

UNIT 6

THE ENVIRONMENT

1. GETTING STARTED

Match these environmental problems to the pictures.

garbage dump

air pollution

water pollution

deforestation

dynamite fishing

spraying pesticides



a)



b)



c)



d)



e)



f)

2. LISTEN AND READ

Mr. Brown is talking to some volunteer conservationists.

“I want everyone to listen carefully, please. First of all, I’d like you to divide into three groups. Each group should take five plastic bags. Once you have

filled a bag, come back to me as you will need another. I need group one to walk along the shore. Group two should check the sand, and group three has to check among the rocks. Mr. Jones is going to collect all the bags and take them to the garbage dump. Mrs. Smith has kindly provided a picnic lunch for us, but we won't eat until the whole area is clean. If you can't find your place, I will help you get there with this map. Don't worry. ... uh ... I'm disappointed that people have spoiled this area. However, we are here to do something about this pollution. We must all work very hard. And, if we work hard, we'll make this beach a clean and beautiful place again. OK. Now, let's get started."

a) Match the names in column A with the tasks in column B. Then write the full sentences.

A	B
1. Group 1	a) collect all the bags and take them to the garbage dump.
2. Group 2	b) check among the rocks.
3. Group 3	c) provide a picnic lunch for everyone.
4. Mr. Jones	d) give out the bags.
5. Mrs. Smith	e) check the sand.
6. Mr. Brown	f) walk along the shore.

b) Answer:

1. Who is the speaker?
2. Who are the listeners?
3. Where are they?
4. What are they going to do?
5. What will they achieve if they work hard today?
6. Have you ever done anything similar? If yes, what did you do? Where did you do it?
7. If the pollution continues, what might happen?

3. SPEAK

a) Try to persuade your partner to do the following things to protect the environment. Use the expressions and the idea cues given. Follow the example.

I think you should	Why don't you ...?
Won't you ... ?	Why not ...?
It would be better if you	What / How about ...?

- Use banana leaves to wrap food. (plastic bags are very hard to dissolve / save paper)
- Reuse and recycle bottles and cans. (reduce garbage / save natural resources)
- Not throw trash onto the water. (keep the water clean / polluted water can directly do harm to people's health and kill fish)
- Go to school or go to work by bike. (save energy / keep the air cleaner)
- Put garbage bins around the schoolyard. (prevent lazy students from throwing trash / keep the schoolyard clean)
- Use public buses instead of motorbikes. (avoid traffic jams / reduce exhaust fume / save energy)

Example:

A: I think it would be better if we use banana leaves instead of paper or plastic bags to wrap food.

B: Why? How come?

A: Because plastic bags are very hard to dissolve, they will cause pollution. And if we use less paper, we can save trees in the forests. That's how we can save the environment.

b) Find possible answers to the questionnaire. You can use the ideas in section a).

Questionnaire

Protecting the environment

How can we ...

- save paper?
- use fewer plastic bags?
- reduce water pollution?
- prevent littering?
- reduce air pollution?
- reduce the amount of garbage we produce?

c) Now discuss with a partner the best way to protect the environment. Take turns to try and persuade your partner into doing things you think the most practical. Use the ideas and the expressions for persuading in section a) and the answers to the questionnaire in b).

Example:

I think we should burn trash to reduce the amount of garbage we produce to protect the environment.

No, we shouldn't do that. Burning trash will pollute the air. I think the best way to reduce garbage is to reuse and recycle things.

How can we do that? I think only the factory can.

What about collecting used paper, bottles and cans every day? It's not difficult.

That's a good idea! Let's do that.

4. LISTEN

Listen to the report on how our oceans are polluted. Then complete the notes.

How the ocean is polluted

Firstly: raw sewage is pumped directly into the sea.

Secondly: _____ dropped into the sea.

Thirdly: oil spills _____.

Next: _____.

Finally: _____.

5. READ

Read this poem about the environment.

MUMMY, OH MUMMY

“Mummy, oh Mummy, what’s going to happen
If all the pollution goes on?”

“Well the world will end up like a second-hand junk-yard,
With all of its treasures quite gone.

5 The fields will be littered with plastics and tins,
The streams will be covered with foam.

Now throw those soda bottles over the hedge,
Save us from taking them home.”

“But Mummy, oh Mummy, if I throw the bottles,

10 Won’t that be polluting the woods?”

“Nonsense! That isn’t the same thing at all,
You just keep quiet and be good.

If you’re going to start getting silly ideas,
I’ll take you home right away.

15 Because pollution is something that other folk do,
We’re just enjoying our day.”

a) Match each word in A to an appropriate explanation in B.

A	B
1. junk-yard	a) a row of things forming a fence
2. end up	b) people
3. treasure	c) a piece of land full of rubbish
4. foam	d) a flow of water
5. stream	e) mass of bubbles of air or gas
6. hedge	f) valuable or precious things
7. folk	g) reach a state of

b) Answer. Then write the answers in your exercise book.

