

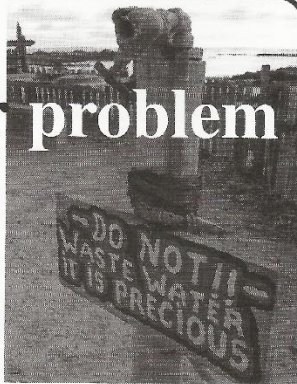
Unit 7 Natural resources

7a Solving the water problem

Solving the water problem

Conservation

This is perhaps the simplest and most cost-effective solution. Moreover, everyone can contribute, from the water companies to the end-user. The water companies can make sure that they minimize waste by repairing cracked pipes and by imposing restrictions on water usage—not allowing people to use hoses is one method. But more significantly, they can also limit water consumption by making people pay for what they use, rather than for their connection to the water supply. If everyone had a water meter, they would think more carefully when they turned on the tap. With metered water, the market for water-saving devices—low-flush toilets, efficient washing machines and dishwashers—will grow by itself.



Grammar mixed conditional sentences

3 Complete the sentences. Put the verbs in the correct form. Use first, second, third, and mixed conditionals.

- 1 If the water companies _____ (not / impose) restrictions on water use in the past, there _____ (be) water shortages now.
- 2 If people _____ (have) to pay according to how much water they used, they _____ (use) less water.
- 3 If companies _____ (introduce) water meters, then people _____ (buy) more water-saving devices.
- 4 If someone _____ (think) of a better idea than conservation, it _____ (be) in use by now.

Vocabulary conservation verbs

4 Complete the sentences about resources using these verbs. Two verbs are extra.

conserve consume preserve protect
run out of save

- 1 We've _____ milk. Can you go and buy some from the store?
- 2 It's very important to _____ money in good times, so that you have some for the bad times.
- 3 Using salt to _____ food is a very old practice.
- 4 The WWF has launched a campaign to _____ the tiger from the threat of extinction.

Reading water

1 Read the paragraph and choose the best option (a–c).

- 1 Probably the most effective way for water companies to reduce water consumption is:
 - a to fix broken water pipes.
 - b to limit how much water people can use.
 - c to charge for water consumption.
- 2 According to the author, people will buy water-saving devices:
 - a if the devices are more efficient.
 - b if they see there is financial benefit.
 - c whether they have a meter or not.

2 Read the paragraph again and find words that mean:

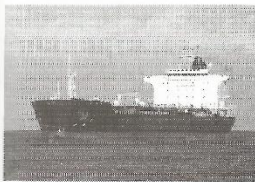
- a a consumer _____
- b something you use to water the garden or wash the car _____
- c something that measures the amount of water you consume _____

7b Oil

Vocabulary oil

1 Label the pictures using these words.

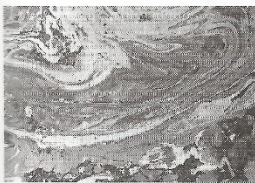
oil barrel oil field oil pipeline oil refinery
oil rig oil slick oil tanker oil well



1 _____



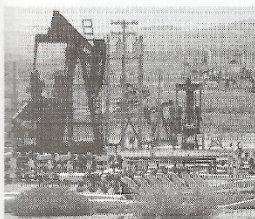
2 _____



3 _____



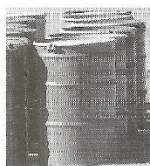
4 _____



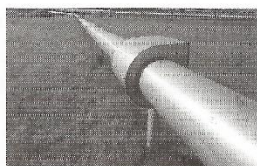
5 _____



6 _____



7 _____



8 _____

Grammar *wish, would rather, and if only*

2 Complete these sentences by putting the verb in the correct form.

- We wish oil _____ (go) on forever.
- I wish I _____ (be able) to give you a straight answer.
- A lot of people wish that we _____ (not / start) to go down this route.
- I'm sure people would rather _____ (have) a cheaper and cleaner alternative.
- If only there _____ (be) a cheaper, cleaner, and more efficient alternative.
- Would you rather we _____ (run) out of oil or lithium?

