unit 8

The environment

LESSON A
- Environmental impacts
- Quantifiers

LESSON B
- Giving an approximate answer
- Avoiding answering

LESSON C
- Tips to help the environment
- First conditional

LESSON D
- Reading: "One-of-a-Kind Homes"
- Writing: Local concerns

Warm-up






A Look at the "before" and "after" pictures. What do you see? What has changed?

B Which was the biggest improvement? Which was the easiest to do? Which was the most difficult?

A Going green

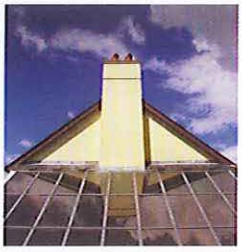
1 Vocabulary Environmental impacts

A Label the pictures with the correct words. Then listen and check your answers.

e-waste	hybrid car	organic food	pollution	solar energy
global warming	nuclear energy	plastic bags	recycling bin	wind farm

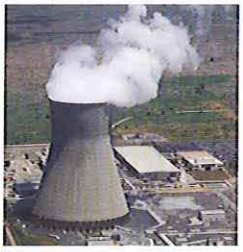
1. global warming

2. e-waste

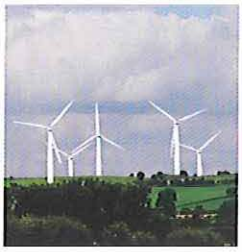


3. solar energy

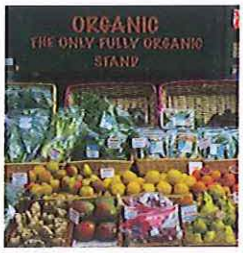
4. plastic bags



5. nuclear energy



6. wind farm



7. organic food

8. pollution

9. recycling bin

10. hybrid car

B **Pair work** How do the things in Part A impact the environment?

2 Language in context Green products

A Read the ads. What makes each product "green"?

GET GREEN GOODS!

HOME | PRODUCTS | SERVICES | CONTACT

Compact fluorescent lightbulbs
Regular bulbs waste too much energy, so why not use compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFLs)? They use less energy, and you save more money in the long term.
$20 for a pack of 3

Cloth shopping bag
Who needs paper or plastic? Bring your own cloth bag to the grocery store or mall. This bag makes an important statement and is made of 100% organic cotton.
$5

Recycled toothbrush
Made from 100% recyclable plastic, each toothbrush comes with a reusable travel case. Junior toothbrushes feature endangered animals.
$20 for a pack of 6, or $18 for a pack of 6 Junior toothbrushes

Steel water bottle
Why should we use fewer plastic water bottles? Because too many of them end up in landfills and cause pollution. It's cool to carry your own reusable bottle.
$15

B What about you? Do you own any green products? Would you buy these?

3 Grammar Quantifiers

Quantifiers with count nouns	Quantifiers with noncount nouns
We need **more** wind farms.	You save **more** money with CFLs.
There aren**'t enough** recycling bins.	People don**'t** buy **enough** organic food.
There are **too many** bottles in landfills.	Regular lightbulbs use **too much** energy.
People should buy **fewer** plastic bottles.	People should try to use **less** plastic.

A Complete the opinions with quantifiers. Then compare with a partner.

1. "I think it's good that more people are buying hybrid cars. They help reduce global warming."
2. "In my opinion, there's too much e-waste in our landfills. We need better and safer ways to recycle electronics."
3. "Farmers should grow more organic food. I prefer food without chemicals."
4. "Unfortunately, not enough people use solar power. Is it because it's expensive?"
5. "I feel people should use more nuclear energy. Isn't it dangerous?"
6. "Some people say they don't have enough time to recycle. That's crazy!"
7. "Maybe it's just me, but I think shoppers should take fewer plastic and paper bags from the supermarket. I always bring my own bags."
8. "Too many people throw plastic bottles in garbage cans. They should use recycling bins."

