



Handout N°1 Vocabulary

I. Read the definitions and write the correct word from the box:

Environment vocabulary.

Waste // Deforestation // Climate // Acid rain // Energy // Biodegradable //
Desertification // Drought // Biodiversity // Carbon monoxide // Earthquake // Flood //
Carbon dioxide // Disposable products // Endangered species // Energy Conservation
// Environment // Global Warming // Natural Resources //

1. _____ :rain which contains large amounts of harmful chemicals as a result of burning substances such as coal and oil.

2. _____ :able to decay naturally and harmlessly.

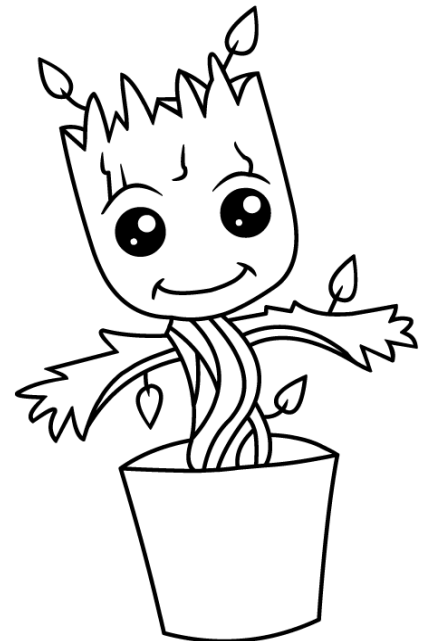
3. _____ : the number and variety of plant and animal species that exist in a particular environmental area or in the world generally, or the problem of preserving and protecting this.

4. _____ :the poisonous gas formed by the burning of carbon, especially in the form of car fuel.

5. _____ :the gas formed when carbon is burned, or when people or animals breathe out.

6. _____ : the general weather conditions usually found in a particular place.

7. _____ :the cutting down of trees in a large area; the destruction of forests by people.



8. _____ : the process by which land changes into desert.
9. _____ : describes an item that is intended to be thrown away after use.
10. _____ : a long period when there is little or no rain.
11. _____ : a sudden violent movement of the Earth's surface, sometimes causing great damage.
12. _____ : birds/plants/species animals or plants which may soon not exist because there are very few now alive.
13. _____ : the power from something such as electricity or oil, which can do work, such as providing light and heat. There are different types of energy: solar, nuclear, hydroelectric...
14. _____ : the process of conserving energy
15. _____ : the air, water and land in or on which people, animals and plants live.
16. _____ : a large amount of water covering an area that is usually dry.
17. _____ : things such as minerals, forests, coal, etc. which exist in a place and can be used by people.
18. _____ : a gradual increase in world temperatures caused by polluting gases such as carbon dioxide which are collecting in the air around the Earth and preventing heat escaping into space.
19. _____ : unwanted matter or material of any type, often that which is left after useful substances or parts have been removed.