3 Complete the short conversations using the correct form of the verbs given.

- A: Would you like to drive or will I?
B: I'd rather you _____ (drive).
- A: Are you going to buy that new electric car?
B: If only I _____ (have) enough money, then I'd get it tomorrow, but it's over \$30,000!
- A: Some people think that cheap gas is a basic human right.
B: I know. I wish people _____ (stop) complaining and use their cars less.
- A: Your new car is amazing. Doesn't it use a lot of gas though?
B: Yes, it does. I wish I _____ (buy) one with a smaller engine.
- A: The oil spill was terrible. What do you think happened to all the oil in the sea?
B: I'd rather _____ (not / think) about it. It's probably still out there.
- A: We all depend too much on the countries who produce oil.
B: I know. I wish each country _____ (become) more independent in its energy needs.

7c An emotive subject

Reading conservation stories

Story 1

In the 1970s, Cancún was just a small fishing village—a few huts on the edge of a mangrove forest. Today that forest is buried and rotting underneath 500 hotels. Only a few inhabitants remember the forest and the seven million tourists that visit each year don't know it ever existed. This place is a classic example of how not to build a tourist resort. Nature is for sale here. The mangroves are not the only victims. The coral reef all along the coast is also slowly being destroyed by all the tourists' pollution. Very little waste water is treated: it's either pumped into the sea or injected into the land, from where in time it returns to the surface. Up to now, conservationists have failed to stop this development or the pollution it's caused.

Story 2

The story of the West African giraffe is a conservation success story. A heroic effort on the part of conservationists has saved the giraffe from extinction—from numbers as low as 50 giraffes 20 years ago to over 200 today. The main job was to track the giraffe's movements, since they travel huge distances looking for food. This was done by fitting them with GPS satellite collars—easy with their long necks, you'd think, but actually it's a delicate operation because the giraffes have to be anesthetized first. Once they knew where the giraffes were going, the conservationists could then begin to educate local people about the dangers facing these wonderful creatures, and to compensate farmers when their land had been damaged by them.

1 Complete the table.

	What needs to be protected?	Has the conservation work been successful?
1	The mangrove _____ in _____	_____
2	The West African _____	_____

2 Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)? Or is there not enough information (N) to say if the statements are true or false?

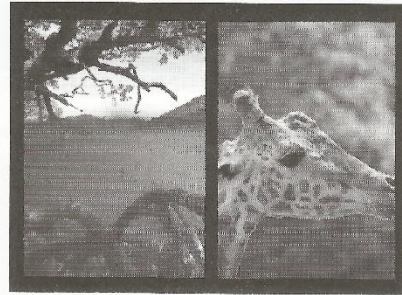
- Every inhabitant of Cancún misses the beautiful mangrove forest.
- Waste water has badly damaged the coral reef along this part of the coast.

- In West Africa, conservationists needed to find out where the giraffe went for food.
- Farmers were killing the giraffes who fed on their land.

3 Complete the sentences about the conservation projects using these words.

classic heroic rarest rotting sale small wonderful victims

- Today that forest is buried and _____ underneath 500 hotels.
- This place is a _____ example of how not to build a tourist resort.
- Nature is for _____ here.
- The mangroves are not the only _____.
- A _____ effort on the part of conservationists has saved the giraffe.
- The conservationists could then begin to educate local people about the dangers facing these _____ creatures.



4 Find words and expressions in Exercise 3 that have these meanings:

- very typical _____
- a person or thing against which a crime is committed _____
- placed under the ground _____
- you can buy it _____
- decaying or going bad _____

7d Is globalization good?

