**Easter Island, a lesson for us all**

*Sustainable Footprint website, no date*

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| **Word / phrase** | **Translation** | **Usage / memory aid** |
| **lesson** | Lehre, Lektion | * a **lesson** for us all *(infml.)* = a **lesson** for all of us * a **lesson** on sustainability |
| (to) **teach** sb. **a lesson** /  (to) **be a lesson to** sb. | jdm. eine Lehre sein | * The accident **taught** me **a lesson**. = The accident **was a lesson to** me. * Let this be a **lesson** **to** you. = Lass dir das eine Lehre sein. |
| (to) **learn** one‘s **lesson** | eine Lehre aus etw. ziehen | I really **learned** my **lesson** my lesson when I got heavily sunburned on vacation last summer. |
| **perpetual** | ständig, fortwährend, (an)dauernd;  ewig | * I’m tired of your **perpetual** (=constant, continous, persistent) complaints! * The retreat of **perpetual** (=eternal) ice is considered an indication of climate change. |
| (to) **resort to** sth. | auf etw.zurückgreifen | * When polite requests failed, he **resort**ed **to** threats. * There’s hope the countries will reach a settlement without **resort**ing **to** armed conflict. |
| (to) **supplement** sth. **with** sth. | etw. mit / durch etw. ergänzen | Rice supplies 20% of world’s dietary energy. As rice is low in amino acids, it is necessary to **supplement** it **with** meat, eggs, fish, lentils, beans or nuts. |
| **meagre** *(BE)* / meager *(AE)* | karg, mager, dürftig | * Giant pandas are able to survive on their **meagre** diet of bamboo because they burn energy exceptionally slowly. * He supplements his **meagre** income by working on Saturdays. |
| (to) **neglect**  **neglect** | vernachlässigen; verwahrlosen lassen  Vernachlässigung; Verwahrlosung | * Parents who **neglect** their children are usually people who have themselves suffered **neglect** and have not been given good role models during their own childhood. |
| **indigenous** (to) | einheimisch | * According to experts, non-**indigenous** species of plants and animals represent one of the main threats to biodiversity * There were no snakes **indigenous to** the island. = Auf der Insel gab es keine einheimischen Schlangen. * **indigenious** people = Ureinwohner |
| **mammal** | Säugetier | The five most well-known classes of vertebrates (=Wirbeltiere) are **mammals**, birds, fish, reptiles, and amphibians. |
| **elaborate** | aufwändig, ausführlich | *Maoi* are **eloborate**ly carved wooden statues, i.e. they are carefully produced and full of details. |
| **tree trunk** | Baumstamm | Trees have three main parts: crowns, **trunk**s and roots. |
| **timber** | Bauholz, Nutzholz | houses built of **timber** = Holzhäuser |

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| **Word / phrase** | **Translation** | **Usage / memory aid** |
| **environmental degradation** | Umweltschädigung, Umweltzerstörung, Verschlechterung der Umweltbedingungen | **Environmental degradation** is the deterioration of the environment through depletion of resources such as air, water and soil, the destruction of ecosystems and the extinction of wildlife. |
| **deforestation** | Abholzung, Entwaldung | **Deforestation** occurred as large quantities of timber were needed for fuel and construction. |
| **cloth** | Stoff | * *Tapa* is a **cloth** made from the bark of the Paper Mulberry tree. * Clothes made of cotton **cloth** are comfortable to wear all year round. * **cloth** = fabric |
| **against all odds** /  **against great odds** | trotz widriger Umstände, allen Widrigkeiten zum Trotz | **Against great** / **all odds** the islanders constructed an advanced society. |
| (to) **sustain** | aufrechterhalten | * The teacher tried hard to **sustain** the children’s interest. * (to) **sustain** = (to) maintain |
| **sustainability** | Nachhaltigkeit; nachhaltige Entwicklung | * Easter Island, once home to a thriving civilization, suffered a fate that has become a lesson in **sustainability**. * **sustainability** *(n.)* 🡪 sustainable *(adj.)* |
| (to) **flourish** | florieren, gedeihen, (auf)blühen | * Polynesian culture **flourish**ed on Easter Island for about 1,000 years. * A **flourishing** *(adj.)* economy needs a healthy mix of industries. |
| **ingenuity** | Einfallsreichtum, Ideenreichtum, Genialität | * Upcycling artists use their creativity and **ingenuity** to turn trash into treasure. * **ingenuity** = cleverness (of inventing things and and thinking of new ideas) * **ingenuity** *(n.)* 🡪 ingenious *(adj.)* |
| **vital** | lebenswichtig | * The Earth’s **vital** resources are limited. * Technology is **vital** to the survival an flourishing of mankind. |
| (to) **obtain** | erhalten, bekommen, erwerben, erzielen | Fresh fruit and vegetables were especially difficult to **obtain**. |
| (to) **deplete** | verringern, vermindern, abbauen, erschöpfen, aufbrauchen | * The amount of illegal fishing has significantly **deplete**d fish stocks, depriving local fishing communities of an important resource for survival. * (to) **deplete** *(v.)* 🡪 depletion *(n.)* |
| **irreversible** | nicht umkehrbar, unwiderruflich, bleibend, irreparabel; unaufhaltsam | * A fire on Easter Island has caused **irreversible** damage to its iconic carved figures. * The second law of thermodynamics states that in an isolated system entropy increases **irreversibly** over time. |
| **Earth Overshoot Day** | Erdüberlastungstag | **Earth Overshoot Day** marks the date when humanity has used all the biological resources that Earth regenerates during the entire year. |