B Pair work Do you agree with the opinions in Part A? Why or why not? Tell your partner.

4 Pronunciation Stress in compound nouns

A Listen and repeat. Notice how the first noun in compound nouns often receives stronger stress.

landfill **light**bulb **travel** case **water** bottle

B Pair work Practice the compound nouns. Stress the first noun.

toothbrush garbage can recycling bin wind farm

5 Speaking Our community

A Pair work What environmental problems does your community have? Complete the sentences.

1. There's too much _____.
2. There isn't enough _____.
3. We should have fewer _____.
4. There are too many _____.
5. There aren't enough _____.
6. We should use less _____.

B Group work Share your ideas with another pair. Did you identify the same problems? Which are the most important?

6 Keep talking!

Go to page 139 for more practice.

I can discuss environmental problems.

B I'd rather not say.

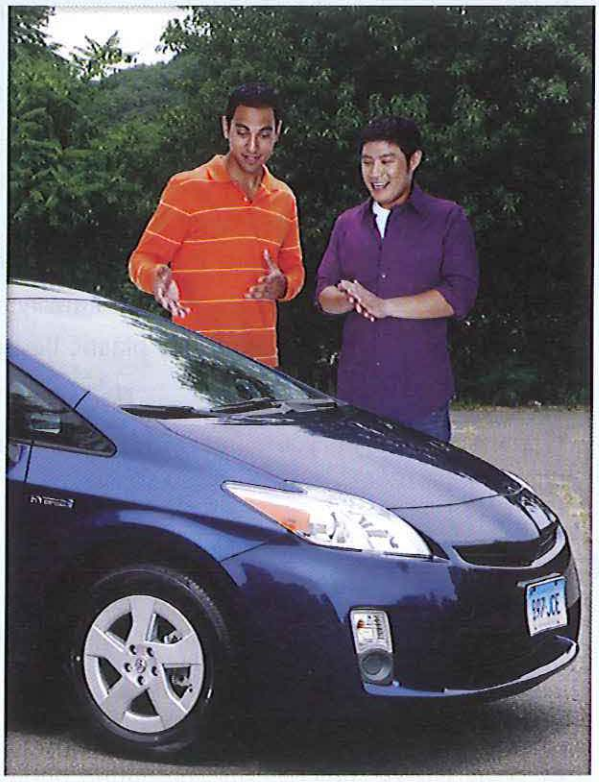
1 Interactions Answering and avoiding answering

A Imagine these people are asking you questions. Are there any questions they might ask you that you think are too personal and that you would not answer?

a doctor	a friend	a neighbor	a parent	a stranger	a teacher

B Listen to the conversation. What question doesn't Jim answer? Then practice the conversation.

Carl: So, Jim, how's the new car?
Jim: Hey, Carl. It's great. I'm really happy with it.
Carl: It's a hybrid, isn't it?
Jim: Yeah. It causes less pollution. I'm trying to do my part to help the environment, you know?
Carl: That's great. How long have you had it?
Jim: I've only had it for a week.
Carl: Really? How many kilometers have you driven?
Jim: I'd say about 150.
Carl: So, how does it run?
Jim: Oh, it runs very well. I'll give you a ride later if you want.
Carl: OK, thanks. How much did it cost, exactly?
Jim: Actually, I'd rather not say. But I know I made a good purchase.



C Read the expressions below. Complete each box with a similar expression from the conversation. Then listen and check your answers.

Giving an approximate answer

_____

I'd say maybe . . .
Probably . . .

Avoiding answering

_____

I'd prefer not to say.
I'd rather not answer that.

D Match the questions and the responses. Then practice with a partner.

1. How often do you drive? d
2. How much do you drive every day? b
3. How many people have you given rides to? a
4. How much did you sell your old car for? c

a. I'd say about ten.
b. Probably five or six times a week.
c. I'd rather not answer that.
d. I'd say about 30 minutes.