Real life making your point

- Globalization is a force for good. It brings us all closer together. You'll say, "Yes, it makes us all watch the same TV shows and want to buy the same brands," but that's not the point. The point is that it helps us to understand each other better: our differences and our similarities, our hopes and our fears.
- Sorry, I just don't accept that. All it helps is people in rich countries to have cheaper goods and also goods out of season. To be honest with you, I could live without flowers that are imported from Africa in December or my computer technical support team being based in India.
- We're approaching this debate all wrong. Globalization is just a natural economic phenomenon. It gives countries a much bigger market so that they can concentrate on producing the things they're good at producing.
- Think of people in China making cheap toys for us to give to our children. These people would be much better off making things that were really useful to them. There's no doubt that it's helped the rich countries, but overall globalization has just increased the gap between the world's rich and poor.

- Read what four people think about globalization and complete the summaries.

Person 1: Globalization helps us all to

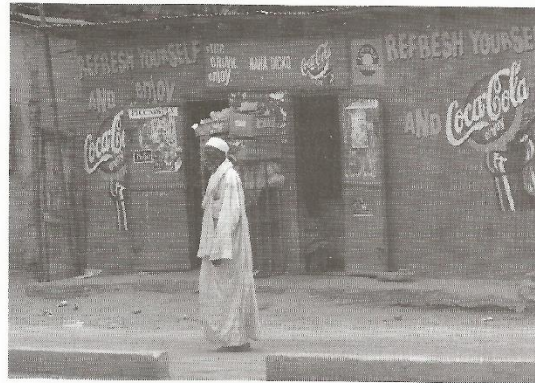
Person 2: Globalization just helps people

Person 3: Globalization is just a

Person 4: Globalization has just increased

- Complete these phrases used in the reading.

- That's _____ the _____.
- Sorry, I _____ don't _____ that.
- To _____, I could live without flowers that are imported from Africa.
- We're _____ this debate all _____.
- There's no _____ that it has helped the rich.



Vocabulary review strong feelings

- Look at these words. Check the emotive words.

back-breaking criticize deplore desperate
interested in keen on majestic obsessed with
tall tiring

7e Waste

Writing a letter to the press

- 1 Read the letter below and answer the questions
- 1 What caused the writer to send the letter?
.....
 - 2 What does she say will happen if nothing is done?
.....

Daily Times

Published: January 12

To the editor:

I am very tired of seeing so much waste in a world where many people ¹.....

..... suffer shortages of food, energy, and other basic necessities.

Each day at my local supermarket, enormous quantities of food ²..... are thrown away when it could easily be given to charities for the homeless. People often throw away electronic equipment, ³.....

....., when the item is only four or five years old. Cars ⁴.....

..... sit in traffic jams with their engines running, burning fuel unnecessarily. Clothes, ⁵....., are so cheap nowadays that people think nothing of wearing something once or twice and then throwing it away.

How have we allowed ourselves to become so careless about precious resources? Are we simply too rich to care? If we do not change the way we behave, a change of behavior will be forced upon us because there will be no more resources left for us to waste.

H. Patel, Oakland

2 Writing skills giving vivid examples

- a Use these words and one of the details (a–e) to add information that makes the letter more vivid. Insert the information in the spaces (1–5).

such as with especially which who

- items of fashion clothing
- flat-screen TVs, computers, or cell phones
- is near its sell-by date
- live in more difficult circumstances than us
- only one driver in them

- b Make the short letter below more vivid by giving more information or examples in the spaces (1–5). Use these notes to help you.

- give more details of the building
- give examples
- describe what people do here
- give examples
- give reasons

To the editor:

I agree totally with James Needham (*Daily Times*, May 4). The decision to build a new apartment complex ¹..... on

part of what is now Summerdine Park is shocking. This park not only contains many species of trees

²....., it is also one of the few green spaces in the area,

³..... There are certainly other places to build new housing ⁴.....

..... It would be better to develop areas like this

⁵.....

Word focus better

- 3 Match the beginning of the sentences (1–5) with their endings (a–e).

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 You had better | a than me. |
| 2 We would be better off | b if we kept this car until it gets too expensive to maintain. |
| 3 I think it would be better | c not mention the question of waste to him. He gets very emotional. |
| 4 He always tries to go one better | d than to cut down a tree in a conservation area. |
| 5 He should know better | e to send a letter to the local paper. |

