ФЕДЕРАЛЬНОЕ АГЕНТСТВО ПО ОБРАЗОВАНИЮ

УРАЛЬСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ ЛЕСОТЕХНИЧЕСКИЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ Кафедра социально — культурных технологий

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ПРОБЛЕМЫ ЭКОЛОГИИ

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Text 1

WORKING ON THE TEXT

Progress and Problems

A

This is an era which can accurately be labeled as one of technological revolutions with vital changes in all spheres of life of humanity. Great progress is being made in such essential fields as science, engineering, space and economy. Civilization has rapidly **advanced** and will continue to develop.

Some of man's dreams and science fiction have come true. Just think of laser in medicine, genetic engineering and Internet development providing telemedicine and educational multimedia that could reach far-away and **remote** areas. The life of humanity has changed **beyond** recognition.

It cannot be **denied**, however, that this rapid industrial development is made at vast expense: **deposits** of natural resources are **exhausted**, the **ecological** balance of the planet is **disturbed**, and some species of flora and fauna **disappear**. Progress can be **blamed** for all these **environmental** problems.

To **preserve** Nature and keep the air and water clean, strict control is necessary. Numerous **purifying** systems for treatment of industrial **wastes** have been installed; **measures** have been taken to protect rivers and seas from oil wastes. **Wildlife reservations**, models of undisturbed nature, have developed all over the country.

R

Pollution

The following discussion was held at Battersea County College in Great Britain.

Interviewer: —What do you think are the worst kinds of pollution?

Steve: —What do you think are the worst kinds of pollution?

The noise and **the exhaust** of cars. It should be compul-

sory to have filters on exhausts.

Julie: I think the noise of airports is much worse. I live on Bat-

ters Bridge Road which is one of the noisiest roads and it

doesn't bother me. I don't really notice it.

Carrol: We've got planes coming over our house every minute

and I don't notice it any more. You get used to it.

Interviewer: What do you think of clearing city centres of traffic and

cleaning the air of big cities? How could that be accom-

plished?

Martin: City centres should be left only for pedestrians and all

traffic should be banned. As to the **enterprises** which pour smoke out of their chimneys, they should be **moved**

out. They endanger the health of people.

Interviewer: Judging by the statistics many industrial areas still have a

lot of chemicals in the air. Does that worry you?

Martin: I've never really thought about it. Over the years you

grow accustomed to the smell and dirty air. The only time you notice how bad the air is, is after you've been away

for a while. You start coughing like anything.

Carol: Clean air in big cities is a **vital** problem. People probably

die younger in the cities as they can get all sorts of lung

cancer and things.

Steve: There is one more factor in connection with air pollution

that many people overlook. If you move out enterprises into remote areas you can **spoil** the countryside. There won't be any countryside left if all the factories are moved

out to those areas.

Interviewer: What's your attitude to wastes and recycling things?

Julie: I'm in favour of recycling. Bottles, cans, industrial wastes

can be recycled.

Steve: Nature always recycles everything. Nothing goes to waste.

Interviewer: With human beings the main idea is to get as much as

you can out of something and then **dump** the rest.

Interviewer: Are you concerned about pollution happening in other

countries?

Carrol: I feel I don't know enough about it. Sometimes you come

across such information in the newspapers, but it's not

enough.

Steve: Yeah. They say aerosols are affecting the ozone layer

which protects us from the sun and create the so called «green house effect». We should be aware of this problem

Martin: I've read that recently in Geneva there was a conference

attended by environment ministers from more than 100 countries with the aim of fighting against global warming.

Interviewer: Yes, you are right. We should think about future genera-

tions. Without co-operation at the international level, no

doubt, deterioration of the environment will go on.

Notes:

species ['spi: ∫i:z] – род, порода, вид, разновидность

treatment -3∂ . обработка

compulsory[kəm'p^lsəri] – принудительный, обязательный

pedestrian – пешеход

lung cancer ['kænsə] – рак легких

SECTION A

Exercise 1. Read the text

Exercise 2. Say what information the text gives about:

- 1) the result of the scientific and technological revolution;
- 2) the price for rapid industrial progress;
- 3) the way environmental problems should be solved.

