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NATURE IN DANGER



READING

Before You Read

a) Match the pictures with correct national parks and tourist attractions.



1. Ayers Rock _____

3. Mt. Everest _____

5. Phong Nha Cave _____

2. Tram Chim National Park _____

4. Mount Fuji National Park _____

6. Yellowstone National Park _____

b) Below are some activities normally done by tourists when they visit the national parks and tourist attractions in a). Which of these activities may be harmful to the environment there?

- make a campfire
- have a swim
- carve names or drawings on rocks
- eat and drink
- take photos
- pick flowers or break tree branches
- dispose of garbage
- go boating

Reading Text

Read the text and do the tasks that follow.

Thanks to Mt. Everest, tourism in Nepal (located between China and India) has exploded over the past few decades. Now in the spring and fall, quite a lot of tourists attempt to climb Mt. Everest.

However, Mt. Everest is now known as the world's highest junkyard. It is losing its attraction to many climbers since the higher up they climb, the more garbage they see.

Not surprisingly, the increase of adventurers has led to an increase in the amount of garbage, especially along the most popular route to the summit – the Southeast Ridge. Once climbers reach the height above 7,800 meters, they need oxygen bottles, as the atmosphere provides them with only two-thirds of the oxygen they would be breathing in at sea level. Without enough oxygen, people lose their ability to think clearly and may even hallucinate. Besides, climbers also bring with them canisters containing fuel to cook their



Oxygen bottles



Fuel canister

meals. In addition, batteries used for flashlights or radios and the food stored in plastic bags or cans are what they need for survival. Many climbers leave all the used bottles, canisters, batteries, plastic bags, or cans behind as they climb up or down.

A special expedition team has been organized to clean up tons of garbage. The team, which includes about two dozen Sherpas (the native Himalayan people who work as guides or porters in the mountains), uses backpacks to carry the garbage to their base at the foot of Mt. Everest. The table below shows the amount of garbage collected by Sherpas in 1995 and 1998.

Trash collected by Sherpas in past cleanups

Year	Oxygen bottles	Used batteries	Empty fuel canisters
1995	140	200 kilos	100
1998	157	520 kilos	216

The government of Nepal has also taken steps toward protecting Mt. Everest. According to a new environmental law, all expeditions must register their equipment and leave a 5,000-dollar pre-expedition deposit. Before leaving the country, each expedition must check with the Nepalese authorities to be sure that their oxygen bottles, ropes, or food cans have been brought back down the mountain. They cannot get their deposit back if they leave these on the mountains.

a) Which of the following is the best title of the text?

1. Mt. Everest – A Tourist Attraction
2. Mt. Everest's Environmental Problems
3. Mt. Everest's Environmental Problems and Solutions
4. Expeditions to Mt. Everest

b) Answer the following questions.

1. Why is Mt. Everest now called the world's highest junkyard?
2. When do climbers need oxygen bottles? Why?
3. What do adventurers need for survival on the mountain?
4. In what way can the garbage on Mt. Everest be cleaned up?

5. Did Sherpas collect more or less garbage in 1998 than they had done in 1995?
6. Why must all expeditions leave a deposit?

c) Find the words and expressions in the text with the following meanings and write them in the blanks.

1. see or hear things that do not exist because of illness or drugs _____
2. increase quickly _____
3. the top of a mountain _____
4. make an effort, try to do something _____
5. a sum of money that you give to somebody to ensure that you will return something to them _____

d) Work in groups. Answer the question.

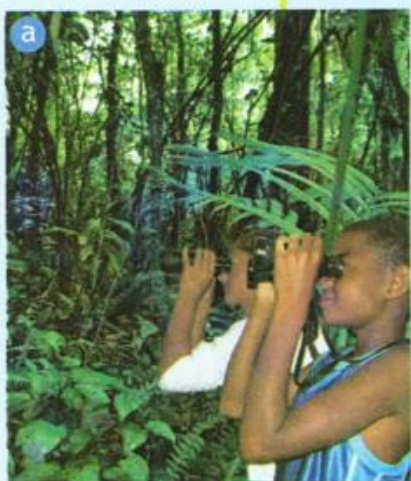
What are some current problems in Viet Nam's national parks and tourist attractions? Suggest solutions.