Name: _____

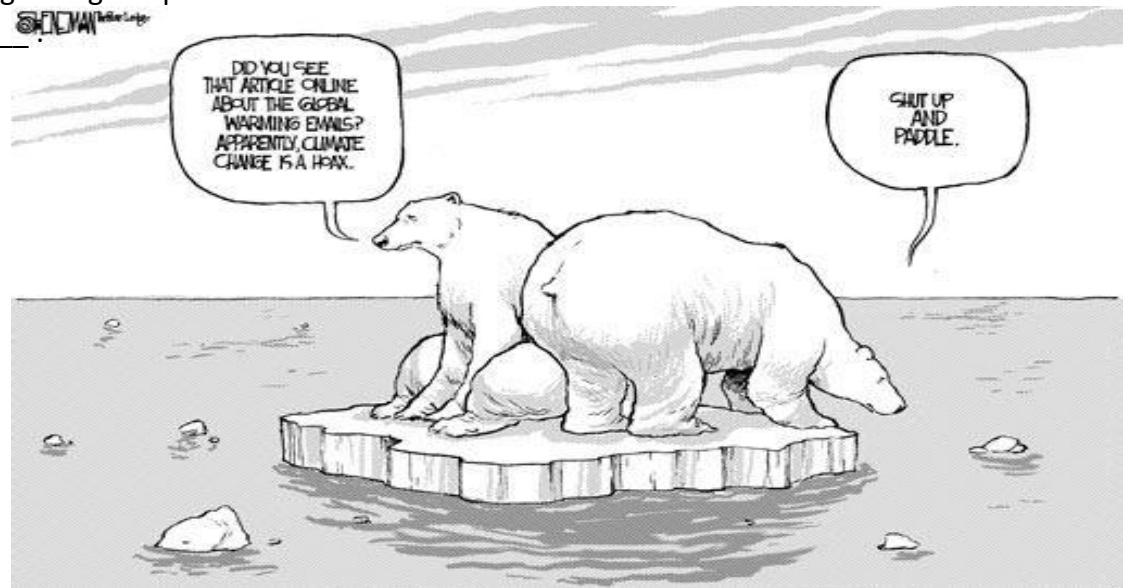
THE ENVIRONMENT



POLLUTION / DEFORESTATION / WARMING / EFFECT / HABITAT / RECYCLE / GASES /
WINDMILL / USED UP / PROTECTION

Choose the right words from the box:

1. There is a growing concern over the _____ of species _____ and biodiversity .
2. The earth's resources are being _____ at an alarming rate.
3. The greenhouse _____ is an increase in the amount of carbon dioxide and other gases in the atmosphere which is believed to be the cause of a gradual _____ of the surface of the Earth.
4. The energy generated by the _____ is both very efficient and clean.
5. Climate change and human activities, such as intensive agriculture and industry, are two main causes of _____.
6. The Japanese _____ more than half their waste paper.
7. We're not doing enough to protect the environment from the harmful effects of _____.



Sustainable Development

The best definition of Sustainable development was presented by the report **Our Common Future** (also known as the Brundtland Report):

"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Sustainable development is thus the ability to meet the needs of the present while contributing to the future generations' needs. It focuses on two goals:

1. To improve the quality of life for all of the Earth's citizens.
2. To stop using up the natural resources beyond the capacity of the environment to supply them indefinitely.

Green development is generally differentiated from sustainable development in that Green development prioritizes what its proponents consider to be environmental sustainability over economic and cultural considerations. In addition to that, sustainable development has underlying concepts: the concept of 'needs', in particular the essential needs of the world's poor, to which overriding priority should be given; and the idea of limitations imposed by the state of technology and social organization on the environment's ability to meet present and future needs. There is an additional focus on the present generations' responsibility to improve the future generations' life by restoring the previous ecosystem damage and resisting to contribute to further ecosystem damage.

Sustainable development requires action on the part of world states, governments and people. The detrimental situation of the environment, the enormous stress upon our natural resources and the huge gap between developed and underdeveloped countries, necessitate practical strategies to reverse the trends.

The World Commission on Environment and Development suggested seven critical objectives for environment and development policies that follow from the concept of sustainable development:

- Reviving growth
- Changing the quality of growth
- Meeting essential needs and aspirations for jobs, food, energy, water and sanitation
- Ensuring a sustainable level of population
- Conserving and enhancing the resource base
- Reorienting technology and manage risk
- Including and combining environment and economics considerations in decision-making

These recommendations are still valid; not to do things differently is dangerous and condemnable. Slow actions would be detrimental.

Comprehension:

1. Sustainable development refers to the harmony between the environment, society and economy
 - a. True
 - b. False
2. Sustainable development stresses upon:
 - a. the relationship between man and development,
 - b. a development that takes into consideration the needs of future generations.
3. Action to implement the concept of sustainable development is:
 - a. slow
 - b. already taking place at a reasonable pace



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