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CHAPTER 20

VOCABULARY: OUR ENVIRONMENT

Vocabulary List – Our Environment (B2–C1)

No.	Word / Collocation	Word Class	Vietnamese meaning	Word family
1	pollution	n.	sự ô nhiễm	pollute (v), polluted (adj), pollutant (n)
2	emission	n.	sự thải ra	emit (v), emitted (adj), emitter (n)
3	alternative energy	n.	năng lượng thay thế	alternative (adj/n), alternatively (adv)
4	destruction	n.	sự phá huỷ	destroy (v), destructive (adj), destructively (adv), destroyer (n)
5	awareness	n.	nhận thức	aware (adj), unaware (adj), consciously aware (phrase)
6	conservation	n.	sự bảo tồn	conserve (v), conservative (adj/n), conservationist (n)
7	efficient	adj.	hiệu quả	efficiency (n), inefficient (adj), efficiently (adv)
8	climate change	n.	sự biến đổi khí hậu	climate (n), climatic (adj), climatology (n)
9	habitat	n.	môi trường sống	inhabit (v), inhabitable (adj), inhabitant (n), habitation (n)
10	ultraviolet radiation	n.	Bức xạ tia cực tím	radiation (n), radiate (v), radioactive (adj)
11	marine ecosystem	n.	Hệ sinh thái dưới biển	marine (adj/n), ecosystem (n), ecological (adj), ecology (n)
12	pesticides	n.	Thuốc trừ sâu	pest (n), pesticidal (adj), pest control

				(collocation)
13	soil erosion	n.	Sự sủi mòn đất	erode (v), eroded (adj), erosive (adj)
14	renewable energy	n.	Năng lượng tái tạo	renew (v), renewal (n), renewable (adj)
15	extinction	n.	Sự tuyệt chủng	extinct (adj), extinguish (v), extinguisher (n)
16	biodegradable	adj.	có thể phân hủy sinh học	biodegrade (v), biodegradation (n)
17	waste disposal	n.	xử lý chất thải	waste (n/v/adj), wasteful (adj), wastage (n), disposable (adj), dispose (v), disposal (n)
18	raise awareness	collocation	nâng cao nhận thức	raise (v), awareness (n), aware (adj)
19	pose a threat	collocation	gây ra mối đe dọa	pose (v), threat (n), threatening (adj), threaten (v)
20	take action	collocation	hành động	take (v), action (n), active (adj), activity (n)
21	discharge chemicals	collocation	xả hóa chất	discharge (v/n), chemical (n/adj), chemically (adv)
22	alarming	adj.	đáng báo động	alarm (n/v), alarmed (adj), alarmingly (adv)
23	detrimental	adj.	có hại, gây hại	detriment (n), detrimental effect (collocation)
24	mitigate	v.	giảm nhẹ, làm dịu bớt	mitigation (n), mitigated (adj)
25	exacerbate	v.	làm trầm trọng thêm, làm tồi tệ hơn	exacerbation (n), exacerbated (adj)
26	depletion	n.	sự cạn kiệt	deplete (v), depleted (adj), depleting (participle)
27	resilient	adj.	khả năng phục hồi, kiên cường	resilience (n), resiliently (adv)
28	comprehensive	adj.	toàn diện, đầy đủ	comprehensiveness (n), comprehend (v), comprehensively (adv)
29	looming	adj.	đe dọa, lơ lửng (sắp xảy ra, thường mang nghĩa tiêu cực)	loom (v), loom (n)
30	irreversible	adj.	không thể đảo ngược	reversal (n), reverse (v/n), irreversibility (n), reversibly (adv)
31	excessive consumption	collocation	tiêu thụ quá mức	consume (v), consumption (n), consumer (n), consumerism (n), excessively (adv), excessive (adj)

Collocations – Our Environment (B2–C1 Level)

No.	Collocation	Word Type	Meaning	Example Sentence
1	impose strict regulations (on sth)	v + adj + n	to officially demand people follow rules	The government decided to impose strict regulations on carbon emissions.
2	take urgent action	v + adj + n	to act immediately to deal with a serious issue	Countries must take urgent action to prevent irreversible climate damage.
3	maintain/sustain the balance of nature	v + n	to keep natural systems stable and healthy	Planting trees helps maintain the balance of nature.
4	reduce traffic congestion	v + n	to make road traffic less crowded	Public transport is promoted to reduce traffic congestion and air pollution.
5	discharge chemicals (into sth)	v + n	to release dangerous substances into the environment	Factories are prohibited from discharging chemicals into rivers.
6	raise awareness (of/about sth)	v + n	to help people realize the importance of an issue	NGOs often raise awareness of the dangers of plastic waste.
7	play a vital role (in sth)	v + adj + n	to be very important for success or progress	Renewable energy will play a vital role in achieving sustainability.
8	make global warming worse	v + n	to intensify the effects of climate change	Human activity has made global warming worse in recent decades.
9	take part in environmental protection activities	v + n	to join in efforts to protect the environment	Students are encouraged to take part in environmental protection activities.
10	provide/offer protection	v+n	supply/ensure real, practical protection	The vaccine provides protection against severe illness.

