

LISTENING PRACTICE – THE ENVIRONMENT

LISTENING 1

Why is it so important that we limit the rise in temperature to 1.5°C? Watch this video to find out.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

Vocabulary

1. a heatwave
2. a species
3. carbon
4. a coral reef
5. an impact
6. a greenhouse gas
7. global
8. to suck something out

Definition

- a. relating to the whole world
- b. a rock-like structure under the sea which provides a home for many fish and other sea animals
- c. a period of time when the weather is much hotter than usual
- d. a group of animals or plants which are the same and can reproduce with each other
- e. a chemical substance that is found in all living things and especially in coal, oil, etc.
- f. to pull something out with great force
- g. a powerful effect
- h. a gas (such as carbon dioxide) that scientists think is making the Earth get hotter

Task 1

Write the statements in the correct groups.

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| plant trees | 6 per cent of insect species will disappear | 18.5 per cent of people will be affected by heatwaves |
| some coral reefs will disappear | buy less meat, especially beef | buy fewer new clothes |
| 18 per cent of insect species will disappear | walk or ride a bike | 37 per cent of people will be affected by heatwaves |
| | | all coral reefs will disappear |

| What will happen with a 1.5°C rise | What will happen with a 2°C rise | What we can do to help |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| | | |

Task 2

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

| | | | | |
|-------|----------|---------|------|----|
| twice | billions | average | high | by |
| half | compared | major | to | of |

1. Today, the temperature of the planet is about 15°C.
2. Scientists think that temperatures may rise 3–5°C by 2100.
3. Although a degree doesn't seem very much, it could make a big difference.
4. Eighteen per cent insects on Earth will disappear if the temperature rises by 2°C.
5. This is to six per cent disappearing at 1.5°C.
6. If there is a 2°C rise, the number of people will be affected by heatwaves.
7. We will be in a better situation if we limit the rise 1.5°.
8. We need to plant of trees.
9. Beef production generates a amount of greenhouse gases.
10. The fashion industry is a source of greenhouse gases.

LISTENING 2.

Watch the video and choose the correct answer.

1) According to the speaker, greenhouse gases are produced by...

- a) heat from the sun
- b) the actions of people
- c) the sun's rays, and also the actions of people
- d) the video doesn't say

2) Which of these things is a greenhouse gas?

- a) carbon monoxide
- b) carbon dioxide
- c) oxygen
- d) the video doesn't say

3) Which of these ways to generate power provides a clean source of energy?

- a) gas
- b) oil
- c) wind power
- d) they are all clean sources of energy

4) Which of these things can help reduce levels of carbon dioxide?

- a) driving to work
- b) heating with coal instead of gas
- c) using public transport
- d) leaving your TV on standby, rather than switching it off

5) Which of these predictions about climate change does the video make?

- a) If the planet gets warmer, then polar bears will become extinct
- b) If the planet gets warmer, then we can expect more floods
- c) if the planet gets warmer, then fuel will become less expensive
- d) if the planet gets warmer, then sea levels will rise

6) The word extinct means...?

- a) to become scarce or rare
- b) in need of protection
- c) to become endangered
- d) something that has died out, and no longer exists

7) Choose the best answer to complete this statement:

If the planet continues to heat up, ___ ___ ___ expect to experience more extreme weather.

- a) then will we
- b) then can we
- c) then we can
- d) then should we

8) Which of these things isn't mentioned in the video?

- a) wave energy
- b) car pooling
- c) coral reefs
- d) heat waves