2 Listening Consumer research

A Listen to a man answer survey questions in a grocery store. Number the questions from 1 to 9 in the order you hear them.

- ☐ Have your buying habits changed in the last year? _____
- ☐ 1 How often do you walk to the grocery store? *All the time.* _____
- ☐ Do you usually ask for paper or plastic bags? _____
- ☐ How much do you spend on groceries every month? _____
- ☐ How many people are there in your household? _____
- ☐ What is the highest level of education you've completed? _____
- ☐ What do you do for a living? _____
- ☐ Do you ever shop for groceries online? _____
- ☐ How often do you buy environmentally friendly products? _____

B Listen again. Write the man's answers.

C Pair work Ask and answer the questions in Part A. Answer with your own information, or avoid answering.

3 Speaking Do you waste water?

A Read the survey. Are there any questions you would avoid answering, or is there any information you wouldn't share?

WATER USE SURVEY

Name: _____ Phone number: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Age: _____ Education: _____

How many showers do you take in a week? _____

How long do you spend in the shower? _____

Do you ever leave the water running when you brush your teeth? _____

Do you wash dishes by hand or use a dishwasher? _____

When you wash dishes, do you leave the water running? _____

When you wash clothes, is the washing machine always completely full? _____

Do you flush the toilet after every use? _____

B Pair work Interview your partner. Complete the survey with his or her answers. Mark an ✗ if he or she avoids answering.

C Pair work Compare your answers. Who uses more water? How could you use less water?

I can give an approximate answer. ☑

I can avoid answering. ☑

C What will happen?

1 Vocabulary Tips to help the environment

A Match the tips and the pictures. Then listen and check your answers.

a. Buy local food.	d. Pay bills online.	g. Use cloth shopping bags.
b. Fix leaky faucets.	e. Take public transportation.	h. Use rechargeable batteries.
c. Grow your own food.	f. Use a clothesline.	

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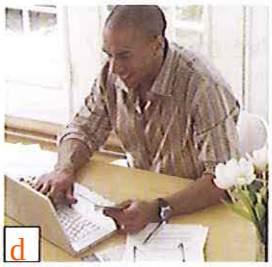
2. d 
3. e 
4. g 

5. c 
6. b 
7. h 

8. f 

B Pair work Which things in Part A do you do now? Which don't you do? Tell your partner.

2 Conversation This is awful!

A Listen to the conversation. When does Kendra want to start taking public transportation?

Ina: This is awful! It's taking forever to get to work.
Kendra: I know. There are just too many cars these days! The traffic seems to get worse and worse.
Ina: Maybe we should start taking public transportation. If we take the subway, we won't have to sit in traffic.
Kendra: And we might save money if we take the subway.
Ina: I think you're right. Also, if we take public transportation, we won't get stressed out before work. So, when do we start?
Kendra: How about tomorrow?

B Listen to their conversation the next day. What are they unhappy about?

3 Grammar First conditional

First conditional sentences describe real possibilities. Use the present tense in the if *clause (the condition). Use* will *in the main clause.*

If we **take** public transportation, we**'ll save** money.

If we **take** public transportation, we **won't get** stressed out.

Air pollution **will get** worse if we **don't reduce** the number of cars.

Use modals such as may, might, *or* could *in the main clause when you're less certain about the results.*

If air pollution **gets** worse, more people **may get** sick.

If you **don't fix** your leaky faucet, you **might get** a high water bill.

You **could spend** money on other things if you **grow** your own food.

A Write first conditional sentences with the two clauses. Then compare with a partner.

1. you'll use 60 percent less energy / you replace your regular lightbulbs with CFLs
   You'll use 60 percent less energy if you replace your regular lightbulbs with CFLs.
2. you pay your bills online / you'll use less paper
   If you pay your bills online, you'll use less paper.
3. we fix our leaky faucets / we'll save water
   If we fix our leaky faucets, we'll save water.
4. there won't be much air pollution / everyone uses hybrid cars
   There won't be much air pollution if everyone uses hybrid cars.
5. you use a clothesline / other people may start to do the same
   If you use a clothesline, other people may start to do the same.
6. we use rechargeable batteries / we could save a lot of money
   If we use rechargeable batteries, we could save a lot of money.

