Environmental problems

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

PRE-INTERMEDIATE | A2-B1

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each environmental term with its meaning.

1 air pollution	____	a no longer existing
2 water pollution	____	b harmful substances in rivers, lakes or seas
3 hazardous waste	____	c using old materials to make new products
4 recycling	____	d dangerous material that must be handled safely
5 global warming	____	e dirty city air formed from smoke and gases
6 endangered	____	f at serious risk of disappearing
7 extinct	____	g harmful substances in the atmosphere
8 smog	____	h long-term rise in Earth's average temperature

2 Complete the environmental expressions.

acid | **carbon** | **climate** | **fossil** | **nature** | **organic** | **ozone** | **rainforest**

1 _____ rain

2 a _____ footprint

3 _____ change

4 _____ fuels

5 a _____ reserve

6 _____ food

7 the _____ layer

8 _____ destruction

3 Choose the correct word or phrase.

1 Coal, oil and gas are *fossil fuels* / *renewable fuels*.

2 A tiger with very few individuals left is *endangered* / *extinct*.

3 A species with no living members is *extinct* / *endangered*.

4 We should *reduce* / *increase* the amount of waste we produce.

5 Glass bottles can often be *recycled* / *destroyed*.

6 A company that protects nature is *environmentally friendly* / *environmentally danger*.

7 Waste must be *disposed of* / *disposed* safely.

8 Driving less can reduce your *carbon footprint* / *ozone layer*.

Environmental problems

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

PRE-INTERMEDIATE | A2-B1

4 Complete the community report with words from the box.

air pollution | endangered | fossil fuels | nature reserve | organic | recycle | smog | water pollution

Our town is trying to solve several problems. Traffic causes **1** _____, and on still winter days a layer of **2** _____ forms above the streets. Factories must stop **3** _____ in the river. New buses will use less **4** _____. Households can **5** _____ paper, glass and metal. A nearby farm now grows **6** _____ vegetables. The wetland has become a **7** _____ to protect several **8** _____ birds.

5 Read the text. Write T (true) or F (false).

A school cuts its footprint

Greenfield School measured how much energy, water and waste it produced. Students found that lights were often left on and many recyclable bottles went into ordinary bins. The school installed LED lights, labelled recycling bins and added two water fountains. It also created a garden for insects and native plants. After one year, electricity use fell by twelve per cent, but food waste had not changed. The next project will focus on the canteen.

1 The school measured three areas. T / F

2 Lights were always switched off. T / F

3 The school improved recycling bins. T / F

4 The garden contains only imported plants. T / F

5 Electricity use decreased. T / F

6 Food waste has already fallen. T / F

6 Rewrite using the word in capitals.

1 This animal may disappear completely. **ENDANGERED** _____

2 No members of this species remain alive. **EXTINCT** _____

3 The company uses old paper to make new products. **RECYCLES** _____

4 The bins are safe places for dangerous material. **WASTE** _____

OVER TO YOU

Write **70-90 words** about one environmental problem in your area. Explain its cause, two effects and two realistic actions that could improve the situation.

[ ] Use at least eight target words. [ ] Link causes and effects clearly. [ ] Use reduce, recycle and dispose of accurately.

Environmental problems

ANSWER KEY

1 Environmental terms

1 **g** 2 **b** 3 **d** 4 **c** 5 **h** 6 **f** 7 **a** 8 **e**

2 Environmental expressions

1 **acid** 2 **carbon** 3 **climate** 4 **fossil** 5 **nature** 6 **organic** 7 **ozone** 8 **rainforest**

3 Correct choices

1 **fossil fuels** 2 **endangered** 3 **extinct** 4 **reduce**
5 **recycled** 6 **environmentally friendly** 7 **disposed of** 8 **carbon footprint**

4 Community report

1 **air pollution** 2 **smog** 3 **water pollution** 4 **fossil fuels** 5 **recycle** 6 **organic** 7 **nature reserve** 8 **endangered**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 **T**
2 **F** - Lights were often left on.
3 **T**
4 **F** - It has native plants.
5 **T**
6 **F** - It has not changed.

6 Rewriting - possible answers

1 The animal is **endangered**. 2 The species is **extinct**. 3 The company **recycles** paper. 4 The bins hold hazardous **waste**.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check vocabulary, cause-effect links and realistic actions.