

# READING COMPREHENSION

## ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS

### **Rob**

I don't think there's a solution to the global environmental crisis. The world's population is now too high, and the amount of energy being consumed is increasing all the time. Isn't it obvious that one day soon we're going to run out of natural resources?

Global warming shows us the effect that human beings are already having on the planet – it's happening because of all the greenhouse gases we put into the atmosphere from industry, planes and cars, and because of other things like deforestation. Soon, millions of people will start leaving some parts of the world because it will be impossible to live there any more, which in turn will create a whole new set of problems.

### **Louise**

The current environmental situation is very serious, but I believe human beings can invent the technology we need to solve the problem.

For example, we already have clean ways of making electricity, like nuclear power and wind power, so we just have to start using them a lot more.

Also, I don't believe people are completely selfish, and I think in the end most people will want to help solve the crisis. The main cause of climate change is the lifestyles of people in developed countries who already have a good standard of living, but when they really begin to understand the situation I'm sure they will start to change their ways. People just need to be made more aware of the problem, and shown ways in which they can help.

### **Michael**

We can now see that there has been a huge price to pay for the economic development rich countries have achieved, because to reach this standard of living we have used a lot of natural resources and polluted the atmosphere.

Now developing countries are trying to catch up, and it seems that economic growth in countries like China and India, with their huge populations, might also have a serious effect on the environment. But can we really say that poorer countries should stop developing? Obviously that wouldn't be realistic, or fair.

Of course, if we want to be more environmentally friendly we can recycle or drive cars that pollute a bit less, or even use fewer plastic bags. However, I really don't know if these small things are going to be enough.

WHO SAYS.....?

WRITE THE NAME NEXT TO THE SENTENCES.

- 1-WE HAVE TO PAY A HUGE PRICE FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
- 2- HUMAN BEING CAN INVENT THE TECHNOLOGY TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM.
- 3- CHINA AND INDIA HAVE A SERIOUS EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.
- 4-THE AMOUNT OF ENERGY IS INCREASING ALL THE TIME.
- 5- THE MAIN CAUSE OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE IS THE LIFESTYLES OF PEOPLE IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.
- 6-PEOPLE SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE PROBLEM.
- 7-TO BE MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY WE SHOULD RECYCLE.
- 8-GLOBAL WARMING IS BECAUSE OF THE GASES FROM INDUSTRIES, PLANES AND CARS.

TRUE OR FALSE?

- 1-ROB SAYS THAT THE AMOUNT OF ENERGY IS INCREASING.
- 2-MICHAEL SAYS THAT WE HAVEN'T USED MANY NATURAL RESOURCES SO AS TO POLLUTE THE ENVIRONMENT.
- 3- LOUISE THINKS THAT THERE ISN'T ANYTHING WE CAN DO TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM.
- 4-LOUISE SAYS THAT PEOPLE AREN'T AWARE ENOUGH OF THE PROBLEM
- 5-LOUISE DOESN'T BLAME LIFESTYLE IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AS THE MAIN REASON OF CLIMATE CHANGES.
- 6- MICHAEL THINKS THAT TO BE MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY WE SHOULD RECYCLE AND USE CARS THAT POLLUTE LESS.

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**COMPLETE THE SENTENCES USING THE WORDS FROM THE BOX**

RECYCLE      CLIMATE CHANGE      NATURAL RESOURCES      GLOBAL WARMING  
ENVIRONMENT      POLLUTE      WASTE

1- SOME INDUSTRIES ..... THE RIVERS. THROWING THEIR ..... INTO THEM.

2-.....ARE BEING USED IN AN INDISCRIMINATE WAY.

3-IF WE ..... PAPER, PLASTIC BAGS AND CANS WE WILL HELP TO PRESERVE THE .....

4-WE ARE STARTING TO SEE THE EFFECT OF .....

5-THERE IS AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ..... BECAUSE OF THE CHANGES IN WEATHER.