Exercise 3. Think and answer

- 1. What are the advantages and disadvantages of industrial development?
- 2. Can wildlife reservations save Nature?

SECTION B

Exercise 4. Read the dialogue

Exercise 5. Say what you have learned from the interview about:

- 1) the problem of air pollution in big cities;
- 2) pollution caused by enterprises;
- 3) recycling of wastes;
- 4) the importance of solving the problem of pollution on an international level.

Exercise 6. Act out the interview in parts

Exercise 7. Think and answer:

- 1. Will moving enterprises out of big cities solve environmental problems?
- 2. Can environmental problems be solved within the boundaries of one country?

WORKING ON WORDS AND GRAMMAR

Exercise 8. Translate into English

1. Я сомневаюсь в необходимости принятия этих мер. 2. Никто не сомневается в правильности прогноза. 3. Мы сомневаемся в важности этой проблемы. 4. Никто не сомневался в необходимости постройки этих очистных сооружений. 5. Мы не сомневаемся, что эта обширная территория будет освоена в ближайшем будущем. 6. Я сомневаюсь, что этот заповедник будет открыт в этом году. 7. Специалисты сомневаются в том, что эти промышленные отходы могут быть использованы в производстве. 8. Почему вы сомневаетесь, что он придет вовремя? 9. Кто сомневается в том, что эти меры необходимы?

Exercise 9. Translate into English.

1. В отдаленных районах Севера нашей страны строятся дороги, новые города, промышленные предприятия. 2. В Западной Сибири находятся богатые месторождения газа и нефти. 3. Никто не сомневается в том, что реки, моря и океаны необходимо защищать от промышленных отходов. 4. Вы должны принять меры по установке очистных сооружений. 5. Какие научные проблемы были рассмотрены на встрече в Женеве? 6. Мы должны охранять природу ради будущих поколений. 7. Химический завод был выведен за пределы города. 8. Судя по сообщениям прессы, строительство этого комплекса будет завершено в конце второго квартала. 9. Кто виноват в задержке поставки оборудования? 10. Сенатор отрицал свою причастность к скандалу.

Exercise 10. a) Supply the articles where necessary

- 1. To keep ... air and ... water clean in big cities, strict pollution control is necessary.
 - 2. ... clean air and ... water are necessary for life.
 - 3. Siberia provides us with ... coal, ... oil and ... gas.
 - 4. ... coal in these deposits is very rich.
 - 5. ... sunshine turns ... snow into ... water.
 - 6. ... snow in the park is dazzling white.
 - 7. In CIS ... cotton is mostly produced in Central Asia.

Men in Venus

If ... population of ... Earth goes on increasing at its present rate, natural resources such as ... coal, ... gas and ... oil will soon be used up. Even if ... scientists develop new artificial materials, the crowded conditions on ... Earth will make it necessary for us to look for ... open space somewhere else. But none of ... other planets in our solar system can support life at present. One possible solution to ... problem, has recently been suggested by ... American scientist, ... professor Carl Slogan, who believes that before ... Earth's resources are completely exhausted it will be possible to change ... atmosphere of Venus and ... so create ... new world almost as large as ... Earth itself.

b) Say what information the text gives about:

- 1) the problem of natural resources;
- 2) crowded conditions on the Earth;
- 3) professor Carl Slogan's proposal to solve the problem.

Exercise 11. Supply the correct forms of the verbs

- 1) Natural resources often (to use) irrationally before people (to understand) the importance of saving wildlife.
- 2) By the time people (to realize) that environmental problems were serious, some species of flora and fauna (to disappear) completely.
- 3) The children (to look forward) to their holidays long before the school term ended.
- 4) Before the joint Soyuz- Apollo flight (to take place), a lot of preparatory work (to carry out).
 - 5) The construction of this purifying system (to accomplish) by now.
- 6) The ecological balance of the planet never (to disturb) to such an extent as in our times.

Exercise 12. Supply the prepositions where necessary.