Extended Collocations – Our Environment (B2–C1 Level)

No.	Collocation	Word Type	Meaning	Example Sentence
1	combat climate change	v + n	to fight against global warming	International cooperation is essential to combat climate change.
2	curb carbon emissions	v + n	to control and reduce the release of CO ₂	Policies are being introduced to curb carbon emissions from vehicles.
3	enforce environmental laws	v + n	to make sure people obey environmental rules	Authorities must enforce environmental laws more effectively.

4	raise public awareness	v + n	to help people understand environmental issues	Schools play a key role in raising public awareness of sustainability.
5	adopt renewable energy	v + n	to start using green energy	Many countries have adopted renewable energy to replace fossil fuels.
6	preserve biodiversity	v + n	to protect the variety of life forms	Preserving biodiversity is essential for ecological stability.
7	restore ecosystems	v + n	to repair and return ecosystems to a healthy state	Volunteers are working to restore ecosystems damaged by logging.
8	pose a threat (to sth)	v + n	to create danger for the environment	Deforestation poses a threat to wildlife survival.
9	reduce traffic congestion	v + n	to decrease crowded traffic in cities	Expanding metro systems can reduce traffic congestion and emissions.
10	discharge toxic waste	v + adj + n	to release harmful substances	The factory was fined for discharging toxic waste into the river.
11	maintain ecological balance	v + n	to keep nature's systems stable	Protecting forests helps maintain ecological balance.
12	play a vital role (in sth)	v + adj + n	to be crucial for progress	Renewable energy plays a vital role in sustainable development.
13	exacerbate global warming	v + n	to intensify the effects of climate change	Burning coal has exacerbated global warming.
14	take part in environmental protection	v + n	to participate in activities to save the environment	Students take part in environmental protection by joining clean-up campaigns.
15	face environmental challenges	v + n	to deal with ecological problems	Developing countries face environmental challenges due to urbanization.
16	deplete natural resources	v + n	to use up resources until they are gone	Overfishing depletes natural resources at an alarming rate.
17	promote sustainable development	v + adj + n	to support growth that does not harm the environment	Governments aim to promote sustainable development through green policies.
18	generate renewable energy	v + adj + n	to produce clean energy	Wind farms generate renewable energy for thousands of households.

PRACTICE

PART 1: WORD FORM

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct word or phrase that best completes each of the following questions from 1 to 10.

Question 1. The rapid industrial growth has contributed to the severe _____ of both air and water in urban areas.

- A. pollutant B. pollution C. polluting D. polluted

Question 2. Scientists are searching for more _____ solutions to deal with the ever-increasing problem of climate change.

- A. effectiveness B. effectively C. effect D. effective

Question 3. Governments around the world are investing heavily in _____ energy projects such as wind farms and solar parks.

- A. alternative B. altering C. alteration D. alternatively

Question 4. Large-scale _____ of rainforests not only affects biodiversity but also accelerates global warming.

- A. destroying B. destructive C. destruction D. destroy

Question 5. Citizens need to be fully _____ of the consequences of overusing natural resources if they want to live sustainably.

- A. aware B. awareness C. unaware D. unawareness

Question 6. Wildlife _____ programs have been introduced to prevent rare animals from disappearing completely.

- A. conserving B. conservation C. conservative D. conserves

Question 7. The _____ of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere is the main factor causing climate instability.

- A. emit B. emission C. emitting D. emitted

Question 8. Recycling is considered one of the most _____ strategies for reducing the ecological footprint of modern society.

- A. efficient B. efficiency C. inefficient D. efficiently

Question 9. Rising sea levels are a direct result of global _____ change, which threatens coastal communities worldwide.

- A. climatology B. climate C. climatic D. climates

Question 10. Forests provide natural _____ for countless species, many of which cannot survive elsewhere.

- A. habitations B. habits C. habitats D. habitual

PART 2: WORD CHOICE

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct word or phrase that best completes each of the following questions from 11 to 20.

