

Lesson 11 - The Earth And The Environment

Lesson 11. The Earth And The Environment

Learning Objectives

After this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Define what natural environment means.
2. Identify natural environmental elements.
3. Recognize the importance of World Environment Day.
4. Infer relevant information from the provided text.
5. Explore how people could help save the environment.
6. Employ past simple and past continuous tense in sentences correctly.
7. Discuss how five inventions could be of use for planet earth.
8. Match phrasal verbs related to the environment with their correct definition.
9. Identify the correct pronunciation of commonly mispronounced words.

Lesson 11. The Earth And The Environment

Watch this short clip below and answer the provided questions.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wrlhJHeluw>

1. What is the video about?
Describe the content of the video to your teacher.
2. How does the video make you feel after watching it? Express how you feel.
3. What's your response to the video?
Do you agree with everything portrayed in the video?
4. What key takeaway can you conclude having watched the video?

Lesson 11. The Earth And The Environment

In A Nutshell

The **natural environment** encompasses all living and non-living things occurring naturally, meaning in this case not artificial. The term is most often applied to the earth or some parts of earth. This environment encompasses the interaction of all living species, climate, weather, and natural resources that affect human survival and economic activity. The human race needs to keep this “green” environment thriving because the environment provides natural services for humans and all other species that are essential to our health, quality of life and survival.

Ponder this!

What is the importance of learning about the environment?



Lesson 11. The Earth And The Environment

Match each terminology on the right with its correct definition on the left

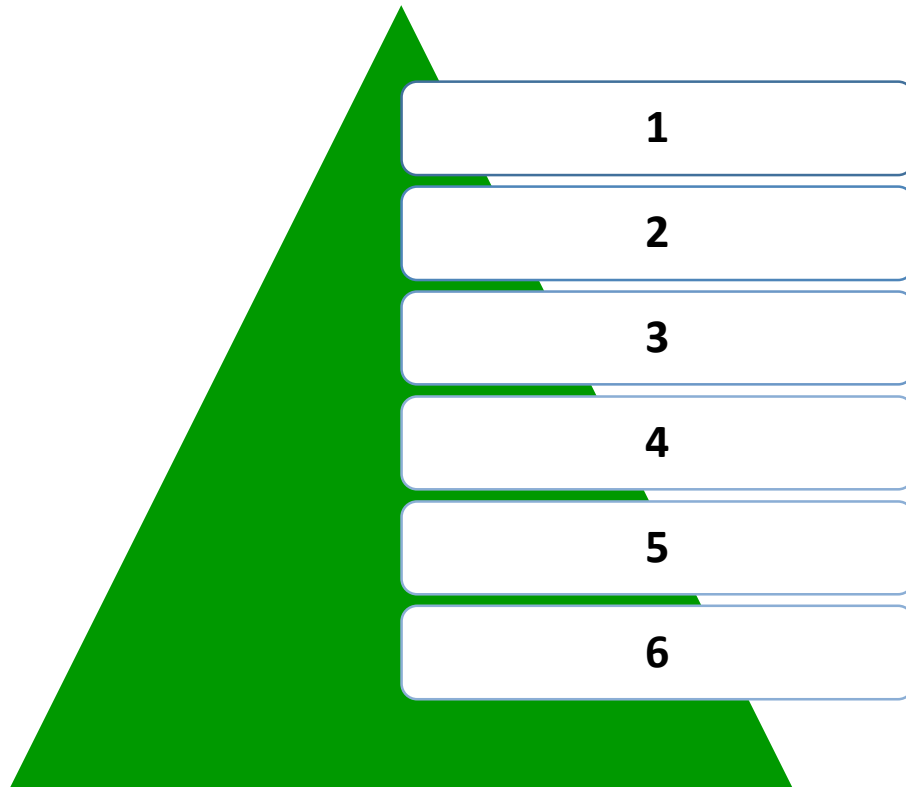
1. Hollow place in the ground, specifically a natural underground space large enough for a human to enter
 2. Barren area of landscape where little precipitation occurs and consequently living conditions are hostile for plant and animal life.
 3. A lower part in the land, between two higher parts which might be hills or mountains.
 4. A body of standing water, either natural or artificial, that is usually smaller than a lake.
 5. A natural flowing watercourse, usually freshwater, flowing towards an ocean, sea, lake or another one of its kind.
 6. A piece of grassland, especially one used for hay.
 7. An isolated area of vegetation in a desert, typically surrounding a spring or similar water source, such as a pond or small lake.
 8. A mountain with a hole where hot, liquid rock comes from a magma chamber under the ground.
 9. Any piece of sub-continental land that is surrounded by water.
 10. A steep rock face, especially at the edge of the sea.
 11. A place where water flows over a vertical drop or a series of steep drops in the course of a stream or river.
 12. A body of saline water that composes much of a planet's hydrosphere
 13. A landform along the coast of an ocean, sea, lake, or river.
 14. A landform that extends above the surrounding terrain.
 15. Land covered with dense vegetation dominated by trees.
- a. waterfall
 - b. hill
 - c. cave
 - d. cliff
 - e. jungle
 - f. oasis
 - g. pond
 - h. meadow
 - i. beach
 - j. valley
 - k. ocean
 - l. desert
 - m. volcano
 - n. island
 - o. river