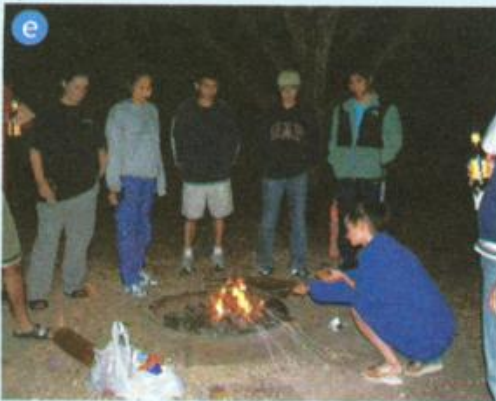
(Prompts to help you: pollution, illegal hunting, deforestation, ...)



LISTENING

a) Work in pairs. Discuss what ecotourists in these pictures might be doing.





b) Mr. Chris Green, an environmentalist, is invited to talk to students of Le Loi High School about the effects of ecotourism. Listen to the first part of his talk and check (✓) whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

1. During an ecotour, tourists may hunt animals.
2. Ecotourists like watching wildlife.
3. Ecotourists do not want to harm the environment.
4. Ecotourism does not harm the environment.

T	F
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

c) Listen to the second part and complete the table.

Ecotour Activities	Their Effects
– (1) Watching _____	(2) Noise from boats _____ _____
– (3) Watching _____	(4) The strong light from the flashes _____ _____
– (5) Walking _____	(6) The vegetation _____ _____

d) Work in pairs. Discuss possible effects other ecotour activities might have on wildlife or the environment.



SPEAKING

Giving Explanations of Actions

Why should tourists wear sunglasses when they visit Ayers Rock?

Well, the thing is, the sunlight there is very strong. Sunglasses help protect their eyes.



Other Useful Expressions

Asking for an Explanation
Why...?

Giving an Explanation

- Because...
- Well, the thing is,...
- If I could explain...
- ... so as (not) to...
- ... in order (not) to...

- a) Work in groups. Complete the brochures for tourists, basing on the tour guide's notes and the information given in the box below.

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| - smoke | - throw plastic bags or cans into the water |
| - wear strong shoes | - bring a flashlight |
| - wear a life jacket | - litter |
| - wear warm clothes | - make a fire |
| - wear a hat | - shout or make big noises |

1. Advice for tourists before a trip to Phong Nha Cave




Tour Guide's Notes

It's dark and rather cold inside the cave.

Tourists	may	get lost.
		pollute the air.
		pollute the water.
		fall into the water.

2. Advice for tourists before a hike in Mount Fuji National Park

Ecotour


B
R
O
C
H
U
R
E

DO

- *carry a backpack, not a traveling bag*
-
-


DON'T

- *make a fire*
-

Tour Guide's Notes

It's rather cold at the mountain top.
Tourists may cause a forest fire.
 may pollute the environment.
 need free hands to climb.
 will have long walks.

3. Advice for tourists before a visit to Tram Chim National Park

Ecotour


B
R
O
C
H
U
R
E

DO

- *bring binoculars*
-
-

DON'T

-
-
-

Tour Guide's Notes

It can be quite sunny and hot.
Tourists will watch the birds nesting and feeding.
 may frighten the birds.
 may pollute the environment (air and water).
 will take a boat trip along canals.

- b) Work in groups. One of you is a tour guide and the others are tourists. Use the information in the brochures and tour guide's notes to conduct some mini-exchanges.



Example

Tourist A: Why should we bring warm clothes when we visit Phong Nha Cave?

Tour guide: Because it's rather cold inside the cave.

Tourist B: Why shouldn't we ...?

Tour guide: Well, the thing is, you ...

- c) Work in groups. Choose a national park or tourist attraction in your neighborhood and discuss what tourists should or shouldn't do there.



WRITING

Describing Tables – Comparison and Contrast

Examine the table showing the garbage collected by Sherpas in the cleanups (in 1995 and 1998) and read the description that follows.

Year	Oxygen bottles	Used batteries	Empty fuel canisters	Plastic bags
1995	140	200 kilos	100	55 kilos
1998	157	520 kilos	216	56 kilos

The table shows the amount of garbage collected by Sherpas in 1995 and 1998. More oxygen bottles as well as empty fuel canisters were collected in 1998 than in 1995. In addition, there was a difference of 320 kilos of used batteries collected – 200 kilos in 1995 and 520 kilos in 1998. However, the number of plastic bags gathered was nearly the same in both years.

