

## *Live Lesson Notes*

# Environment

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### What you will learn

1. Useful Links
2. Vocabulary
3. Toolbox
4. Visualisation / Meditation
5. Idioms

## Some useful Links

Watch and read this **full lesson on the Environment here**

<https://keithspeakingacademy.com/ielts-speaking-environment-lesson-vocabulary>

Understand **greenhouse gases**

<https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/overview-greenhouse-gases>

### Tool box

<https://www.theidioms.com>

Improve your Pronunciation for IELTS with this app - ELSA

<http://bit.ly/ElsaxEnglishSpeakingSuccess>

An exclusive offer for my students from ELSA:

<https://elsaspeak.com/inf/englishspeakinguccess/>

Click to get a complete **Mock IELTS** Test.

<https://takeielts.net/the-path-to-success-in-the-ielts-test/>

Use the CODE: **keith10** to get a 10% discount.

Find a teacher on **italki** so you can start practicing all the language you are learning here. Practice is the key!

<https://bit.ly/IELTSSpeakingitalki>

Follow me on **social media**

<https://www.facebook.com/keithspeakingacademy>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/KeithIELTSMastermind/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiVm8XcbwS8-pcDEa5IFXIA>

# IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: Environment

*Here is some useful vocabulary for this topic.*

Ecosystem (*eco= environment, ecosystem is 'an environment system'*)

Ecology (n.) = *the study of the environment*

Ecological (adj.)

Eco-friendly (adj.) = *describes things that protect and look after the environment, rather than damaging it.*

This fabric bag is eco-friendly

**Global warming** = *increasing temperature of the earth due to the greenhouse effect of more gases (CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>) being trapped in the atmosphere.*

**Climate Change** = *similar to global warming but focus on changing climates around the world*

Pollution

*The following are all words (countable nouns) meaning waste or things we throw away.*

waste  
rubbish (UK)  
garbage (US)  
debris  
trash (US)  
litter (UK)  
junk  
refuse

A landfill (n.) (C) = *a place where rubbish is dumped and buried*

People **dump** rubbish in the sea, on the streets, in the landfills....

**Biodegradable** waste = *waste that naturally decomposes.*

Most waste is **non-biodegradable**, such as plastic.

We should **segregate** our rubbish (to **separate**) into ....

The 3 Rs: Recycle - Reduce - Reuse

## **Greenhouse gases**

Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>)

Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)

Find out more about greenhouse gases here

<https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/overview-greenhouse-gases>

## **Useful collocations**

Methane emissions

Carbon dioxide emissions

**Carbon footprints** = *the damage you cause to the planet by using carbon*

To reduce our carbon footprint

To be carbon neutral

Learn about targets for zero carbon footprints

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/feb/12/bp-sets-net-zero-carbon-target-for-2050>

## How we damage the environment

Deforestation = *cutting down trees*

Poaching = *killing endangered animals illegally*

Illegal dumping = *putting waste into a landfill / the sea without permission*

Light / Air / Noise pollution

Cars, aeroplanes...= most transportation

Overuse of **nonrenewable resources** (oil, gas, coal...also known as - fossil fuels)

Learn about different kinds of **sustainable energy**

<https://www.energy.gov/science-innovation/clean-energy>

Growing urbanisation = *cities growing bigger*

Sea pollution

Use of pesticides (*medicine for crops*)

Destruction of bees

Desertification = *making land dry and like a desert, not arable, not fertile*

Digital garbage

**Fashion industry** is *coming under attack* for promoting consumerism and damaging the environment

Find out more about humans impact on the environment below

[https://www.nationalgeographic.org/topics/resource-library-human-impacts-environment/?q=&page=1&per\\_page=25](https://www.nationalgeographic.org/topics/resource-library-human-impacts-environment/?q=&page=1&per_page=25)

## How we can protect the environment

I **am careful to** recycle rubbish and waste at home

I **strive *not*** to use disposable plastic, such as coffee cups in Starbucks

I **endeavour to** turn off the lights in my home

I **make an effort to** turn taps off when possible

I pick up discarded rubbish *sometimes* OR ...

...**From time to time**

...**Once in a while**

...**Every now and then**

...**At times**

I like to **do my bit** = to play my part = to contribute

We should **steer clear of**..... = *to avoid*

We should **be wary of** = *be careful and cautious with.*

Save energy

Save water, by not leaving the tap running unnecessarily

Do some volunteer work

Run a campaign to raise awareness

Clean up beaches

Participate in a beach clean-up

Reduce plastic waste

Protect wildlife habitats

## Tool box

<https://www.theidioms.com>

A great tool to explore idioms by letter, word or topic.

## Speaking Meditation and Visualisation

[Click here to experience this meditation / visualisation](#)

## How can governments tackle (solve) this issue?

**Raise awareness** of the need to recycle

**Sensitise** people to the importance of using renewable energy

**Incentivise** (=to motivate) people to recycle

**Incentivise** (=to motivate) companies to use renewable energy and sustainable energy (solar (sun), hydro (water), wind...geothermal..)

Set zero-carbon **energy** targets

Reduce their carbon footprint to '**net zero**'

Promote the use of electric cars - and public transport

Plant trees

Carry our research on plastic substitutes (research on biodegradable alternatives)

**Set up initiatives** to protect.... wildlife / natural habitats / forests / endangered species

**Implement policies** to protect...

**Put measures in place** to protect...

**Impose restrictions** on....

Put in place **strict / stringent policies**

## Idioms to talk about environment

**To get out of hand** = *to be out of control*

*Damage to the environment is getting out of hand, if we don't do something soon, we will lose our planet*

**To be in dire straits** = to be in trouble

**To be in deep water** = to be in trouble

**The tip of the iceberg** = the beginning of the problem

**To weather the storm** = to survive difficult times