Question 11. The thinning of the ozone layer has exposed humans to higher levels of _____ radiation, increasing the risk of skin cancer.

- A. ultraviolet B. infrared C. radar D. microwave

Question 12. Oil spills not only threaten _____ ecosystems but also damage the livelihoods of communities depending on fisheries.

- A. marine B. rural C. suburban D. desert

Question 13. Many car manufacturers are committed to reducing harmful _____ by developing hybrid and electric vehicles.

- A. extensions B. explosions C. expressions D. emissions

Question 29. Irresponsible industrial activities have _____ global warming worse than many scientists predicted.

- A. offered B. caused C. driven **D. made**

Question 30. Young people are encouraged to _____ part in volunteer projects that focus on cleaning up polluted areas.

- A. take** B. make C. join D. do

PART 4: FIND SYNONYMS

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the word CLOSEST in meaning to the underlined word in each of the following questions from 31 to 34.

Question 31. The rainforest provides a highly resilient ecosystem that can recover from small-scale disturbances.

- A. fragile B. subtle **C. robust** D. vulnerable

Question 32. Many industrial activities have had a detrimental effect on marine biodiversity.

- A. beneficial **B. harmful** C. tremendous D. advantageous

Question 33. Some agricultural practices tend to exacerbate soil erosion in vulnerable regions.

- A. aggravate** B. improve C. motivate D. relieve

Question 34. The depletion of natural resources poses a serious threat to future generations.

- A. exhaustion** B. restoration C. preservation D. pollution

PART 5: FIND ANTONYMS

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the word OPPOSITE in meaning to the underlined word in each of the following questions from 35 to 40

Question 35. Scientists have issued an alarming report on the rapid melting of polar ice caps.

- A. reassuring** B. frightening C. shocking D. disturbing

Question 36. The government launched a comprehensive plan to tackle climate change on multiple fronts.

- A. limited** B. extensive C. broad D. narrow

Question 37. Rising sea levels are a looming danger for island nations.

- A. distant** B. immediate C. approaching D. threatening

Question 38. Scientists warn that the current pace of global warming may soon become irreversible.

- A. unavoidable **B. reversible** C. unchangeable D. unalterable

Question 39. The new policies are aimed at reducing excessive consumption of single-use plastics.

- A. moderate** B. extreme C. surplus D. unnecessary

Question 40. International cooperation is necessary to mitigate the impacts of global warming.

- A. intensify** B. alleviate C. worsen D. curb

PART 6: READING

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 41 to 50.

In a welcome piece of good news for the world's threatened wildlife, the giant panda has just been downgraded from "Endangered" to "Vulnerable" on the global list of species at risk of extinction, demonstrating how an integrated approach can help save our planet's vanishing biodiversity.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) announced the positive change to the giant panda's official status in the Red List of Threatened Species, pointing to the 17 per cent rise

in the population in the decade up to 2014 when a nationwide census found 1,864 giant pandas in the wild in China.

“The **recovery** of the panda shows that when science, political will and engagement of local communities come together, we can save wildlife and also improve biodiversity,” added Lambertini.

While the panda’s status has improved, other species are under increasing threat, including the Eastern gorilla that is now listed as critically endangered, just one step away from extinction, due primarily to illegal hunting.

A **broad** approach has been key to the panda’s **survival**. China has established giant panda **reserves** to save giant pandas and their habitat, including helping to establish an international giant panda breeding program, and reforesting isolated panda **populations** as well as working with local communities to develop sustainable livelihoods and **minimize** their impact on the forests. These efforts have seen the number of panda reserves jump to 67, which now protect nearly two-thirds of all wild pandas. They have also helped to **safeguard** large swathes of mountainous bamboo forests, which **shelter** countless other species and provide natural services to vast numbers of people, including tens of millions who live alongside rivers downstream of panda habitat.

After decades of work, it is clear that only a broad approach will be able to **secure** the long-term survival of China’s giant pandas and their unique habitat, made even harder by climate change impacts. It will require even greater government investment, stronger partnerships with local communities and a wider understanding of the importance of conserving wildlife and the landscapes in which they live.

(Adapted from <https://www.wwfca.org/>)

Question 41. The word **vanishing** in paragraph 1 is OPPOSITE in meaning to _____.

- A. eroding B. disappearing C. thriving D. failing

Question 42. The word **recovery** in paragraph 2 could be best replaced by _____.

- A. degradation B. maintenance C. restoration D. evolution

Question 43. The word **survival** in paragraph 4 is CLOSEST in meaning to _____.

