Durham School of English: English Arch

Practice with your Skype Buddy

Below are the words and phrases covered in the materials. You will now have a chance to practise them with your Skype Buddy. Read each question before you meet your buddy. Make a quick plan for each topic question. Try to use the new words you have learnt.

Warm-Up Questions (Short answers)

- What do you do?
- Why are you studying English?
- Where do you live? What is it like?
- What do you do in your free time?

Environment Questions (Long answers – speak for 2 to 3 minutes)

Buddy A should answer all the questions before Buddy B has their turn.

Try to use these words when you answer the questions: biodegradable packaging contaminated water deforestation fossil fuels organic pesticides extinct overfishing disposal of industrial waste reusable products energy efficient lightbulbs car exhaust fumes sewage climate change poaching

Tell me about some of the environmental problems that are affecting countries these days?

Speaking	Listening
Draw a mind map before you start speaking	Write your partner's main ideas.
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	Ask if there was anything you didn't understand. Tell your partner (summarise) the points you heard.
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Unit 1 The Environment

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• What are the main environmental problems in your country?

Speaking	Listening
Draw a mind map before you start speaking	Write your partner's main ideas.
	Ask if there was anything you didn't understand.
	Tell your partner (summarise) the points you heard.

• Why should people be concerned about the environment?

Speaking	Listening
Draw a mind map before you start speaking	Write your partner's main ideas.
	Ask if there was anything you didn't understand.
	Tell your partner (summarise) the points you heard.

• What can individuals do to protect the environment?

Speaking	Listening
Draw a mind map before you start speaking	Write your partner's main ideas.
	Ask if there was anything you didn't understand. Tell your partner (summarise) the points you heard.

• What can governments do to protect the environment?

Speaking	Listening
Draw a mind map before you start speaking	Write your partner's main ideas.
	Ask if there was anything you didn't understand.
	Tell your partner (summarise) the points you heard.

• Think of a question about the environment to ask your partner.

Role Play

Buddy A: You think it is best to only eat organic food.

Buddy B: You like to eat anything that tastes good. Argue with your Buddy.

Reflection

Discuss how you thought your meeting went with your partner.

- Which questions did you find difficult?
- Did you manage to use all the vocabulary and speaking skills that you planned to use?
- What do you need to improve?

Arrange your next meeting.

