



Task 1-2 | Vocabulary

Task 1



Choose the correct definition to the words and phrases in bold. Then check your answers with the keys and use a monolingual dictionary.

- sustainable** living
a) causing little or no damage to the environment / b) destroying and damaging environment
- substantial** changes
a) very little, unnoticeable / b) significant, important
- conserve** water
a) preserve; save / b) increase
- tap** water
a) water in a bottle / b) water that comes into houses from the local water system
- disposable**
a) reusable / b) thrown away after one use
- contaminate** air, earth
a) pollute; make something poisonous / b) make something clean
- a landfill**
a) a place where waste is buried under the ground / b) another way of saying a 'trash container'
- decompose**
a) create something new / b) break up into elements by a chemical process
- plastic footprint**
a) total amount of plastic used and discarded by a person / b) plastic footwear
- CO2 emissions**
a) recycling CO2 / b) sending out gas containing CO2

Check Hide answers Reset

Task 2



Complete the sentences.

disposable substantial changes landfills decompose tap water contaminated conserve

- People are protesting against **landfills** that have a terrible smell and are located next to their houses.
- Plastic bags, bottles, electronic devices don't **decompose** because of the chemicals that are not biodegradable.
- I think **tap water** isn't always healthy unless you have special filters to cleanse it.
- Becoming a vegan requires **substantial changes** of your lifestyle.
- It's always a good idea to **conserve** natural resources because they aren't unlimited.
- The government recently reported that 10% of farmland has been **contaminated** by pollution and heavy metals.
- I decided to give up drinking coffee in **disposable** cups, so I always carry my own cup for takeaway coffee.

Check Hide answers Reset



Task 3-4 | Listening

Task 3



Listen to an extract from a program "Sustainable Living". Which pieces of advice does Jeremy give?



Task 4



Are the following statements true or false? Write T or F, then listen again and check.

- T / F** Making your daily life eco-friendly is a piece of cake.
- T / F** If you take showers instead of baths, you help reduce water pollution.
- T / F** It's dangerous and more expensive to drink tap water.
- T / F** Plastic bottles and containers contaminate earth for years.
- T / F** The main point is not to live plastic-free life but to at least reduce your plastic footprint.
- T / F** There is no way one can cut down on CO2 emissions in everyday life.
- T / F** One more way to go eco is to follow a "Refuse" principle.
- T / F** Freecycling encourages people to reduce the usage of private cars.

Check Hide answers Reset



Task 5-7 | Grammar

Task 5



Study the table from class 163 and open the brackets in the extracts from the listening task.

- How about conserving water? Try **taking** (take) shorter showers and **turning** (turn) off the water while you brush your teeth.
- Well, first of all, stop **buying** (buy) the plastic shopping bags at the store.
- When going shopping, I never forget **to take** (take) my own tote bag for groceries.
- You could also try **switching** (switch) from disposable to reusable products in other spheres of life: use ceramic, glass or metal containers for food storage, try cloth napkins instead of paper towels – the list goes on.
- Oh, I remember **giving** (give) my friend the blender I didn't use in exchange for some really nice wineglasses.
- According to you, Jeremy, going eco is affordable and fun. I'm going to try **to be** (be) more responsible by following your advice.

Check Hide answers Reset

Task 6



Choose the correct option.



The Franklin Dam or Gordon-below-Franklin Dam project was a proposed dam on the Gordon River in Tasmania, Australia, that they stopped (1) **constructing / to construct** forever. The movement that wanted to try (2) **cancelling / to cancel** the project, became one of most significant environmental campaigns in Australian history.

One activist will never forget (3) **consolidating / to consolidate** the small green movement that had been born out of the non-violent protest campaign against the building of three dams on Lake Pedder in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Over the five years between the announcement of the dam proposal in 1978 and the axing of the plans in 1983, there was vigorous debate between the pro- and anti-dam lobbies, with large protests from both sides.

Another activist remembers (4) **occupying / to occupy** the dam site with other protesters in December 1982, leading to widespread arrests and greater publicity. The dispute became a federal issue the following March, when a campaign in the national print media, assisted by the pictures of photographer Peter Dombrovskis, tried (5) **bringing / to bring down** the government of Malcolm Fraser at the 1983 election. The new government, under Bob Hawke, had promised to stop the construction (6) **discussing / to discuss** the issue. A legal battle between the federal government and Tasmanian state government followed, resulting in a landmark High Court ruling in the federal government's favour.

Check Hide answers Reset

Task 7



Open the brackets and use gerund or infinitive.