1. According to the mother, what will happen if the pollution goes on?
2. Who does the mother think pollute the environment?
3. What will happen to the boy if he keeps on asking his mother such questions?
4. Do you think the boy’s question (lines 9-10) is silly? Why (not)?
5. What does the poet want us to learn about keeping the environment unpolluted?
6. What could you do in your school / house to minimize pollution?

6. WRITE

A complaint letter has five sections

Situation	states the reason for writing
Complication	mentions the problem
Resolution	makes a suggestion
Action	talks about future action
Politeness	ends the letter politely

a) Mr. Nhat wrote a complaint letter to the director of L&P Company in Ho Chi Minh City. The five sections of the letter are not in the right order. Label each section with the appropriate letter: S, C, R, A, or P.

26 Tran Phu Street
Ha Noi
October 9, 2003

The Director
L&P Transport Company
431 Le Loi Boulevard
HCMC

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would suggest that your company should tell your drivers to clear up all the trash on the ground before leaving.

I am writing to you about the short stop of your trucks around my house on their way to the north.

I look forward to hearing from you and seeing good response from your company.

When the trucks of your company have a short break on the streets around my house, the drivers have left lots of garbage on the ground after their refreshment. When the trucks leave the place, the ground is covered with trash and a few minutes later there is smell and flies.

Yours faithfully,
Tran Vu Nhat

b) *These days, many people begin to catch fish in the lake behind your house. What makes you worried most is they use electricity to catch fish. A lot of small fish died and floated on the water surface. Other animals such as frogs, toads, and even birds also died from electric shock waves. You think that local authorities should prohibit and fine heavily anyone catching fish in this way.*

Now, write a letter to the head of the local authorities to complain about the way of catching fish in the lake behind your house. Following S C R A P format. Begin with:

Dear Mr. President

I am writing to you about the problem of fish catching in the lake behind my house...

LANGUAGE FOCUS

- Adjectives and adverbs
- Adverb clauses of reason (*as, because, since*)
- Adjective + that clause
- Conditional sentences: type 1

1. *Change the adjectives into adverbs. Then use the adverbs to complete the sentences.*

Adjective	Adverb
extreme	<i>extremely</i>
good	
happy	
sad	
slow	

- a) Hoa was *extremely* pleased that she got an A for her assignment.
- b) The old man walked ___ to the park.
- c) Tuan sighed ___ when he heard that he failed the test.
- d) The baby laughed ___ as she played with her toys.
- e) Mrs. Nga speaks English quite ___.

2. Join the pairs of sentences together. Use *because, as or since*.

Example:

- a) Ba is tired *because / as / since* he stayed up late watching TV.



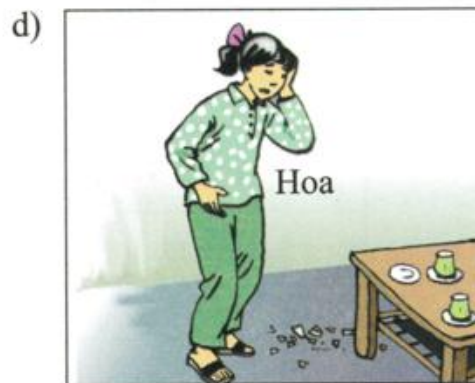
I'm tired. I stayed up late watching TV.



I have a broken leg. I fell over while I was playing basketball.



I'm going to be late for school. The bus is late.



I broke the cup. I was careless.



I want to go home.
I feel sick.



I'm hungry.
I haven't eaten all day.

3. Complete the dialogues. Use the words in brackets.

- a) **Ba:** Dad! I got mark 9 on my test!
Mr. Ha: That's wonderful. I'm _____. (*pleased/work hard*)
That's wonderful. I'm pleased that you are working hard.
- b) **Mrs. Quyen:** When are you going on vacation with your family, Sally?
Mrs. Robinson: Tomorrow. I'm _____. (*excited/go/Da Lat*)
- c) **Lan:** I'm _____. (*sorry/break bicycle*)
Tien: Don't worry. I can fix it.
- d) **Liz:** I forgot to tell you I was going to Lan's place.
Mr. Robinson: I'm _____. (*disappointed/not phone*)
- e) **Miss Lien:** Congratulations!
Nga: Thanks. I'm _____. (*amazed/win first prize*)

4. Match each half-sentence in column A with a suitable one in column B.

Example: 1- e

A	B
1. If we pollute the water, ...	a) there will be big floods every year.
2. If you cut down the trees in the forests, ...	b) a lot of sea creatures will be well preserved.
3. If there is too much exhaust fume in the air, ...	c) more and more people will cope with respiratory problems.
4. If you can keep your neighborhood clean, ...	d) you will have an ideal place to live.
5. If people stop using dynamite for fishing, ...	e) we will have no fresh water to use.

5. Complete the sentences.

Example: a) *If the rice paddies are polluted, the rice plants will die.*

- a) If the rice paddies are polluted, ... (rice plants / die)
- b) If we go on littering, ... (environment / become / seriously polluted)
- c) If we plant more trees along the streets, ... (we / have / more shade and fresh air)
- d) If we use much pesticide on vegetables, ... (the vegetables / become / poisonous and inedible)
- e) If we keep our environment clean, ... (we / live / happier and healthier life)