

# The Environment



INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

Operační program Vzdělávání pro konkurenceschopnost

Název projektu: Inovace magisterského studijního programu Fakulty ekonomiky a managementu

Registrační číslo projektu: CZ.1.07/2.2.00/28.0326

## Warm-up

*Work in pairs.*

- How green are you? What have you done to be more friendly to the environment?
- How do you protect the environment? Do you sort waste?
- What causes air pollution? Why are trees important for life on earth?
- Is it possible to “use cars less”? How does car exhaust pollute the environment? What measures can we take to reduce air pollution by road traffic?
- How does water pollution occur? What can be done to reduce water pollution?

## Vocabulary and speaking

*Explain these expressions in English*

- environment; harmful effects of human activity; pollution; damage the environment; ozone layer; global warming; acid rain; conservation;
- the “greens”; Greenpeace;
- causes of damage; car exhaust fumes; dumping industrial waste; aerosol cans; cutting down tropical rainforests; carbon dioxide;
- bottle bank; newspaper bank; recycle; plant more trees; waste/save resources (e.g. water, gas)

## Vocabulary and speaking

*Fill the gaps to form a compound noun or phrase.*

- 1 ..... warming
- 3 ..... fumes
- 5 natural .....
- 7 a bottle .....

- 2 the ..... layer
- 4 ..... rain
- 6 ..... waste
- 8 ..... rainforests

*Complete these word-building tables.*

A)

<u>Noun</u>	<u>Verb</u>
-------------	-------------

- |             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| 1 waste     | .....   |
| 2 .....     | protect |
| 3 .....     | destroy |
| 4 pollution | .....   |
| 5 damage    | .....   |

B)

<u>Noun</u>	<u>Adjective</u>
-------------	------------------

- |               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| 1 damage      | ..... |
| 2 environment | ..... |
| 3 harm        | ..... |
| 4 danger      | ..... |
| 5 .....       | safe  |

## Vocabulary and speaking

*Complete the definitions.*

- 1 Conservation is the protection of natural things, e.g. .... and .....
- 2 Acid rain is rain that contains dangerous chemicals. It is caused by .....
- 3 The ozone layer is a layer of gases that stop dangerous radiation from the sun from reaching .....
- 4 Global warming is an increase in world temperature caused by an increase in .....
- 5 CFC (chlorofluorocarbon) is a chemical which .....

*Discuss these ideas in groups:*

Is it possible to “use cars less”?

- provide good public transport
- make it difficult for car users (e.g. expensive parking)
- cut down the need for journeys ( e.g. new technology)

What do you personally do to be environmentally friendly?

## Reading and speaking

The greenhouse effect is a vital natural phenomenon, intensified by human activity. It is a process in which heat is unable to escape from the atmosphere and causes the temperature of the Earth to rise. The rise in the temperature is called global warming. Man-made atmospheric emissions, such as carbon dioxide (produced by burning fossil fuels), nitrogen oxides (from car exhausts), CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons from aerosols and refrigerators), methane (a by-product of agriculture) and water vapour prevent the heat from escaping. The result is the melting of arctic ice and the flooding of areas situated near sea level.

Ozone is another air pollutant that contributes to the greenhouse effect at lower atmospheric levels. It is produced by the reaction of sunlight on car exhaust fumes and is a major air pollutant in hot summers. On the ground level ozone can cause asthma attacks, corrosion of certain materials and stunted growth of plants which lower the yields of some crops. On the other hand, ozone forms a layer in the upper atmosphere which protects life on the Earth from ultraviolet rays, which is a cause of skin cancer. A continent-sized hole has formed over Antarctica as a result of damage of the ozone layer, caused in part by CFCs.

## Reading and speaking

*Answer the following questions:*

- 1 What is the greenhouse effect? Explain.
- 2 What causes the greenhouse effect and why is heat unable to escape from the atmosphere?
- 3 How is the rise in the temperature called?
- 4 Give examples of man-made atmospheric emissions.
- 5 How is carbon dioxide produced?
- 6 What does the abbreviation CFCs stand for?
- 7 What is the result of global warming?
- 8 How does ozone act in the atmosphere?
- 9 What can ozone cause on the ground level?
- 10 What is the function of the ozone layer in the upper atmosphere?
- 11 What can ultraviolet rays cause to human health?
- 12 How large is the hole over Antarctica?
- 13 What damages the ozone layer?

## Listening, writing and speaking

*For some more practice, go to:*

*<http://www.esl-lab.com/enviro1/enviro1.htm>*

*1 Pre-listening exercise: Name the three most important environmental issues today and propose solutions for each, including recycling.*

*2 Listening exercise: Listen to the interview by pressing the "Play" button of the audio type you want to hear, and answer the questions. Press the "Final Score" button to check your quiz.*

*3 Write a paragraph about what you have listened to.*

*4 Post-listening exercise: Conduct research on how paper and glass are recycled and then report on the types of products that are produced from these recycled materials. Review how paper and other products are being overused at your home, school, or business, and propose ideas on how to reduce excess waste and promote recycling.*



## Speaking

*Work in pairs. There are certain things we should and shouldn't do to be environmentally friendly/ green if we want to look after the environment. Discuss them with your partner.*

# Questions?

## Thanks for your attention



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