

SHOCK TACTICS

VOCABULARY Environmental Issues

1. In pairs, discuss the questions:

- What do you do on a daily basis to help the environment?
- Do you think governments and the media are doing enough to raise awareness? Why (not)?
- Why do you think we aren't doing more?
- Do you think we can stop climate change? Why(not)?



2. Match the environmental issues below with their correct definitions.

Ice caps melting	clear-cutting	plastic pollution
global warming	biodiversity loss	land degradation
overpopulation	acid rain	

Example: When Hydrogen or other chemicals are found in snow, rain, or fog this is called acid rain

- The term given to the effects of climate change on the planet, resulting in an increase in temperature: _____
- When soil is affected by the changes in weather or human pollution, we call this _____.
- _____ : The loss or reduction of many different species in an ecosystem.
- This is the practice of destroying a large area in a forest or rainforest: _____.
- _____ : The term given when there are too many people to live comfortably, putting pressure on the earth's resources.
- _____ : This is the result of global heating on the poles, where glaciers disappear and cause sea-levels to rise.
- _____ : When non-recyclable packaging damages the earth because we produce more than we can process.

3. Which of the environmental issues in exercise 2 do you hear about most often? Are you aware of any other environmental issues? What can be done to address these problems?



GRAMMAR Modifying Comparisons

4. “Only things that truly shock us will make us stand up and take notice.”

To what extent do you agree with the above quote? Discuss with a partner and give reasons for your answer.

5. a. In pairs, discuss the questions:

- How many plastic bottles do you think we produce each day?
- What percent do you think are recycled?



b. Watch the video [here](#) and check your answers.

c. Discuss the questions with a partner:

- Does this amount surprise you?
- Does this video have an impact on your ideas about plastic pollution? Why?

6. a. Look at the sentence below:

That's _____ higher than I thought!
What words can we put in the space? How do they change the meaning?

b. Write the words below in the correct part of the table.

slightly	much	a lot	a little	a bit
far	even	a little bit		not much

To show a big difference	To show a small difference

- To show no difference we use *just* or *the same* with *as...as* comparatives.

7. Complete the sentences using a modified comparative so that they are true for you.

Example: Recycling in my town is much better than it was 10 years ago.

- _____ plastic bags are used now that you must pay for them.
- Social media has made environmental issues _____ than they were in the past.
- People are buying _____ number of recycled or environmentally conscious products nowadays.



- d. Attitudes towards public transport and car-sharing schemes are _____ than they used to be.
- e. Governments are doing _____ work to spread awareness.
- f. Compared to adults, when it comes to the environment, young people are _____

8. Compare your answers with a partner and explain your choices.

9. Watch the following videos and decide which has the most impact.

Wasteminister

Not Just Any Salmon

The Turning Point

Discuss your ideas with a partner using modified comparative structures.



I think 'The Turning Point' is far more shocking than the other two because it shows a different perspective.

SPEAKING Making an Impact

10. a. Work in pairs or small groups. Imagine that you have been asked to make a video to raise awareness on environmental issues. Brainstorm what your video would be about and write a short script or storyboard. You have 15 minutes and then you will present your ideas to the class.

b. Listen to the other ideas and discuss which one you think would be the best. Explain your reasons.

