

UNIT 4

Complete the sentences with the correct words.

average	condition	deal with	environment	healthy
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1. The _____ person in the U.S.A. produces about two kilograms of waste every day.
2. If you keep the things you own in good _____, they will last longer.
3. People in the future will have to _____ the challenges of a much hotter world.
4. More and more people understand that it is very important to protect the _____.
5. Jon exercises three or four times a week and doesn't eat junk food. I think he is pretty _____.

Choose the correct meaning of each word in bold.

6. There are several old factories near here—the river is **polluted**.
 - a. deep
 - b. dirty
7. Gina has studied the environment for over 30 years. She is a true **expert**.
 - a. an older person with a lot of experience
 - b. someone with special skills and knowledge
8. The city needs to **improve** how it handles its trash.
 - a. make better
 - b. increase

LEVEL 1 Assessment

9. As the earth's temperature **increases**, the ice melts.
 - a. make better
 - b. become more
10. One positive **trend** is that more and more people are buying electric cars.
 - a. direction of a change
 - b. a change in transportation

Choose the correct word to complete each sentence.

11. Scientists are now working on ways to _____ carbon dioxide from the air.
 - a. reuse
 - b. remove
12. A lot of festivals now make sure that everyone has cups they can _____.
 - a. reuse
 - b. replay
13. Countries all round the world are beginning to _____ the way they produce energy.
 - a. recycle
 - b. rethink

Complete the sentences with the correct words.

create	increase	throw out
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14. At our company, we _____ all our products from recycled material.
15. I think too many people _____ things they have before they are broken.
16. As people stop buying cars that use gasoline, the number of EVs is going to _____ a lot.

LEVEL 1 Assessment

Read the passage.**A Better Earth?**

On April 22, 1970, millions of people paraded through American cities to support the environment. It was the first Earth Day. People were happy because they were celebrating the Earth together. But they were sad because the Earth was in trouble. Could they change it for the better?

On that day in 1970, many speakers told the crowds that the world was in terrible condition. Firstly, about one out of four people did not have enough food. In some parts of the world, people did not live past the age of 45. The environment was also in bad shape. The world's great rivers—such as the Tiber and the Mississippi—were full of trash, and the water was undrinkable. Big cities were covered in smog, and leaded gasoline polluted the air. The speakers thought that these problems would only get worse.

Happily, many of these problems did not get as bad as experts feared. Most people around the world are enjoying better health and more nutritious food. Even though there are 3 billion more people than in 1970, 90 percent of us have enough food today—up from about 75 percent in 1970. In addition, average life expectancy has increased by more than 13 years.

Some of the worst environmental problems have improved as well. Water pollution has decreased since 1970. Smog is less of a problem in many cities. And no country in the world makes leaded gasoline anymore.

These improvements have not helped everyone, however. Millions still live in poverty. Millions more live in places that are becoming more polluted, not less. Yet they are by the standards of the past, wealthy and healthy. Billions of people's lives are better.

The first Earth Day started a trend toward helping the Earth. Today, we face a different set of problems than we did 50 years ago—such as climate change. Perhaps we can solve these problems, too. Today, over a billion people celebrate Earth Day. Imagine how much better the world could be in 50 years.

Choose the correct answers.

17. How did the people at the first Earth Day feel?
 - a. mostly happy
 - b. mostly sad
 - c. both happy and sad

18. What was NOT a problem speakers at the first Earth Day talked about?
 - a. climate change
 - b. dirty air
 - c. not having enough food

LEVEL 1 Assessment

19. How has the problem of people not having enough food changed since 1970?
- The problem of not having enough food has gotten worse.
 - The percentage of people without enough food has gone down to 10%.
 - 75% of people around the world now have enough food.
20. What is true about people's lives today?
- They are mostly healthier, but have less money.
 - They are mostly living in more polluted places.
 - They are mostly healthier and better off.
21. What is the author's opinion of the future?
- mostly positive
 - we don't know
 - mostly negative

Read the passage.**Copenhagen: Green City Leader**

In 2010, the Danish capital of Copenhagen made the decision to go green. Since then, it has worked hard to become one of the greenest cities in the world. Let's look at what the city is doing to help the environment.

One important thing the city is doing is reducing the amount of CO₂ it produces. Every year, it has reduced the amount of fossil fuel—coal, gas, oil—that it uses. Its power plant uses wood, not coal. And the city uses a lot of wind energy—a clean type of energy. Copenhagen is often very cold, but as the city produces its electricity, it takes the waste heat from the power plant. It heats 98% of the city with that heat.

Cars produce a lot of CO₂, and one of the city's aims is to reduce their number. The city is doing that by making it easy and pleasant for people to cycle. It now has some of the best cycle paths in the world. The paths are separate from the road and so safe to use. They even have their own traffic lights to help keep cyclists moving. People living in the city now make about half of all their journeys by bike. They own nearly seven bicycles for every car.

Public transport and buildings are also going green. All the buses are changing to electric vehicles. And many of the city's buildings are green. Buildings are made to stay warm in winter. Copenhagen's hotels are also designed to help the environment. They are energy-efficient and produce very little trash. Other tourist facilities are also becoming greener. One popular activity is to go on a boat trip. Tourists can now use a small, sun-powered boat, instead of one that produces CO₂.

All these changes have made the city much greener and a great place to live. From 2005 to 2017, the amount of CO₂ produced went down by almost half. At the moment, cities produce about 70% of all CO₂ around the world. Copenhagen may soon be the first city in the world that doesn't add any CO₂ to the air.

LEVEL 1 Assessment

Choose *True* or *False*.