- 1) Nobody can doubt ... the importance ... cultural Exchange ... promoting trust and understanding ... countries.
 - 2) Russian people have great trust ... the future.
 - 3) What is the price ... rapid industrial development?
 - 4) Progress can be blamed ... many environmental problems.
- 5) Few people doubt ... the necessity of developing remote areas in the North ... the Polar Circle.
- 6) The crystal clear water ... the lake Baikal would have been endangered ... a chemical plant if measures had not been taken to protect it ... pollution.
- 7) A great number of long term contracts ... Russia and the European countries were signed during the last year.
 - 8) My parents moved ... a new flat. They moved ... last week.

Text 2

a) Read the interview

Godfrey:

Plant a Tree

Interviewer: We have all seen posters issued by the Government urging us to plant trees. Aren't there enough of them? How many trees do we need and does it matter which kinds we plant? These are some of the questions I am going to ask Mr Harold Godfrey, who is an adviser on trees to the Greater

London Council.

If I can answer your first question first, the Government's plans are not concerned with planting trees to provide wood for industry. Trees like that are taken care of by the Forestry Commission. The trees we're talking about are trees for towns with no industrial purpose.

7

Interviewer: All of us agree, I'm sure, that trees are beautiful and

make our towns more attractive. Do they help any other

ways?

Godfrey: Of course they do. One tree provides enough oxygen

for one person. They reduce pollution and they even make towns less noisy. But you're wrong in thinking that everyone likes them. Really? You surprise me.

What sort of people don't like them?

Interviewer: Car drivers, for example. They make cars dirty if you

park underneath them and of course branches that hang

over the road can damage cars and buses.

Godfrey: There's also the problem that trees near main roads are

dangerous if cars crash into them. Then there are some people in cities who don't like them because they shut the light out and perhaps we don't get enough sunny days i

this country to enjoy sitting in the shade.

Note:

to plant – сажать

b) Say what you have learned about:

- 1) the trees the Government is concerned about;
- 2) the way trees help to reduce pollution;
- 3) the people who do not like trees.

c) Act out the interview

SPEECH EXERCISES

Exercise 13. Read the Text and answer the questions

ARE YOU IN FAVOUR OF ECOLOGY?

Do you know how to be more environmentally conscious? Is all rubbish the same to you? Do you believe that the responsibility for saving planet Earth also lies in your hands? What can YOU do? Here's a list of 24 practical ideas. All of them can help you to help the environment. Try to explain how.

- 1) Buy fresh food that doesn't need a lot of packaging.
- 2) Try to buy 'organic' fruit and vegetables from farmers who don't use chemicals.
- 3) Look for food and other products which come from Third World countries.

- 4) Save as much water as possible.
- 5) Find out more about Green organizations in your area.
- 6) Write letters to the government in your country about Green problems which worry you.
- 7) Use products that won't stay for ever in the earth or sea when you throw them away.
 - 8) Use bottles more than once (or take them to a bottle bank).
 - 9) Try to save paper. Also, buy and use recycled paper as often as possible.
 - 10) Avoid «throw-away» products.
 - 11) Make sure that your family and friends use unleaded petrol in their cars.
- 12) Don't buy products (fur or ivory, for example) made from rare or protected species.
 - 13) Use public transport as often as possible.
- 14) If you're buying wood, don't choose hardwood from tropical rainforests.
 - 15) Look for aerosols which haven't got any CFC in them.
 - 16) Try to eat a healthier diet. Avoid too much fat or sugar.
 - 17) Don't buy hamburgers or pizzas in plastic boxes which contain CFCs.
- 18) Use batteries as little as possible. It takes 50 times more energy to make them than they produce.
 - 19) Don't leave on electric lights, TV, hi-fi, etc. if you're not using them.
 - 20) Take aerobic exercise at least three times per week.
- 21) Find out more about conservation issues in your area. Are there any woods, fields, etc. in danger, for example?
 - 22) Try to throw away at least 25% less rubbish.
- 23) Help old people in your area to insulate their homes. This saves energy and helps to keep them warm in winter.
- 24) Visit any local nature reserves or zoos and talk to the people who run them.

Exercise 14. Give extensive answers

- 1) What have you heard about the latest scientific achievements in medicine, or any other field that you are interested in?
 - 2) What has recently been accomplished in space exploration?
 - 3) Why have men always been interested in stars and space?
- 4) In what fields do our scientists co-operate with scientists from other countries?
 - 5) What are the undesirable consequences of progress?
 - 6) What measures should be taken to protect the environment?

