

# POLLUTION VOCABULARY

Look at the following glossary entries 1-22. Match them with their definitions a-v.

1	acid rain	а	the number and variety of plant and animal species that exist in a particular environmental area
2	biodegradable	Ь	a long period when there is little or no rain
3	biodiversity	C	a large amount of water covering an area that is usually dry
4	carbon monoxide	d	the cutting down of trees in a large area; the destruction of forests by people
5	deforestation	e	rain which contains large amounts of harmful chemicals
6	desertification	f	to collect and treat rubbish to produce useful materials which can be used again
7	disposable products	g	a form of energy that can be produced as quickly as it is used
8	drought	h	describes a type of petrol or other substance that does not contain lead
9	earthquake	i	things such as minerals, forests, $\operatorname{coal},\operatorname{etc.}$ which exist in a place and $\operatorname{can}$ be used by people
10	endangered species	j	the process of conserving energy
11	energy conservation	k	a sudden violent movement of the Earth's surface, sometimes causing great damage
12	extinction	1	the degradation of natural resources because of human pressure
13	flood	m	a development that is causing little or no damage to the environment and therefore able to continue for a long time
14	fumes	n	the process by which land changes into desert
15	natural resources	0	animals or plants which may soon not exist because there are very few $\operatorname{now}\nolimits$ alive
16	greenhouse effect	p	increase in the amount of carbon dioxide and other gases in the atmosphere which is believed to cause a gradual warming on the surface of the Earth
17	renewable energy	q	the poisonous gas formed by the burning of carbon, especially in the form of car fuel
18	oil slick	r	items intended to be thrown away after use
19	recycle waste	S	being destroyed so that they no longer exist
20	sustainable development	t	strong, unpleasant and, dangerous gas or smoke
21	unleaded petrol	Ш	a layer of oil that is floating over a large area of the surface of the sea, usually because an accident has caused it to escape from a ship or container
22	use up natural resources	V	able to decay naturally and harmlessly

Now check your answers with the key.



# **LEARN**

**VATCH** I Click on the following link to watch a video by National Geographic: **AIR POLLUTION 101** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e6rglsLy1Ys

Remember that you can watch the video with subtitles if you click on this icon:



How many words from the glossary above did you hear? Watch the video again and write down any words that you would like to know better.

# SKILLS

**DICTIONARY** Use any MONOLINGUAL online dictionary you want. Here are some suggestions:

The free dictionary http://www.thefreedictionary.com/ Oxford Dictionary <a href="https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/">https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/</a>

Oxford Learners' Dictionaries http://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/

When you want to learn a word you need to know some things about it. Look at the following example about the word 'pollution':

2 1 **pollution** (noun) BrE /pəˈluːʃn/; NAmE /pəˈluːʃn/: I the process of making air, water, soil, etc. dirty; the state of being dirty 4 air / atmospheric / environmental pollution cause / create / emit pollution pollute (verb) / pollutant; polluter (noun) / polluted (adj) S The levels of air pollution in urban areas are higher because of the car numbers. 🌀

from the Oxford Learners' Dictionaries

- 1 how to spell the word correctly
- 4 its meaning(s)
- 2 what part of speech it is
- its synonyms, antonyms, derivatives, collocations...
- 3 how it is pronounced
- 6 an example sentence

### READING

On pages 3 and 4 there are two texts on pollution. Each is followed by some multiple choice questions. Read the texts carefully and answer the questions. Always remember to justify your answers from the texts.



#### **TEXT ONE**



## Ocean Pollution: A Deadly Mess

We are treating the oceans like trash bins: around 80 percent of marine litter originates on land, and most of that is plastic. Plastic that pollutes our oceans and waterways has severe impacts on our environment and our economy. Seabirds, whales and other marine life are eating plastic pollution and dying. Scientists are investigating the long-term impacts of toxic pollutants absorbed, transported, and consumed by fish and other marine life, including the deadly effects on human health.

### **Negative Impacts**

Plastic pollution affects every waterway, sea and ocean in the world. When we damage our water systems, we are putting our own well-being at risk. This pollution also has huge costs for taxpayers and local governments that must clean this trash off of beaches and streets to protect public health, prevent flooding from trash-blocked storm drains, and avoid lost tourism revenue from filthy beaches.

### Solutions

The most effective way to stop plastic pollution in our oceans is to make sure it never reaches the water \_\_\_\_\_. We all need to recycle and producers of single use plastic packaging need to do more too.

- 1. What does the author mean by 'We are treating the oceans like trash bins'?
  - A. We don't understand the ocean.
  - B. We don't respect the ocean.
  - C. The ocean will destroy us.
- 2. What is **NOT** mentioned as an effect of sea pollution?
  - A. the overpopulation of the sea
  - B. the poisoning of human beings
  - C. the waste eaten by sea creatures
- 3. How does trash cause flooding?
  - A. by plugging up drains
  - B. by blocking beaches
  - C. by discouraging tourism
- 4. The phrase which best fits in the gap in the last paragraph is
  - A. for the time being.
  - B. to begin with.
  - C. despite this.

**TEXT TWO** 

### **Air Pollution**

Air pollution refers to the contamination of the air, **irrespective of** indoors or outside. A physical, biological or chemical alteration to the air in the atmosphere can be termed as pollution. It occurs when any harmful gases, dust or smoke enters into the atmosphere and makes it difficult for plants, animals and humans to survive as the air becomes dirty.

### Outdoor air pollution

Outdoor air pollution is largely a consequence of the inefficient combustion of fuels for transport, power generation and other human activities like home heating and cooking. Urban outdoor air pollution is estimated to cause 1 million deaths worldwide per year. Children are particularly at risk, comprising 50% of these deaths.

#### Indoor air pollution

Indoor cooking and heating with bio-fuels produce high levels of pollutants that have deadly consequences. For example, **they** can lead to acute lower respiratory infections in children under age five and lung cancer in adults. Indoor air pollution is responsible for 2 million people dying annually, half of whom are children.

It is clear that the time for action has come. Measures must be taken before more lives are lost. Visit www.stopairpollution.com for more information.

- 5. The expression 'irrespective of' in the first paragraph is closest to meaning to
  - A. whether
  - B. solely
  - C. except
- 6. Pollution can be defined as
  - A. a gas outside the atmosphere.
  - B. an alteration to plants and animals.
  - C. any harmful change to the air.
- 7. How many children die worldwide due to outdoor air pollution?
  - A. 3 million
  - B. 1 million
  - C. 500,000
- 8. What does 'they' refer to in the third paragraph?
  - A. bio-fuels
  - B. pollutants
  - C. consequences



### Questions 18-20 refer to BOTH Texts ONE and TWO

- 9. The purpose of these **TWO** passages is to
  - A. inform
  - B. advertise
  - C. exaggerate
- 10. Money lost to businesses is mentioned in
  - A. Text ONE
  - B. Text TWO
  - C. Both Texts
- 11. A specific measure against pollution is mentioned in
  - A. Text ONE
  - B. Text TWO
  - C. Neither text

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### **ANSWER KEY**

### **GLOSSARY MATCHING**

1 e / 2 v / 3 a / 4 q / 5 d / 6 n / 7 r / 8 b / 9 k / 10 o / 11 j / 12 s / 13 c / 14 t / 15 i / 16 p / 17g / 18 u / 19 f / 20 m / 21 h / 22 l

#### **READING**

1. B / 2. A / 3. A / 4. B / 5. A / 6. C / 7. C / 8. B / 9. A / 10. A / 11. A

WALLEY.