**THE ENVIRONMENT**

1. Over the last 50 years the human population has even more than doubled. More and more people need food, shelter, clothes which results in all kinds of pollution, climate change and etc. There are a lot of ecological problems such as destructive earthquakes, gigantic tsunami, ruinous forest fires, so actual global warming and greenhouse effect, killing acid rains, baking hot summers, severe frosts in winter, ozone layer depletion, massive deforestation and many-many others. To make matters worse, every ten minutes one species of animals or plants dies out forever. We definitely have to stop it. Our seas are filled with industrial and nuclear waste. Our forests are disappearing because they are cut down or burnt. I'm absolutely sure that if our planet were a human being it would be in hospital now. But we all live on this planet and we should do everything possible to keep if safe for ourselves and future generations. Fortunately, we have enough time, money and even technologies to make it cleaner.

2. People should pay due attention to alternative sources of energy, introduce electronic environmental control systems, insulate houses and flats properly, switch off the lights and turn off the taps when they don't need them. Moreover, people shouldn't drop litter on the streets. Maybe our Ministry for Education should introduce a new ecological subject or a GreenBelarus app at our schools, gymnasia and lyceums. Only in this way we'll be able to change the current situation for the better and save the planet not only for us but for our future generations as well.

3. My first question will be like this: does your school take part in any projects to protect the environment? The next question is: do you think that our planet is in danger? And finally I’d like to find out what he/she personally does to improve the environmental situation.

4. Being environmentally friendly simply means having a lifestyle that is better for the environment. A person who wants to become environmentally-friendly doesn't have to change everything, they should start small to make the changes more sustainable and a part of their normal life. A good way would be to start with driving less and walking more, consuming less energy, buying recycled products and planting more trees. Besides such a person should watch films about the most pressing ecological problems and join environmental groups to prevent air, land and water from being polluted. What's more I would advise people to support industries that are more environmentally-responsible. On a final note, I sincerely believe that a small effort can bring a big change for the entire humanity.

5. Ecological problems have no borders because we live on one and the same planet. I hope that all people understand it. As far as I know, GREENPEACE is a world-known international organization which was founded in Canada in 1971. It gained popularity and recognition worldwide due to its efforts to save whales, actions against offshore oil drilling, nuclear bomb testing, dumping of radioactive waste into oceans and so on. No less important is the fact that it solves ecological problems uniting people of different countries. All in all, the necessary measures are taken, congresses and conferences on these issues are organized, demonstrations are held but we should realize that we all are responsible for what is happening around us. We'll never feel secure about the future of the world we live in, if we remain so passive and inactive.