

1 You are going to read an article about different procedures being used to tackle some of our global issues. Read the article quite quickly and find out:

- a** which global issue is mentioned in each section (A–D).
- b** how the issue is being tackled in each case.

A LAND RECLAMATION

With a rapidly growing world population, one way for a country to increase the amount of land available for housing is to reclaim it from the sea. Shorelines can be extended, natural islands can be joined to the coastline, and artificial islands can be built from nothing. Some Asian countries have been reclaiming land for the past two centuries – Singapore's land area has expanded by 25 per cent in that time – but the last few years have seen a huge explosion in the number of land reclamation projects. There are numerous examples on China's 14 500 kilometre coastline, including the brand-new city of Nanhui, built on 133 square kilometres of land, almost half of which was reclaimed from the sea. There may be a price to pay, though. Land reclamation can put enormous pressure on the environment, polluting the sea and destroying habitats for marine life. In some areas fish stocks have been drastically reduced, putting the livelihoods of local fishermen at risk.



B CLOUD SEEDING

Some countries, such as the United Arab Emirates, respond to increasing water scarcity with a procedure called cloud seeding, whereby chemicals such as silver iodide or dry ice are released by aircraft or fired from the ground into clouds in order to increase the chance of rain or snowfall. With the UN predicting water shortages for 40 per cent of the world's population by 2030, cloud seeding is receiving an increasing amount of press attention. But what many people don't realise is that it's been around for several decades and has been employed in over fifty countries. Whether it works or not is still open to debate; as yet, there is no definitive scientific evidence that it does, although the six-year Wyoming Weather Modification Pilot Project concluded in 2013 that cloud seeding can increase precipitation by between 5 and 15 per cent. On the downside, it's thought to have been the cause of serious flooding in some of the countries where it's been used.

C UNDERWATER FARMING

Growing vegetables under the sea may seem like something out of a science fiction novel, but Nemo's Garden, situated off the coast of Noli on the Italian Riviera, is very much a reality, producing anything from lettuce and tomatoes to peas, beans, and even flowers. Sergio Gamberini, a scuba diver and amateur gardener, came up with the concept whilst on a diving holiday in the area in 2012. He started off growing basil in a miniature version of the 2 000 litre biospheres currently in use, and over the next few years the underwater habitat just got bigger and bigger as more money was put into the project. The temperature inside the biospheres is stable, no pests can wander in, so there's no need for pesticides, and sea water inside the structures evaporates, condenses on the roof and then drips back down as fresh water to feed the plants. Although still in its early stages, there is optimism that this sustainable form of agriculture could be extended and put to use on a larger scale, offering a possible solution to the shortage of farmland.



D RECYCLING DOG WASTE

A streetlamp powered by dog waste is helping to keep the streets clean, as well as lighting up the area outside the UK home of its inventor, Brian Harper. Dog walkers pick up their pet's mess in a free paper bag, place it into a container and turn a handle to move the mess into a biodigester. Here it is broken down by microorganisms to produce methane, which fuels the light. Harper ran trials on the lamp for over two years before it was put into full working operation at the end of 2017. Ten bags of waste can power the light for two hours, which won't put an end to the world's energy crisis, but it should serve to teach people how waste can be useful. Schemes using dog and other animal waste as a fuel source are being adopted in a number of other countries, from Canada to India.



Read the article again and for questions 1–10, choose from the procedures (A–D). The procedures may be chosen more than once.

In relation to which procedure does the writer mention

- the gradual growth in its use from small beginnings?
- a general lack of awareness of how long it has been in use?
- the place where the idea for it was first thought of?
- the threat it poses to some people's jobs?
- uncertainty about its effectiveness?
- its value as an educational tool?
- the recent dramatic rise in its use?
- the belief that it has potential for wider application?
- the fact that tests were carried out before it became functional?
- growing interest in it from the media?

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- 1 Identify the verb forms in bold in the following conditional sentences. Then underline the correct alternative in each explanation. The first one has been done for you.

Zero conditional

If you **turn** the handle, the bag of dog mess **goes** into the biodigester.

turn – present simple goes – present simple

- a situation in which one event always occurs as the result of another. *If* in this sentence means whenever/although.

First conditional

If they **continue** to reclaim land in this area, they **will destroy** the fish stocks.

- a possible/an impossible situation in the future and its likely result.

Second conditional

If we **had** more money, we **would invest** in more biospheres.

- an imaginary situation in the past/present or future.

Modal verbs can be used instead of *will* and *would* in conditional sentences. Explain the difference in meaning between these three sentences.

- a If we leave now, we'll be home by midnight.
- b If we leave now, we should be home by midnight.
- c If we leave now, we might be home by midnight.

- 4 Complete each gap with an appropriate form of the verb in brackets. There is an example at the beginning (0).

- 0 If you flush (flush) all those wet wipes down the toilet, they will cause (cause) a blockage. Take them out now!
- 1 If a wipe product _____ (carry) a 'Do not flush' symbol, that _____ (mean) you should always throw it in the bin, not the toilet.
- 2 Wet wipes _____ (not/be) such a big problem for our sewer systems if they _____ (be) biodegradable.
- 3 Can you do me a favour? My hands are filthy. If you _____ (open) the packet of wipes, I _____ (take) one out.

- 1 You can't smoke in restaurants without getting into trouble.

SMOKE

If you get into trouble.

- 2 The only thing stopping me doing my homework is that I don't have my dictionary here.

IF

I I had my dictionary here.

- 3 It's going to rain so you are sure to get wet.

IT

If get wet.

- 4 I am not very good at typing but it would be useful for my job if I could do it.

WERE

It would be useful for my job if at typing.

- 5 People often find it difficult to concentrate in noisy places.

THEY

When people often find it difficult to concentrate.

- 6 I refused to swim when the sea was rough.

NOT

If the sea was rough I swimming.

Before you do the following Speaking Part 3 task, do the exercise in the Useful language box below.

- 1 **SPEAK** Imagine that you belong to an environmental group and you want to inform people of the environmental issues below. Talk with your partner about what ordinary people can do to help solve these issues.

- 2 Now decide which two issues ordinary people can do most to help solve.



- 1 You hear an expert giving advice about meeting people for the first time. What has the most impact?
A how you sound
B how you look
C what you say
- 2 You hear two girls talking about their friendship. They agree that the most important factor in a successful friendship is having
A similar personalities.
B being part of the same social group.
C similar interests.
- 3 You hear a psychologist in the UK talking about intelligence. What does she say?
A The human brain is changing.
B Scores in intelligence tests are rising.
C Exams are getting harder.
- 4 You overhear a boy calling a friend on his mobile phone. Why is he calling his friend?
A to complain about her behaviour
B to explain a problem
C to change an arrangement
- 5 You overhear a man talking about things which frighten people. What frightens him?
A using an escalator
B taking a flight
C using a lift
- 6 You hear a girl talking to a boy about a dream. She has read that the dream means
A she's worried about lack of success.
B her life is in danger.
C she has to escape from something.
- 7 You overhear two students talking about a classmate. Why are they discussing her?
A To organise something for her.
B To see if they can help her.
C To point out her faults.
- 8 You hear a boy and a girl talking about the boy's free-time activities. What do they agree about his personality?
A He's friendly and sociable.
B He prefers his own company.
C He's creative and adventurous.