22. Since 2010, Copenhagen has been the greenest city in the world.
a. True
b. False
23. The heat from Copenhagen's power plant is used to keep the buildings in the city warm.
a. True
b. False
24. People living in Copenhagen use bicycles seven times more often than cars.
a. True
b. False
25. Copenhagen's public transportation system has electric and sun-powered vehicles.
a. True
b. False
26. Over 12 years, Copenhagen cut its CO₂ production by nearly half.
a. True
b. False

Read each question. Choose the correct answer.

27. How much of Copenhagen's heating comes from the power plant?
a. almost half
b. 70%
c. 98%
28. What percentage of global CO₂ production comes from cities?
a. almost half
b. 70%
c. 98%

Complete each sentence with the simple past affirmative form of the verb in parentheses.

29. Nadia _____ (**find**) an interesting website about renewable energy.

LEVEL 1 Assessment

30. The presenter _____ (**tell**) us a lot about the effects of climate change.
31. The new city mayor successfully _____ (**deal with**) the problem of garbage collection.
32. Takahiro _____ (**buy**) solar panels to put on the roof of his house.
33. Mia _____ (**go**) to her first Earth Day this year, and she made a lot of new friends.
34. My father's company wanted to reduce waste, so they _____ (**rethink**) how they packaged their products.

Read the passage.

The problem of waste is serious in many countries around the world. But there are a few simple things we can all do to help. First, and probably most important, is to reduce the amount of things we buy. It will help a lot if we only buy things we need. Another important thing we can all do is to reuse items as much as possible. We should think before we throw things away. Recycling is also a great way to help the environment. When we do decide that we can't use something anymore, we should always try to recycle it. If we do that, our old things can be used to make new items.

Choose the three supporting ideas.

35. ☐ If we do that, our old things can be used to make new items.
- ☐ Recycling is also a great way to help the environment.
- ☐ It will help a lot if we only buy things we need.
- ☐ But there are a few simple things we can all do to help.
- ☐ The problem of waste is serious in many countries around the world.
- ☐ First, and probably most important, is to reduce the amount of things we buy.
- ☐ Another important thing we can all do is to reuse items as much as possible.
- ☐ We should think before we throw things away.
- ☐ When we do decide that we can't use something anymore, we should always try to recycle it.

LEVEL 1 Assessment

Read the topic sentence. Decide if each sentence is a supporting idea or a supporting detail. Choose *Idea* or *Detail*.

Topic sentence: There are lots of easy and simple ways to make our lives greener.

36. Starting in the kitchen, make sure you use all the food you have.
 - a. Idea
 - b. Detail
37. Think before you buy lots of food, and think before you throw food away. It's often easy to find a way to make a new dish.
 - a. Idea
 - b. Detail
38. Local food is fresher and so healthier, it also uses less fuel.
 - a. Idea
 - b. Detail
39. So always try to buy local products.
 - a. Idea
 - b. Detail
40. If you can, buy clothes and other things for the house, like furniture, from charity stores.
 - a. Idea
 - b. Detail

You are going to write a paragraph on the following topic.

41. **Think about your own experiences with one of these two topics.**

Topic 1: Describe an environmental issue that your neighborhood or your country is working to improve. Describe the issue and what people are doing about it.

Topic 2: Describe a festival or cultural event in your country that is connected to nature. Describe the event and how it is connected to nature.

LEVEL 1 Assessment

A. OUTLINE Plan an outline for your paragraph.

Decide the issue. Write a topic sentence for your paragraph.

List at least two supporting ideas.

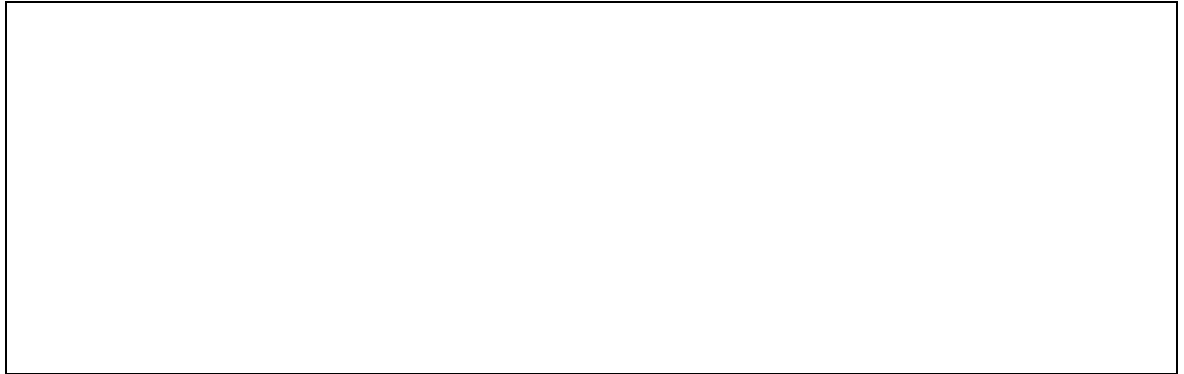
List at least one detail for each supporting idea.

B. Think of some words and phrases you can use in your paragraph. Write them in the box.

The words and phrases below can be useful when writing about environmental issues or nature.

- *... is an issue/problem in my neighborhood/country.*
- *One thing the local government is doing is ...*
- *One event in my country that is connected to nature is ...*
- *The connection to nature is ...*
- *In addition, ...*

LEVEL 1 Assessment



- C. Write your paragraph based on your outline. Use the model to help you. Remember to use the vocabulary you wrote down.

Model:

Plastic waste is a big problem in my country. There are millions of plastic bags that pollute the earth and the ocean. The government made a new law last year. Supermarkets don't give plastic bags to customers anymore. You have to buy them and they are becoming more expensive. So most people now bring their own bags. It has helped reduce the number of plastic bag waste a lot. In addition, my local government told every store that they can't sell any plastic bags. They only sell bags that people can recycle. That has also helped.



(12 points)