

2B VOCABULARY | Threats to the environment

1 ★ Match the compound nouns from the box with the definitions.

endangered species exhaust fumes greenhouse effect
ozone layer renewable energy toxic waste
water scarcity wind turbine

- 1 Types of animals in danger of extinction. endangered species
- 2 Lack of water. _____
- 3 Power produced by wind, sun, etc. _____
- 4 A machine used to produce electric power. _____
- 5 Chemicals and other harmful waste products. _____
- 6 Poisonous gases produced by engines of non-electric vehicles. _____
- 7 Part of the stratosphere which limits the amount of ultraviolet radiation reaching the Earth. _____
- 8 Process by which gases trapped in the atmosphere cause the planet to heat up. _____

2 2B VOCABULARY Complete the sentences with one word in each gap.

- 1 Acid rain is sometimes strong enough to damage the paint on your car.
- 2 Exhaust f_____ are extremely dangerous to human health.
- 3 Sometimes the only way to save an e_____ species is to move the last remaining animals to a zoo.
- 4 Known deposits of f_____ fuels may run out in the next 50 to 150 years.
- 5 Could technology provide a solution to global h_____?
- 6 The disastrous landslide was caused by soil e_____ after trees were cut down higher up the slopes.
- 7 Vehicle e_____ are only one of the many causes of climate change.

3 ★★ Find the stressed word in these compound nouns. Listen and check.

- 1 climate change
- 2 industrial waste
- 3 wind turbine
- 4 endangered species

4 ★★ Complete the signs with one word in each gap.

SAVE OUR TREES. STOP ¹ACID RAIN!

Burning fossil fuels = a hole in the ozone
² _____. Stop the cycle of destruction!

MAKE PUBLIC TRANSPORT FREE TO
REDUCE VEHICLE ³ _____

CLOSE FACTORIES THAT PRODUCE
⁴ _____ WASTE NOW!

The planet belongs to all living things: protect
⁵ _____ species and stop habitat ⁶ _____.

WATER ⁷ _____ WILL LEAD TO WAR!
WE ARE THIRSTY FOR CHANGE!

5 ★★★ Complete the conversation with the compound nouns from Exercises 1 and 2.

Presenter On today's podcast – Peter Crumb, environmental activist. Peter, what's the biggest environmental issue the planet is facing?

Peter I think it has to be ¹global heating, by which I mean rising temperatures caused by the build-up of gases in the atmosphere, a process otherwise known as the ² _____. We continue to burn ³ _____ despite knowing the harm they do to the environment and that they are certain to run out in the near future.

Presenter Yes, and we continue to drive cars that pollute the air with their ⁴ _____.

Peter Indeed. You see, our refusal to properly adopt ⁵ _____ sources, such as solar power or wind farms with their majestic ⁶ _____, is likely to mean things will get worse before they get better.

Presenter And do you think we are ever likely to change our behaviour?

Peter Well, I think public opinion is changing.