, too, have finally decided that something must be done to reduce pollution levels.

The first idea is to reduce the amount of coal that people use. Factories will also be moved to areas further away from cities. **(4)** _____. In their place, greener and cleaner forms of transport will be encouraged.

Will these changes help? The Chinese know from experience that it is possible to improve air quality very quickly if necessary. Before the 2008 Olympic Games, pollution in Beijing was reduced greatly. As well as reducing traffic levels and closing factories, other methods to reduce pollution were used. **(5)** _____. To help with this, scientists were even able to make clouds drop more rain. Since then, things have got worse rather than better but, at last, the government seems to be determined to do something about the problem. For the people of Beijing and other large cities, this will make a huge difference to their lives.