Lesson 11. The Earth And The Environment

Why don't many people believe in climate change? What's causing this skepticism?

According to the [Public Religion Research Institute](#), people deny the existence of climate change for plenty various excuses.

Rank the excuses from 1-6. Place the most debatable excuse at the top.



1

2

3

4

5

6

- ❖ Alternative scientific theory
- ❖ Temperature varies naturally
- ❖ News reports and research are false
- ❖ Weather has not changed/still cold
- ❖ Conflicting/insufficient scientific evidence
- ❖ Simply refuse to believe

See if you can argue/debate their excuses.

Lesson 11. The Earth And The Environment

Read this text below and match each paragraph with its correct headline.

World Environment Day

_____ (A)

The first World Environment Day was celebrated in 1974 in the city of Spokane in the USA. The slogan for that first year was 'Only One Earth' and it was celebrated with the world's first world fair to be dedicated to the environment. The exhibition lasted for six months.

_____ (B)

Since 1974 the WED has been hosted by 34 different cities in 25 different countries around the world, from Cuba to Korea, from Belgium to Brazil. Some countries have hosted the main celebrations two or more times, including Bangladesh, Canada and China. But that doesn't mean that all the celebrations take place in the host country. Every year, people from all over the world take part in a huge number of different events to draw attention to the main issue.

_____ (C)

Each year the celebrations focus on a particular problem. Over the last ten years key issues have included wildlife, forests and plastic waste, among other things. Each issue has a slogan. Past slogans include 'Think. Eat. Save.', which asked people to think about the issue of food waste, and 'Raise your voice, not the sea level', to focus on the effect that global warming is having on small island nations around the world. As well as slogans, hashtags have become important for the campaigns too. In a recent campaign the hashtag #WildforLife became a strong symbol for the fight against all kinds of illegal trading in plants and animals.

_____ (D)

If you want to take part in the celebrations, or support this year's special cause, here are some things that you can do. You can visit the official website to find out what this year's slogan is. You can search for the slogan online to find organisations and events in your area or online. You can share information about the cause and the events on social media or form a local action group of your own and organise an event in your community. Whatever you do, you won't be alone. Millions of people all around the world will be joining the celebrations and fighting for a better future for our planet.

Adapted from: <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/general-english/magazine/world-environment-day>

1. The hosts
2. What you can do
3. The first World Environment Day
4. The issues

Lesson 11. The Earth And The Environment

Reading Comprehension

1. What do these following figures mean?:
 - a. 1974
 - b. 6 months
 - c. 34
 - d. 25
2. What do Bangladesh, Canada and China have in common?
3. Name a few issues that have been the main concern of World Environment Day.
4. What part do hashtags (#) play in environmental campaigns?
5. How does the passage explain that what each individual does in the fight for a better future for our planet matters?



