AlloSchool

English : Common Core Classes

Unit 9 (Environment & Ecology) - Reading

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Summary

I- Pollution

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II- Deforestation

2-1/ Reading 1

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III- Save the Planet

3-1/ Reading 1

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I- Pollution

1-1/ Reading 1

Text

Sandi : Say, David, would you like to go jogging?
David : Oh, sorry I can't. I have to finish a presentation for the science class tomorrow.
Sandi : Can I help ? What is it about?
David : Pollution. I'm browsing the Internet for ideas.
Sandi : Have you found any information yet ?
David : Yes, I' ve already written the outline, but I need to develop some ideas.
Sandi : what are you going to talk about ?
David : Have you ever heard of noise pollution?
Sandi : Noise pollution? I've never heard of that!
David : Many people don't know about it. You know? It can cause serious health problems.
Sandi : Oh, really? Like what?
David : High blood pressure and sleep loss, for example.
Sandi : You know what? We are very lucky to live in a small town.
David : Yeah. I think we are too.



Comprehension

1. Write "True" or "False" :

David has finished his presentation : _____

He has finished the outline of the presentation : _____

Sandy can help David : _____

2. Answer these questions :

a. Why can't David go jogging?

_____

b. What is his presentation about?

_____

c. Where do Sandy and David live?

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d. Do they like it? Why?

1-2/ Reading 2

Text



Air pollution has negative effects on people, animals and plants. It can cause minor health problems such as eye and throat irritation, but it has more alarming effects such as cancer and damage to the respiratory systems.

A recent research has shown that air pollution may cause brain damage. In this research, scientists have exposed 200 dogs to air pollution in Mexico City, one of the most polluted cities in the world. As a consequence, the dogs have developed damaged brain cells. The researchers say that the dogs have brain problems similar to those of human Alzheimer's patients. In a separate study in Canada, researchers have exposed human volunteers to air pollution in a laboratory. The results show a link between air pollution and heart problems.

There is a lot of air pollution now because of factories and traffic jams in cities. However, Air pollution is not just a city problem. The toxic pollutants from cars and factories travel for long distances and affect lakes, rivers, and forests

Comprehension

1. Choose the best title for the passage :

a. Air Pollution and Brain Damage.
b. The Causes of Air Pollution.
c. The Effects of Air Pollution.

2. Answer these questions :

a. How many experiments are mentioned in the passage?

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b. Which experiment took place in Mexico?

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c. Why do you think the researchers chose Mexico?

II- Deforestation

2-1/ Reading 1

Text

The damage people have done to the environment is considerable. By cutting down trees, people have destroyed animal habitats. They have also taken away a source of oxygen. In Morocco, nearly half the argan forest disappeared in the 20th century. This has caused vast desertification in the region.



Aicha



Pam

Most of us don't see the effect that our consumption of paper has on forests. Since 1970, industrial companies have destroyed over 14% of the Amazon rainforest. This is about the size of France. Amazing! By using as much paper as we do, we destroy a forest the size of a football field every two seconds- over 43,000 football fields every day!

Comprehension

- Write "True" or "False" :

a. Aicha mentions three effects of deforestation : _____

b. We consume too much paper : _____

c. Pam says that companies have destroyed forests in France : _____

d. In one minute we destroy a forest the size of 30 football fields : _____

2-2/ Reading 2

Text



Deforestation: Causes and Effects

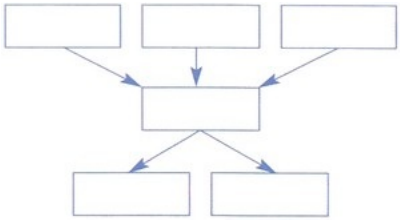
The statistics are alarming. More than 80 percent of the Earth's natural forests have already disappeared. Up to 90 percent of West Africa's coastal rain forests have vanished. In Brazil and Indonesia, which contain the world's two largest areas of rain forest, the number of trees is decreasing rapidly. All this is the consequence of logging, fires, and land-clearing for agriculture and cattle-grazing.

Seventy percent of the Earth's land animals and plants reside in forests. So, one of the consequences of deforestation is the loss of living space. Secondly, rain forests help generate rainfall in many countries. Studies have shown that destruction of rain forests in such West African countries as Nigeria, Ghana, and Côte d'Ivoire has caused about twenty years of droughts in the interior of Africa.

Comprehension

1. The digram below summarizes the causes and effects of deforestation. Complete the diagram with the appropriate ideas from the list. Write only the correct letter in each box :

a. Animals and plants disappear.
b. Clearing land for agriculture and cattle.
c. Deforestation.
d. Droughts.
e. Forest fires.
f. People cut down trees.



2. Find in the text words which mean the same as :

1. terrifying : _____
2. disappeared : _____
3. on the seaside : _____
4. diminishing : _____
5. cutting down trees : _____
6. live : _____
7. cause : _____
8. absence of rain : _____

III- Save the Planet

3-1/ Reading 1

Text

RAIN FORESTS



They're really half a world away
There's nothing we can do.
"Rain forests" may be just two words
To kids like me and you.
They're really somewhere over there.
I may not even see
A Rain Forest in my entire life.
What should it mean to me?
I know that in these Rain Forests
That I may never see,
Half the world's plants, animals and insects
Living in harmony.
I know that trees are being cut.
Faster than we know.
These trees are where the creatures live,
So now where will they go?
So, I know they're half a world away
Rain Forests I can't see.
But I can learn and understand
Because the future starts with me.

Comprehension

- Write "True" or "False" :

a. The writer of the poem is an old man : _____

b. It's difficult for animals to live in the Rain forest : _____

c. Man is destroying Rain forests : _____

d. Everybody can help to save Rain forests : _____

3-2/ Reading 2

Text

King Mohammed VI of Morocco calls for African conference on environment

Morocco-Regional, Environment, 6/30/2004



___ a. The sovereign, who finished his Senegal visit and African tour Tuesday afternoon, has called for a conference to think of a program to protect the environment in Africa.

___ b. The royal suggestion is also about finding solutions to water pollution, forest devastation, and desertification, as well as extinction of some species of the African fauna.

___ c. King Mohammed VI of Morocco has proposed the holding of an African conference on environment during the talks with the heads of States during an African tour that took him from June 15-29 to Benin, Cameroon, Gabon and Senegal.

___ d. The heads of State of the five African countries have all praised the suggestion. The African countries suffer from environment degradation with negative social and economic consequences. So, the call for an African conference will make future generations more concerned with ecology.

(Adapted from Arabic News.com)

Comprehension

1. Find in the article words which mean the same as :

a. king : _____

b. proposition : _____

c. animals : _____

d. organisation : _____

e. discussions : _____

f. extermination : _____

g. accepted : _____

h. types : _____

2. Answer the following questions :

a. How many environmental problems are mentioned in the article ?

b. As a class suggest ideas to solve these problems.