

The Environment and Pollution

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Activity 1

Work with your partner to match the words in Column A below with the words in Column B.

Column A

oil _____
exhaust _____
catalytic _____
ecological _____
greenhouse _____
acid _____
ozone _____
global _____

Column B

rain
spill
fumes
disaster
layer
effect
warming
converter

Activity 2

Read all the sentences below then work with your partner and use the word partners from Activity 1 to fill the gaps. Then make questions from the sentences and use them to begin a conversation with your partner.

1. I think that the smoke from factories is more dangerous to the atmosphere than the _____ from cars. It contributes to _____ which can destroy forests.
2. I don't believe that there is a hole in the _____ because I can't see it.
3. I like the fact that the _____ is making the planet hotter. I like hot weather so I don't think that _____ is a problem.
4. I think the _____ in the Galapagos Islands was a preventable _____.

Activity 3

Read all the following questions then use them to begin a conversation with your partner.

1. Smog is only one type of pollution; what other types are there? Which is the most serious? How can these types of pollution be reduced?
2. Do you think pollution is responsible for changes in the weather? Why/not? How much?
3. Exhaust fumes from cars contribute to smog. Should we try to use cars less? Can you imagine life without your car? How would it be different?
4. In some cities, on some days, cars which don't use unleaded petrol or don't have catalytic converters are banned. Sometimes all vehicles are banned except public transport, taxis and the emergency services. Do you think this really helps to reduce smog or do you think that people should do more? Explain your answer.
5. Which ecological disasters do you remember? Why do you remember them in particular?
6. Would you like to vote for a 'green' party? Why/not?