1. Do you find holding such events/festivals to be effective in reaching the objectives that we aim for? Or has holding such events become mere obligatory annual event?
2. What do you think are the main problems that are facing the environment at the moment? What can we do to help?
3. If you had to coin an environmental slogan, what would it be?

Lesson 11. The Earth And The Environment

What damages are these?



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12

- a. oil spill
- b. deforestation
- c. polluted river
- d. wildfire
- e. smog
- f. overuse of fossil fuel
- g. flood
- h. earthquake
- i. volcanic eruption
- j. poor waste management
- k. drought
- l. tornado

Lesson 11. The Earth And The Environment



Listening 11.1

Listen to the recording carefully and answer these questions below

1. Why is Neil concerned about Sam's use of plastic toothbrushes?
2. Which organization is Madeleine Murray part of? What does that organization do/specialize in?
3. What type of packages annoy Madeleine Murray the most? Why?
4. Which of the two hosts experienced the hand-me-down culture? What did the host receive as hand-me-down items?
5. What does this following figure mean?:
 - 1856
6. How does the host define the word "decant"?

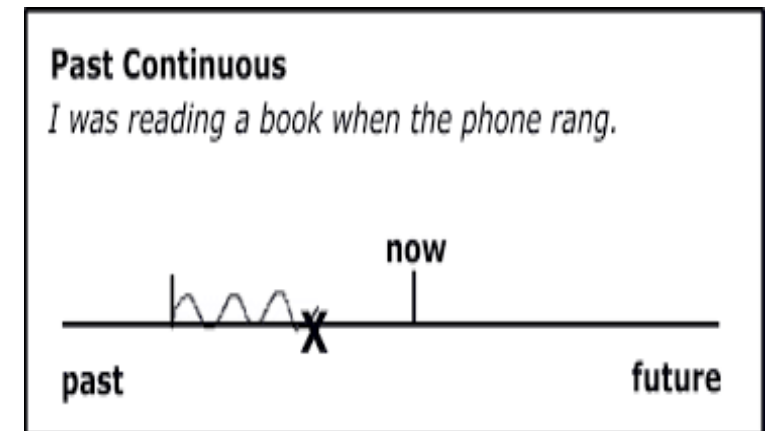
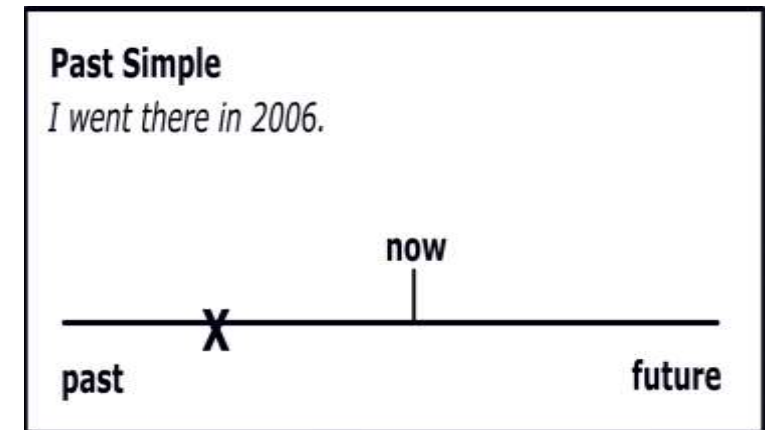


How normal is the hand-me-down culture in your family?



Lesson 11. The Earth And The Environment

Past Simple Tense	Past Continuous Tense
irregular verbs: -> I spoke regular verbs: verb + ed -> I talked	past form of 'be' and verb + ing I / He / She / It was speaking You / They / We were speaking
after another Paul sorted his trash and recycled a few of them.	at the same time Simon was busy sorting the trash in his house while her wife was busy gardening .
new action My mobile rang (while I was trimming my roses.)	action already in progress While I was trimming my roses, (my mobile suddenly rang.)
casual utterance Colin volunteered in a trash bank yesterday.	emphasizing progress Yesterday at six o'clock, Colin was watering his cacti.