B Pair work What else will or may happen for each condition in Part A? Discuss your ideas.

A: *What else will happen if you replace your regular lightbulbs with CFLs?*
B: *If I replace my regular lightbulbs with CFLs, I'll have cheaper electric bills.*

4 Speaking Around the circle

A Write a sentence about what will happen if you change a habit to become greener.

If I grow my own food, I will eat better.

B Group work Sit in a circle. Go around the circle and share your ideas. Repeat your classmates' main clauses as conditions, and add new ideas.

A: *If I grow my own food, I will eat better.*
B: *If you eat better, you will feel healthier.*
C: *If you feel healthier, you won't need to go to the doctor very often.*

5 Keep talking!

Go to page 140 for more practice.

I can talk about future possibilities. ☑

D Finding solutions

1 Reading

A Look at the pictures. Which home would you prefer to live in? Why?

B Read the article. Write the captions under the correct pictures.

The Recycled-Tire House	The Found-Object House	The Greenhouse

Pic - 3 Pic 1 Picture - 2

One-of-a-Kind HOMES

Shoichi wanted to live in an environmentally friendly home, and he always liked the greenhouses in his neighborhood in Tokyo, Japan. So he decided to create his own greenhouse-style home. Sunlight warms his new home, and a plastic cover around the house helps to keep the heat inside. There aren't any walls or rooms. The "rooms" are actually large boxes on wheels. He can move them anywhere he likes, even outside. He loves his home, but sometimes he would like to be able to move the whole house.

Ruth is an artist who lives in the Rocky Mountains in the U.S. state of Colorado. Over the years, she found and collected a lot of old objects for her art. When she decided she wanted to live in a more unusual home, she had a creative idea. She would use many of the old materials that she collected in the home's design. For example, she used old car parts in the front door and tire rubber as the roof. She also used the door of an old car as part of a wall, so she can still lower the window!

Wayne and Cate are a couple from the U.S. state of Montana. They wanted a new home that wasn't too expensive. Their solution was simple – they built their own home. They recycled and used 250 old tires as the base of the house and old glass for the windows. They even used 13,000 empty soda cans in the house. Their home also has large windows and lots of plants and flowers. Solar energy keeps the house warm, even on cold days.

C Read the article again. Answer the questions.

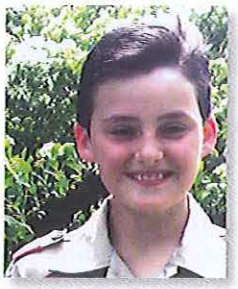
1. What warms the inside of Shoichi's home? Sunlight warm
2. What would Shoichi like to be able to do? Shoichi is able to move the whole house.
3. What creative idea did Ruth have? she used many of the old materials that she she collected in the home's design.
4. Where are there car parts in Ruth's home? The car paths is in the front door and tire rubber.
5. Why did Wayne and Cate build their own home? Because they wanted a new house that wasn't too expensive.
6. What did Wayne and Cate use to build their home? They used 250 old tires and 13000 empty soda cans.

D Pair work Have you heard of or seen any unique homes or buildings? Were they environmentally friendly? Tell your partner.

2 Listening Award winners

A Listen to the conversations about two award winners, Gabriela McCall and Tayler McGillis. Who do the phrases below describe? Write T (Tayler) or G (Gabriela).

1. *T* raised money for local charities.
2. _____ is a student in Puerto Rico.
3. _____ won an award at age 12.
4. _____ collects and recycles cans.
5. _____ helps birds.
6. _____ teaches children.
7. _____ speaks at schools about recycling.
8. _____ took photos to start a project.



Tayler McGillis

Gabriela McCall

B Listen again. Correct the false sentences.