Exercise 15. Give your viewpoints

- 1) Science can be developed only through the co-operation of all nations.
- 2) Progress has made modern life comfortable.

VOCABULARY

1) to advance v- развивать e. g. The scientist hoped that his - развиваться experiments would advance man's knowledge of the sea. 2) **remote** *adj* - отдаленный region territory remote district remote control - дистанционное управление 3) beyond prep. - за/указывает на нахождение за пределами чего - либо, выход за пределы чего - либо the river the sea beyond the country smb.'s understanding smb.'control e.g. The house stood beyond the river. They wrote that the labour situation was beyond their control. 4) vast adj - обширный, громадный territory vast area country 5) **deposit** *n* - залежи, месторождение(я) oil deposits iron coal 6) to deny v- отрицать a fact

the importance of

to deny

7) **rapid** ['ræpid] *adj* - быстрый development progress - истошать 8) to exhaust [ig'z \rightarrow : st] ve.g. Natural resources will soon be exhausted if they are not used rationally. - выхлоп 9) **exhaust** n - выхлопная труба - экологический 10) **ecological** *adj* ecological balance - нарушать ход, движение, 11) **to disturb** [dis'tə: b] v равновесие - беспокоить e.g. Sorry to disturb you. - исчезать 12) to disappear v - обвинять, винить 13) to blame to blame smb. for smth. to blame smb. for doing smth e.g. The Buyers blamed the Sellers for shortshipment. The Sellers blamed the Buyers for breaking the delivery schedule. -относящийся к окружающей 14) environmental среде [in,vaiər(ə)n'ment (ə)l] adj environmental problem pollution - окружающая среда 15) **environment** [in' vaiər(ə)nment]n 16) to preserve [pri'zə:v]v - сохранять, оберегать, охранять 17) **to purify** ['pjuərifai] *n* - очищать purifying system

18) wastes n pl. - отходы industrial wastes - мера 19) **measure** ['meʒə] n to take measures syn.: **step** 20) wildlife n - живая природа 21) **reservation** [,rezə'vei∫n] n - заповедник wildlife reservation 22) **used to** (*adj*) предикативная функция - привыкший to be used to (doing) smth. to get used to (doing) smth. - привыкать e.g. 1. He was not used to life on the farm. 2. He is not used to being talked to in this rude way. syn.: accustomed to 23) **to accomplish** [ə' kɔmpli∫] *v* - выполнять e.g. How did you accomplish this? - Как вам удалось этого добиться? Syn.: to achieve 24) **enterprise** ['entəpraiz] n - предприятие - переезжать 25) **to move** *v* to a city
into a new flat
in
out of a city (flat) e.g. We moved out of our old flat on Sunday They moved into a new house.

26) to endanger v

to endanger peace

- угрожать

- судить, делать вывод, исходить 27) **to judge** [d**ʒ**∧d**ʒ**] v из чего- либо to judge smb. by (from) appearance to judge by smb.'s words e.g. Judging from what you say, he must succeed. - жизненно-важный 28) **vital** *adj* problem organ vital - портить 29) to spoil (spoilt, spoilt) v - человеческий 30) **human** *adj* race human mind being e.g. Men, women and children are human beings. - сваливать, выбрасывать 31) **to dump** *v* to dump wastes - демпинговые цены dumping prices - свалка 32) **dump** *n* - встретить случайно, натолкнуться 33) to come across v e.g. I came across an interesting article in the newspaper. - поколение 34) **generation** [,d**z**enə'rei $\int n$] nyounger generation older - сомневаться 35) to doubt vto doubt smth.

e.g. Don't doubt his judgement.

Сравните:

- 1. I don't doubt **that** he will come.
- 2. Do you doubt **that** he will come?
- 3. I doubt **if** he comes.
- 36) **deterioration** [di, tiərio'rei∫n] *n* ухудшение
- 37) **significant** [sig'nifikənt] *adj* значительный
- 38) **refinement** [ri'fainmənt] *n* очистка
- 39) **fuel** ['fjuəl] n топливо