



CLIMATOLOGY OCEANS



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Listening & Speaking: LEVEL III



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
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Okanagan School of Education



Climatology: Listening and Speaking Level III

Post Secondary Education Skills: Upper Intermediate English

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Activity A

Class Discussion

Discuss these questions in small groups:

1. Have you seen plastic pollution where you live?
2. Have you visited the ocean?
3. Why are oceans important?
4. How can we protect oceans?
5. How does ocean health affect us?

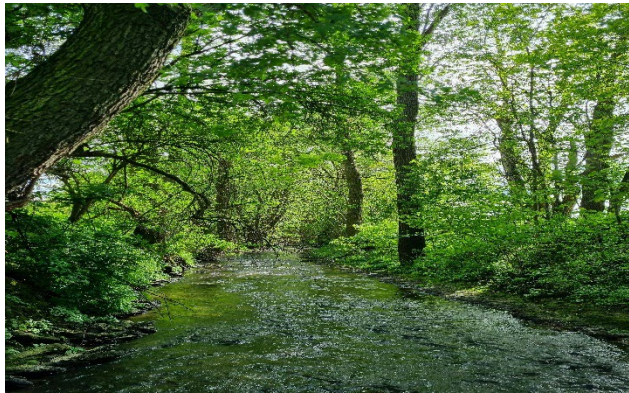
99% of seabirds
will be eating
plastic by 2050



The average person
eats 70,000
microplastics each
year

Activity B

Partner Discussion



Discuss the following questions with a partner and write down your responses:

Questions:

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, how clean is your home city?

2. What does pollution look like in the rivers, lakes, and oceans of your home country?

3. How does your culture approach pollution? Are they concerned about it?

4. What kinds of laws and public initiatives exist in your home country to combat pollution?

5. What kind of personal action do you take to reduce pollution? Examples?



Activity C

Vocabulary



Here are some keywords from the Podcast. With a partner, write a short definition for each word. Then choose five words and create a picture/symbol to represent each one.

TERM	DEFINITION & PICTURE/SYMBOL
Decomposes	
Environment	
Current	
Marine	
Toxic	
Biomagnification	
Mercury	
Recycling	
Alternative	
Dispose	

Activity D

Vocabulary Sentences



Use the keywords mentioned below to fill in the blanks of the incomplete sentences. Each key word should only be used once.

Key Words:

Decomposes	Environment	Current
Marine	Toxic	Biomagnification
Mercury	Recycling	Alternative
Dispose	Founded	

1. An _____ is the natural world or ecosystem surrounding and affecting an organism, including air, water, and land.
2. _____ is an adjective which refers to things that are in the sea or come from the sea.
3. Poisonous things that cause harm to living organisms are considered _____.
4. There is a planet in the Solar System which is called _____, but this word is also the name of a silvery metal that is liquid at room temperature, and which pollutes the water.

5. When we get rid of something by throwing it away, we _____ of those things.
6. A choice or option that replaces or offers a substitute for something else is an _____.
7. The noun form of _____ is a continuous, directed movement of water in a sea or river.
8. When a small fish eats something that is a toxin, the poison becomes more concentrated in the bigger fish which eats that smaller fish. This is called _____.
9. When we convert waste into a reusable material, this is called _____.
10. The verb “to find” appears as “found” in the past tense, but the verb “to found” is different and refers to when a person starts an organization. In the past tense, “to found” appears as “_____.”
11. When a biological or chemical material naturally breaks into smaller pieces, it _____.



Did you know that every minute of every day a truckload of plastic is dumped into the ocean?

Activity E

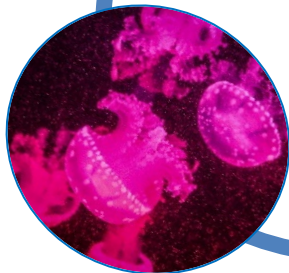
Podcast: Listening



Listen to the podcast about plastic pollution in the oceans two times and take notes:

Below is space for taking notes:

*Did you know?
There could be more
plastic than fish
in the ocean by
2050*



Activity F

Comprehension Questions

Did you know that one million plastic bottles are bought every minute?

Answer the following comprehension questions with a partner or in small groups. Take notes so you can share your answers with the class:

Questions:

1. How does the decomposition time of plastic compare to materials like paper and metal?
2. According to the podcast, how does plastic pollution affect marine life and humans? Which biological processes are involved? Does this harm humans or fish more?
3. What is the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, as mentioned in the podcast? How is it formed?
4. What event inspired Boyan Slat to focus on solving the issue of plastic pollution?
5. What is the phrase that comes from the “Three Rs?” Which one is most important to you? Why?



Activity G

Extension Task



Watch the following video of Boyan Slat's TEDx Talk from his younger years and think about how it affects you personally.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ROW9F-c0kIQ>

Activity H

Small Group Discussion

Join a group of 4-5 students and answer the following questions together:



Questions:

1. How did the information in the TEDx Talk by Boyan Slat differ from what was discussed in the podcast? Were there any

contrasting points or new insights?

2. After listening to the TEDx Talk and the podcast, which aspects of the plastic pollution issue feel most relevant or urgent to you personally? Why?

3. How do the solutions proposed by Boyan Slat in his TEDx Talk have the potential to impact global efforts against plastic pollution? Are there any limitations?

4. Boyan Slat started The Ocean Cleanup at a very young age. How does his story inspire you when thinking about your own potential to contribute to environmental solutions?

5. With your group, come up with an innovative method people could adopt to better avoid polluting the planet with plastic and write it down. Be prepared to share it.



Activity 1

Reflection Task

Listen to the music video entitled 'Beyond the Sea' and think of reasons why we might want to preserve the world's oceans.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ta3jHcbslQw>



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Podcast recorded by LLED Practice Teacher Alec Campbell



Background Tracks of Seagulls and Ocean Waves: <https://freesound.com/>

TEDx Talk by Boyan Slat: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ROW9F-c0kIQ>

Bobby Darin – Beyond the Sea <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ta3jHcbsIQw>

Informational Data from <https://givingcompass.org/article/10-facts-about-plastic-pollution-you-absolutely-need-to-know>