Lesson 11. The Earth And The Environment

Change the provided **verbs** into the correct form of past simple or past continuous

1. What _____ you _____ (**do**) when the volcano _____ (**erupt**)?
2. I _____ (**not-know**) that there _____ (**be**) an earthquake because I _____ (**sleep**).
3. The workers _____ busy _____ (**do**) something else when the oil somehow _____ (**spill**) in the ocean.
4. The tornado _____ (**come**) when the farmers _____ (**reap**) the crops.
5. People _____ (**not-have**) the chance to run when the tsunami _____ (**occur**) and _____ (**sweep**) the entire area.
6. I _____ (**walk**) on my way home when the person in that blue car _____ (**lower**) their window car and _____ (**throw**) a plastic of trash out of their car. It _____ (**be**) absolutely terrible.
7. The shepherd _____ (**herd**) his sheep when it suddenly _____ (**rain**).
8. The illegal loggers _____ (**cut down**) the trees when the locals suddenly _____ (**appear**) and _____ (**protest**) against the trees logging.
9. Sam _____ (**tend**) to the garden while her brother _____ (**spread**) fertilizer.

Lesson 11. The Earth And The Environment

Pay attention to these following breakthrough



How useful are the breakthrough?
Complete this table with your teacher.

The Products	What problem does it addresses	How the product helps
1. Edible water blob		
2. Seabin		
3. Drainage pipe nets		
4. Soluble shampoo pod		
5. Vertical forest		

Lesson 11. The Earth And The Environment

What do these phrasal verbs mean? Match them with their correct definition on the right side.

1. Whole villages were **wiped out** by the floods.
 2. A plastic pot may take more than a million years to be **broken down**.
 3. The British Army intends to **scale back** on its use of petrol-driven vehicles.
 4. We've already **used up** the earth's resources on fossil fuels.
 5. Due to prolonged periods of drought, many rivers have **dried up**.
 6. What will we do when we **run out of** gas?
 7. This species has nearly **died out** because its habitat is being destroyed.
 8. We won't have to **rely on** power companies if we use solar and wind power instead.
 9. The rainforest is being **cut down**.
- a. Disappear through evaporation.
 - b. Remove (trees) by cutting.
 - c. Need or depend on somebody/something.
 - d. Use until there is no more.
 - e. Destroy something completely.
 - f. Decompose, when something slowly reduces to its smallest parts.
 - g. Reduce the quantity or amount.
 - h. Finish the supply of something.
 - i. Become extinct; stop existing.

Lesson 11. The Earth And The Environment

Idioms On Environmental Features

Salt of the earth Said about someone who is honest and good.

David is the **salt of the earth**. He's always the first to help when someone is in trouble.

Go with the flow Relax and go along with whatever is happening.

When you're new in a school, it's easiest to just **go with the flow** for a while, and see what people are like.

Come under fire To be subject of criticism.

The government has **come under fire** for its decision to close the mines.

Ray of sunshine A person or thing that brings happiness into the lives of others.

Amid the sorrow her son had been a real **ray of sunshine**.

A drop in the ocean A very small amount compared with what is needed or expected.

I always try to give money to charity but sometimes I feel it is just **a drop in the ocean**.

Lesson 11. The Earth And The Environment

Express Yourself

1. What is your opinion of nuclear power as a source of energy?
2. What do you do to reduce energy consumption?
3. What do you think we should do to protect the animals that are endangered?
4. Do you agree with keeping animals in zoos? Is there any other alternative for this?
5. What do you do to save water? What could people do to save more water?
6. Which is the most serious type of pollution?
7. Is it important to have parks and other green areas in towns and cities? Why/why not?
8. What kinds of technologies do you know of that might help stop environmental problems?
9. How will our children be affected by climate change?
10. What danger does your country pose to the global environment?
11. Are corporations responsible for helping the environment? Why/why not?
12. Would you like to vote for a “green” party? Explain.

THE END