1. Tayler raised more than ~~$900~~ for local charities. *$9,000*
2. Tayler's new goal is to collect 175,000 bottles every year. _____
3. Gabriela's project helps protect the ocean for birds in Puerto Rico. _____
4. Gabriela teaches children about recycling so that they respect the environment. _____

3 Writing and speaking Local concerns

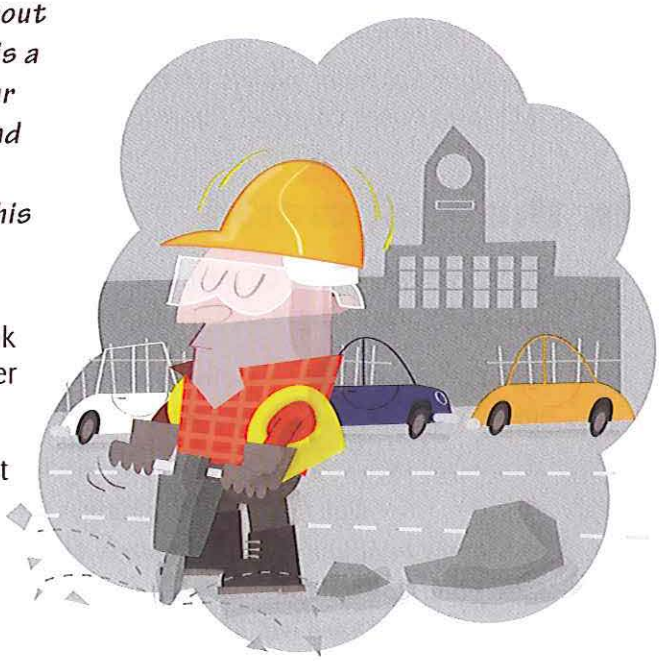
A Write a letter to a local official about an environmental problem in your community. Use the questions and the model to help you.

- What is the problem?
- Who or what does the problem affect?
- Who or what is causing it?
- What's a solution to the problem?

Dear City Councilman,

I am a student. I am writing to tell you about the amount of noise near our school. There is a lot of construction work and traffic near our school. It is very difficult for us to study and learn during the day.

I have an idea for a possible solution to this problem. If . . .



B Group work Share your letters. Do you think the solutions will solve the problems? Can you offer other solutions?

C Class activity What are the most important concerns in your community? Who else can you write to or talk to about your concerns?

I can discuss solutions to problems. ☑

Wrap-up

1 Quick pair review

Lesson A **Brainstorm!** Make a list of environmentally friendly products. How many do you know? You have two minutes.

Lesson B **Do you remember?** Is the sentence giving an approximate answer, or is it avoiding answering? Write AP (approximate answer) or AV (avoiding answering). You have one minute.

How much did your car cost?		How much trash do you throw away a week?	
I'd say about $3,000.	____	I'd rather not answer that.	____
I'd prefer not to say.	____	I'd rather not say.	____
I'd say maybe $6,000.	____	Probably about five bags.	____

Lesson C **Give your opinion!** What do you think? Complete the sentences together. You have three minutes.

1. Our city will get cleaner if _____ .
2. If our school uses solar energy, _____ .
3. If we eat organic food, _____ .
4. We could recycle more if _____ .

Lesson D **Find out!** Who is one person you know who does each thing? You have two minutes.

- Who uses environmentally friendly products at home?
- Who takes public transportation to work?
- Who has taught you about an environmental issue?

A: *My aunt has solar panels on the roof of her house.*
B: *My father uses compact fluorescent lightbulbs.*

2 In the real world

How can we solve this? Go online and find information in English that gives solutions to one of these problems. Then write about them.

pollution from cars	pollution from factories
global warming	too much garbage

Our Pollution Problem

If more people have hybrid cars, there will be less pollution. People can also carpool. If we share rides, there will be fewer cars on the road. Also, if we . . .