Some useful words and expressions to describe comparison-contrast		
Comparison	Contrast	Modifier
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the same (as) – similar (to) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – more (bottles / water)... than – fewer (bottles) ... than – less (water) ... than – a difference of ... (between) – higher / lower (percentage) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – nearly – almost – about

Write similar descriptions for the following tables.

1. Table 1 – Deforestation in Southeast Asia between 1990 – 2005

(Forest cover in million hectares)

Country	Total Forest Cover (1990)	Total Forest Cover (2005)	Forest Loss (1990 – 2005)
Cambodia	12.9	10.4	2.5 (19.3%)
Indonesia	116.5	88.5	28 (24%)
Laos	17.3	16.1	1.2 (6.7%)

2. Table 2 – Total Fires and Acres Burned in the USA (1980 – 2000)

Year	Fires	Acres
2000	122,820	8,422,230
1990	122,763	5,452,870
1980	234,892	5,260,825



LANGUAGE FOCUS

Word Study

Suffix -al



Examples

- environmental (adj.)
- survival (n)

a) Write A next to the adjectives and N next to the nouns.

1. refusal N
2. educational
3. remedial
4. proposal
5. postal
6. rental
7. disposal
8. optional

b) Choose suitable nouns or adjectives above to fill in the blanks in the following sentences.

1. Tourist: I want to rent a car. Is there such a service here?
 Receptionist: Yes, sir. We have excellent car _____ service round the clock.
2. Mr. Tuan: I'd like to send some money to my son in Hue. What should I do?
 Mr. Ba: Go to the central post office. The _____ service there is very good.
3. Nga: The _____ of chemical wastes into the sea should be banned.
 Thu: Why?
 Nga: Because it kills sea animals and vegetation.
4. Mr. Wilson: Is English a compulsory or _____ subject at high schools in your city, Mr. Van?
 Mr. Van: It's compulsory now.
5. Tourist: Are there any plans to help protect wildlife at this national park?
 Tour guide: Yes. Some _____ actions have been taken: planting trees and turning poachers into gamekeepers.

Grammar

Reduced Relative Clauses (Review)

Relative Clauses Replaced by *to* + Base Form of Verb



Example

- Mt. Everest is now known as the world's highest junkyard *that attracts so many climbers.* (Relative clause)
- Mt. Everest is now known as the world's highest junkyard *to attract so many climbers.* (Reduced form of the relative clause)

Answer the following questions, using the reduced form of the relative clauses.

1. Are you usually the first guest that comes to a party?

2. Who was the first man that landed on the Moon?

3. Is the Southeast Ridge the most popular route that leads to the summit of Mt. Everest?

4. Is Phong Nha Cave one of the most beautiful caves that have ever been discovered in Viet Nam?

5. In your opinion, which is the tourists' most common activity that harms the environment: littering, breaking tree branches, or making a campfire?

Relative Clauses Replaced by Participles



Examples

- Batteries *which are used for flashlights or radios* and the food *which is stored in plastic bags or cans* are what they need for survival. (*Relative clauses*)
- Batteries *used for flashlights or radios* and the food *stored in plastic bags or cans* are what they need for survival. (*Reduced form of the relative clauses*)
- Climbers bring with them canisters *that contain fuel to cook their meals*. (*Relative clause*)
- Climbers bring with them canisters *containing fuel to cook their meals*. (*Reduced form of the relative clause*)

Rewrite these sentences, using the reduced form of the relative clauses.



Examples

- He is always the first person that helps us when we're in difficulty.
- He is always the first person *to help us when we're in difficulty*.
- This table shows the amount of garbage that was collected by Sherpas in 1995 and 1998.
- This table shows the amount of garbage *collected by Sherpas in 1995 and 1998*.

1. In the years that are to come, all the trees in this forest will disappear if nothing is done to protect them.

2. They couldn't find a way that may help clean the polluted river.

3. Animals that are born in zoos know nothing about life in the forests.

4. The governments of many countries are discussing methods that can protect the environment.

5. During a boat tour along the canals, tourists can see the birds that are searching for food or the cranes that are flying in flocks.

6. Are national parks good places that can house wild animals?

7. There is nothing more that we can do about the fire.

8. The noise which comes from the boat engine might disturb sea animals.

9. The next question that they will consider is how to clean up the garbage.

10. The team, which includes about two dozen Sherpas (the native Himalayan people who work as guides or porters in the mountains), uses backpacks to carry the garbage to their base at the foot of Mt. Everest.
