

# ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

***How familiar are you with the vocabulary of talking about our environment in English? See if you can pair off the items in the two lists to produce expressions which are used in discussing environmental problems.***

- 1 ACID
- 2 CATALYTIC
- 3 ENDANGERED
- 4 ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY
- 5 EXHAUST
- 6 GLOBAL
- 7 OZONE
- 8 PERMISSIBLE

- A CONVERTER
- B FUMES
- C LAYER
- D LIMIT
- E PRODUCTS
- F RAIN
- G SPECIES
- H WARMING

***Here are some more environmental terms you will often come across. See if you can match them with the definitions and descriptions given below.***

the greenhouse effect – marine toxicity – loss of gene-pool / loss of biodiversity – hole in the ozone layer – exploitation of non-renewable resources – deforestation – desertification – acid rain

## DEFINITIONS:

wears away ancient monuments, poisons forests and kills wildlife in mountain lakes:

.....

raises the temperature of the earth, causing the polar ice to melt and sea-levels to rise:

.....

lets more of the sun's harmful ultra-violet rays through to the earth's surface, causing skin cancers and damaging wildlife:

.....

caused by species becoming extinct as the result of destruction of their habitats – losing possible benefits to mankind forever:

.....

changes the local climate, makes crops more difficult to grow and leads to famine in places like Ethiopia, the Sudan or Somalia:

.....

leaves the ground unprotected against wind and rain and leads to soil erosion:

.....

causes wildlife to suffer, and damages a major food source for humans too; caused by dumping rubbish and poisons into the sea:

.....

oil, coal and metals are all in limited supply; we can't manufacture these raw materials, we should use them wisely, but instead we waste them:

.....