ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Del Carmen School

Answer each question, using a word or expression from the box.

acid rain	carbon dioxide	endangered species	~~extinct~~	global warming
globalisation	hazardous waste	ozone layer	polar ice caps	destruction of rainforests
smog	water pollution			

1 What happened to dinosaurs about 65 million years ago? *They became extinct.*
2 What is the name for a special layer in the Earth's atmosphere which helps protect our planet?
3 What word can be used to describe the increasing contact between countries that has a major impact on life today?
4 What causes problems because it is difficult to dispose of safely?
5 What have scientists shown to be melting worryingly fast at the North and South Poles?
6 What does the chemical symbol CO_2 represent?
7 What has been happening in the Amazon area and in other tropical areas like Indonesia and Malaysia?
8 What problem is a type of air pollution?
9 What can cause harm to plant or other life when it falls on the land or sea?
10 What is the Siberian tiger an example of?
11 What has caused much plant and animal life in rivers in industrial areas to die out?
12 What is the term for the phenomenon describing the rise in the Earth's average temperature?

2 Match words to form compound nouns.

1	acid	fuel	*acid rain*	6	greenhouse	disposal	.....
2	carbon	change	.....	7	nature	reserve	.....
3	climate	party	.....	8	organic	depletion	.....
4	fossil	footprint	.....	9	ozone	effect	.....
5	green	rain	.....	10	waste	food	.....

THE ENVIRONMENT

Complete the following sentences with a word or expression from the box. There are some that you do not need.

CFC	•	unleaded petrol	•	endangered	•	tidal energy	•	ozone layer
natural resources	•	desertification	•	fumes	•	greenhouse effect		
pollution	•	acid rain	•	extinct	•	global warming	•	fossil fuels	•	rainforest
solar power	•	wildlife	•	recycle	•	bottle bank	•	ecological		

1. _____ falling on forests has killed a lot of trees in the last 20 years.
2. The council is encouraging us to _____ more household rubbish.
3. Factories and vehicles produce a lot of dangerous _____.
4. _____ of the atmosphere has increased over the last 50 years, making the environment very dirty.
5. The effect of gases in the earth's atmosphere is preventing the earth from losing heat; this is called the _____.
6. When _____ gases are released into the atmosphere, they rise slowly.
7. The hole in the _____ is getting larger every year.
8. If _____ continues, there is a danger that the polar ice-cap will start to melt.
9. We take all our empty bottles to the _____ so that the glass can be used again.
10. Long periods of drought have brought about the _____ of whole areas of central Africa.
11. Tigers, whales and panda bears are all _____ species.
12. People are worried that soon whales will become _____.
13. We should use fewer _____ such as oil and coal, and look to other energy sources such as _____ and _____.

ACID RAIN

main cause fossil fuels have released
Power plants exhaust pollutants

Human activities are the _____ of acid rain. Over the past few decades, humans _____ so many different chemicals into the air that they have changed the mix of gases in the atmosphere. _____ release the majority of sulfur dioxide and much of the nitrogen oxides when they burn _____, such as coal, to produce electricity. In addition, the _____ from cars, trucks, and buses releases nitrogen oxides and sulfur dioxide into the air. These _____ cause acid rain.

human activities streams sleet crops
lakes soils natural

Acid Rain is Caused by Reactions in the Environment.

Nature depends on balance, and although some rain is naturally acidic, with a pH level of around 5.0,_____ have made it worse. Normal precipitation—such as rain, _____, or snow—reacts with alkaline chemicals, or non-acidic materials, that can be found in air, _____, bedrock, lakes, and _____. These reactions usually neutralize _____ acids. However, if precipitation becomes too acidic, these materials may not be able to neutralize all of the acids. Over time, these neutralizing materials can be washed away by acid rain. Damage to _____, trees, _____, rivers, and animals can result.