

Unit 08 – Saving the world: Saying if actions are justified

Review

1 Replace the underlined parts of the sentences with these adjectives.

part product defines identity influence myself reflected centred

a crucial^{B2} b pointless^{C1} c inevitable^{C1} d worthwhile^{B2} e justified^{C1} f feasible^{C1}

- 1 If we continue to burn fossil fuels, further melting of the polar ice caps is certain to happen.
- 2 It's quite possible to make improvements to the way we use energy.
- 3 Reducing household energy costs by insulating walls and attics is essential.
- 4 The continued use of incandescent light bulbs isn't really excusable.
- 5 Importing food by plane is useless, even harmful, due to the high cost and CO2 emissions.
- 6 However, growing our own vegetables in gardens or allotments is valuable.

2 Read the web postings. Then complete them with the correct expressions.

no sense no difference no point no real justification nothing we can do achieve worth

Energy Forum: Action, Not Inaction

Basically, if the industrialised nations cooperate, they can ¹ _____ **a lot**^{B1}. Otherwise, we're in trouble. ² **There's** _____ **for**^{C2} avoiding the issue or blaming another nation's practices. Time-wasting and playing the blame-game ³ **makes** _____ at all in these 'perilous' times. *Fatima*

⁴ **There's** _____ **in**^{B2} just saying global warming is inevitable. I refuse to believe ⁵ **there's** _____ **to** reverse the current trend. We have lots of options. Although critics might say that what we do at home ⁶ **makes** _____^{B2}, I think every bit helps. For one thing, ⁷ **it's certainly** _____ considering alternative sources of energy, like solar panels on your roof, a biomass boiler or even a small wind turbine. *Serge*

Extension

3 Complete the paragraphs with the correct words.

question came imperative option win-win unforgivable matter of arose

I'd retired early from my teaching career and was enjoying a quiet life, but when our local secondary school desperately appealed for teachers, I immediately applied for a position. The school was in such trouble that it would have been ¹ _____ not to help out. For me, it ² **was a** _____^{C1} duty, as I've always believed it's ³ _____^{C2} for young people to receive a good, stable education. But my decision also partly ⁴ _____ **from**^{C2} necessity. I'd just found out that my house required some expensive repairs.

After my daughter was born, I thought about the issue of childcare. I wasn't keen on day-care centres. A private nanny would have been nice but due to the expense, it ⁵ **was out of the** _____^{C2}. Thinking things over, I realised I ⁶ **had no** _____ **but to**^{C1} leave work and raise her myself. And in fact, a lot of good ⁷ _____ **out of**^{C2} this because I could watch her grow and develop as a person, and she had full-time parental care and involvement. It ⁸ **was a** _____ **situation**.

4 Put the words of the sentences in the correct order.

- 1 It/reorganise/the/to/entire/need/from/school/arose/the/.
- 2 We/position/ask/choice/his/from/no/but/him/resign/to/to/had/.
- 3 Refusing/been/them/unforgivable/would/to/help/have/.
- 4 It/worse/before/was/situation/imperative/got/to/act/the/.
- 5 It/both/situation/management/a/and/was/employees/win-win/for/.
- 6 Cutting/was/matter/a/education/of/budget/the/necessity/.
- 7 I'm/good/this/out/some/discussion/come/positive/of/will/.
- 8 Agreeing/question/was/of/the/ridiculous/out/their/to/demands/.

Answer key

- 1** 1 c 2 f 3 a 4 e 5 b 6 d
- 2** 1 achieve 2 no real justification 3 no sense
4 no point 5 nothing we can do 6 no difference
7 worth
- 3** 1 unforgivable 2 matter of 3 imperative
4 arose 5 question 6 option 7 came
8 win-win
- 4** 1 It arose from the need to reorganise the entire school.
2 We had no choice but to ask him to resign from his position.
3 Refusing to help them would have been unforgivable.
4 It was imperative to act before the situation got worse.
5 It was a win-win situation for both management and employees.
6 Cutting the education budget was a matter of necessity.
7 I'm positive some good will come out of this discussion.
8 Agreeing to their ridiculous demands was out of the question.