- Don't forget **to feed** (feed) the cat before you leave the house.
- I will never forget **feeding** (feed) the dolphins in the Mediterranean Sea.
- Don't keep coming into my room! I'm trying **to concentrate** (concentrate) on my project!
- If you can't think of any good ideas right now, why don't you try **concentrating** (concentrate) on something else and then come back to this task?
- I remember **asking** (ask) you to bring that book for me yesterday.
- Please remember **to ask** (ask) all the questions after the training.
- When I was working at home, I often stopped **to watch** (watch) the cars, buses and people pass by and calmed down that way.
- Could you please stop **watching** (watch) this stupid show all the time? I really hate it.

Check Hide answers Reset



Test Yourself

Choose the correct option.

- Did you remember ___ the camera? It's very beautiful there! The photos are going to be fantastic!
a. **O take**
b. **O taking**
c. **O to take**
d. **O taking**
- He always tries ___ as punctual as possible, but sometimes he is still late.
a. **O to be**
b. **O being**
c. **O be**
d. **O to being**
- She tried ___ the window, but it didn't help as it was too hot outside.
a. **O to open**
b. **O opening**
c. **O to opening**
d. **O open**
- Could you please check if we have any bread left at home? I forgot ___ it.
a. **O to buy**
b. **O buying**
c. **O buy**
d. **O to buying**
- Look at your shoelaces! Let's stop ___ them up.
a. **O tying**
b. **O to tie**
c. **O tying**
d. **O tie**
- A person or an animal that lives in a particular place:
a. **O an inhabitant**
b. **O a life**
c. **O a habitat**
d. **O a living**
- A word that has become very popular is
a. **O a main word**
b. **O a top word**
c. **O a buzzword**
d. **O a bliss word**
- What is the synonym to "a landfill"?
a. **O a trash can**
b. **O a rubbish bin**
c. **O a litter**
d. **O a garbage dump**
- To make something continue, especially something bad
a. **O to persevere**
b. **O to preserve**
c. **O to last**
d. **O to perpetuate**
- Stop ___ this noise! I have a terrible headache.
a. **O making**
b. **O make**
c. **O to make**
d. **O to making**

Check Hide answers Reset



Audio Script

Susan: Welcome to "Sustainable Living" with Susan Fonda. Our guest tonight is Jeremy Johnson, the author of the New York Times bestseller "Go eco, now!" Jeremy: Thanks, Susan, it's good to be here.

J: Jeremy, in your book you argue that these days going green is a must for all of us. But that requires substantial changes of one's lifestyle habits, doesn't it?

J: Yes, making your daily life more eco-friendly is a big mission. But adopting a greener approach to life doesn't have to be difficult. Sustainable living starts with small changes that take little to no time or effort.

S: What would be an example of such changes?

J: How about conserving water? Try taking shorter showers and turning off the water while you brush your teeth.

S: What about bottled water and tap water? Which is better?

J: Oh, I highly recommend switching to tap water. If nothing else, it is good value for money. Just think of all the money you'll save when you stop buying disposable plastic water bottles!

S: But it is so convenient to be able to have your drink on the go!

J: Then why don't you buy a reusable water bottle or camping mug? Plastic containers usually go to landfills where they have a very long life. They contaminate the soil for years before they decompose for good. It a natural disaster!

S: Can one really lead a totally plastic-free life nowadays?

J: I see your point and yes, plastic is everywhere. However, again, what you want is to reduce your plastic footprint in every possible way, no matter how little this way might seem.

S: Any tips?

J: Well, first of all, stop buying the plastic shopping bags at the store. When going shopping, I never forget to take my own tote bag for groceries. You could also try switching from disposable to reusable products in other spheres of life: use ceramic, glass or metal containers for food storage, try cloth napkins instead of paper towels – the list goes on.

S: Indeed, these changes don't sound challenging at all.

J: That's a hundred per cent true. Refuse to consume so much, don't buy so many things. Be careful with your buying habits. Whenever possible, buy second hand instead of brand new. You should also try such things as clothes swaps, book crossing, freecycling.

S: Freecycling?

J: Giving and receiving free stuff by exchanging various items with neighbors, friends and other people in your town mindful of the environment. We already collectively own so much that we could all survive for quite a while on the existing products - if we just reused them a few times!

S: Oh, I remember giving my friend the blender I didn't use in exchange for some really nice wineglasses.

J: That's a good example.

S: According to you, Jeremy, going eco is affordable and fun. I'm going to try to be more responsible by following your advice. Thank you for being here with us today!



Flashcards

Words related to ecology

causing little or no damage to the environment