- A. existence B. destruction C. disappearance D. extinction

Question 44. The word **reserves** in paragraph 4 could be best replaced by _____.

- A. parks B. factories C. villages D. towns

Question 45. The word **populations** in paragraph 4 is OPPOSITE in meaning to _____.

- A. inhabitants B. communities C. extinctions D. colonies

Question 46. The word **minimize** in paragraph 4 is CLOSEST in meaning to _____.

- A. diminish B. exaggerate C. expand D. enlarge

Question 47. The word **broad** in paragraph 4 refers to _____.

- A. superficial B. proficient C. subtle D. extensive

Question 48. The word **safeguard** in paragraph 4 is OPPOSITE in meaning to _____.

- A. protect B. preserve C. endanger D. defend

Question 49. The word **shelter** in paragraph 4 is CLOSEST in meaning to _____.

- A. expose B. protect C. damage D. threaten

Question 50. The word **secure** in paragraph 5 could be best replaced by _____.

- A. guarantee B. endanger C. risk D. lose

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 51 to 60.

Arriving in Freiburg by train, you might notice the solar-panelled towers of the station building. These solar panels are (51) _____ on the football stadium, hotels, the conference centre, and even a factory. With 1,800 hours of sunshine per year, solar power is the main (52) _____ of energy in

Freiburg, making it one of the most ecologically friendly cities in the world. In fact, some say that Freiburg (53) _____ nearly as much solar power as the whole of the UK.

In Freiburg, it all began in the 1970s, when local people were strongly (54) _____ plans for a nuclear power station nearby. The historic centre has been car-free since 1973, with over 400 km of cycle (55) _____. However, it is the modern residential districts on the outskirts which most (56) _____ environmentalists.

In the area called Rieselfeld, residents live in small blocks of south-facing flats called 'passive houses'. The design of these houses keeps them warm or cool, without needing central heating or air (57) _____ at all. The houses cost around 10% more to build, but over many years, they cut energy bills and energy (58) _____ by 90%.

In Freiburg, being green is part of the economy, and local people buy shares in different green (59) _____, such as the solar football stadium. Not surprisingly, this remarkable eco-city has won many awards, and other German cities are now (60) _____ to become more eco-friendly.

- Question 51. A. everywhere B. nowhere C. rarely D. hardly
Question 52. A. cause B. source C. root D. reason
Question 53. A. produces B. consumes C. reduces D. saves
Question 54. A. supporting B. opposing C. proposing D. suggesting
Question 55. A. lines B. lanes C. roads D. routes
Question 56. A. bore B. impress C. confuse D. ignore
Question 57. A. cooling B. circulation C. conditioning D. controlling
Question 58. A. lack B. waste C. shortage D. absence
Question 59. A. proposals B. projects C. suggestions D. attempts
Question 60. A. competing B. comparing C. contrasting D. completing

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the best answer to each of the following questions from 1 to 10.

In recent decades, countries around the world have had to face serious environmental challenges. Rapid industrialization and population growth have led to rising levels of (61) _____ in both air and water, caused mainly by factory (62) _____ and vehicle exhaust fumes.

Governments are under pressure to (63) _____ carbon emissions by passing stricter laws on waste disposal and by trying to (64) _____ environmental laws more effectively. Many scientists argue that we must (65) _____ climate change not only by cutting greenhouse gases but also by promoting (66) _____ energy, such as wind, solar, and hydropower.

Another important task is to (67) _____ biodiversity. Forests and oceans provide habitats for millions of species, yet human activity continues to (68) _____ natural resources at an alarming rate. Once species disappear, the damage may be (69) _____, which is why urgent action is required.

Local communities also play a vital role. Schools and NGOs organize campaigns to (70) _____ public awareness of sustainability and encourage eco-friendly practices such as recycling, reducing single-use plastics, and saving energy. These actions, combined with stronger international cooperation, are essential if we want to secure a greener future for the next generations.

- Question 61. A. emission B. pollution C. destruction D. erosion
Question 62. A. emissions B. awareness C. pesticides D. habitats
Question 63. A. exacerbate B. curb C. impose D. worsen
Question 64. A. maintain B. pose C. implement D. enforce

- Question 65.** A. combat B. create C. encourage D. support
- Question 66.** A. renewable B. alternative C. efficient D. biodegradable
- Question 67.** A. protect B. preserve C. minimize D. maintain
- Question 68.** A. generate B. restore C. deplete D. promote
- Question 69.** A. alarming B. irreversible C. comprehensive D. excessive
- Question 70.** A. play B. raise C. make D. take

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