

UNIT 2: EARTH MATTERS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you do any of the following things to help to protect the environment? Why? Why not?

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• recycle bottles• use public transport instead of your car• join in a car share• recycle newspapers• use low-energy lamps in your home	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• limit the amount of water you use• keep the streets and beaches clean• care about local wildlife• use aerosols without CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons)• use unleaded petrol
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2. Which are the main environmental issues discussed in Spain?

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• pollution• waste• global warming and climate change• genetically modified crops• pandemics and superbugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• overpopulation• global water crisis• coal and oil versus clean energy• endangered species• nuclear energy• food safety and chemical contamination
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3. Are Spaniards interested in protecting animals?

4. What environmental issue (if any) do Spaniards protest about?

5. How they protest?

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• participating in demonstrations• signing petitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• talking to local and national governments• writing newspaper articles
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6. Which area of Spain is well known for its wildlife?

7. Which animals are protected species in Spain?

8. Are there any national parks in Spain?

USEFUL VOCABULARY

To express interest:

I'm interested in + N

N+ interests me.

To express worry:

I'm afraid that + S+V

I'm afraid to + infinitive

I'm afraid of +N

I'm worried about+ N /-ing

WRITING

LETTER TO MRS HUTCHINSON, DIRECTOR OF GREENLINE. ABOUT AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM IN YOUR AREA

Structure

INTRODUCTION

Paragraph 1

State reason(s) for writing

MAIN BODY

Paragraph 2

Explain the different aspects of the problem, giving examples / justifications

Paragraph 3

Suggest what should be done to solve this problem.

Paragraph 4

Final remarks

Register: Semi-formal

Useful expressions

Dear Mrs Hutchinson,

In my opinion, one of the most important environmental issues in my area is...

This poses a number of problems such as...

For example / for instance

As a consequence / Consequently / As a result...

Something should be done. I suggest...

Yours sincerely,