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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 phát 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 sói 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 <sub>2</sub>	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 14.** In many developing countries, millions of people still face severe \_\_\_\_\_ scarcity, which leads to health problems.

- A. water      B. energy      C. food      D. waste

**Question 15.** Excessive use of chemical \_\_\_\_\_ in agriculture has contaminated groundwater and harmed biodiversity.

- A. supplements      B. vitamins      C. pesticides      D. minerals

**Question 16.** Soil \_\_\_\_\_ occurs when forests are cut down and land is left unprotected against heavy rainfall.

- A. erosion      B. eruption      C. explosion      D. exception

**Question 17.** Countries are encouraged to shift towards \_\_\_\_\_ sources of energy to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

- A. renewable      B. artificial      C. temporary      D. wasteful

**Question 18.** Several species of animals are on the brink of \_\_\_\_\_ due to habitat destruction and illegal hunting.

- A. exhibition      B. distinction      C. extinction      D. extraction

**Question 19.** Unlike paper, plastic bottles are not \_\_\_\_\_ and take hundreds of years to decompose.

- A. biodegradable      B. renewable      C. sustainable      D. flexible

**Question 20.** Efficient waste management systems are essential to minimize the amount of household \_\_\_\_\_ ending up in landfills.

- A. haste      B. taste      C. paste      D. waste

### PART 3: COLLOCATIONS

*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 21 to 30.*

**Question 21.** Many governments have decided to \_\_\_\_\_ strict regulations on carbon emissions to meet international agreements.

- A. impose      B. suppose      C. compose      D. expose

**Question 22.** The international community must \_\_\_\_\_ urgent action if it is to prevent irreversible environmental damage.

- A. set      B. make      C. do      D. take

**Question 23.** Planting mangrove trees helps coastal areas \_\_\_\_\_ protection against rising sea levels.

- A. sustain      B. offer      C. provide      D. retain

**Question 24.** Climate scientists have repeatedly warned that human activity has \_\_\_\_\_ a serious threat to global stability.

- A. posed      B. placed      C. raised      D. put

**Question 25.** Expanding public transport systems could \_\_\_\_\_ traffic congestion and lower air pollution levels.

- A. lessen      B. deduct      C. remove      D. reduce

**Question 26.** It is strictly forbidden to \_\_\_\_\_ untreated sewage directly into rivers or lakes.

- A. discharge      B. dismiss      C. display      D. distract

**Question 27.** Non-governmental organizations often launch campaigns to \_\_\_\_\_ awareness of wildlife protection.

- A. rise      B. raise      C. lift      D. heighten

**Question 28.** Solar and wind energy are expected to \_\_\_\_\_ a vital role in achieving sustainable development goals.

- A. do      B. act      C. play      D. perform

**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 SYONYMS

*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) \_\_\_\_\_. 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.

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

- |                                   |              |                |             |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|
| <b>Question 61.</b> A. emission   | B. pollution | C. destruction | D. erosion  |
| <b>Question 62.</b> A. emissions  | B. awareness | C. pesticides  | D. habitats |
| <b>Question 63.</b> A. exacerbate | B. curb      | C. impose      | D. worsen   |
| <b>Question 64.</b> 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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