

The Blue Planet: Action needed

1 Speaking: Water, desertification and deforestation

a) Visit one of the sites below and collect information about the initiatives and the problems presented. Take notes of the developments and possible solutions.



[Save our water](#)



[The United Nations convention to combat desertification](#)



[Deforestation in South Africa](#)

b) Work in pairs. First summarise your findings, then present them to each other. In your summary, you should:

- describe the problem in detail
- explain the development over the last few years
- summarise the suggestions that have been made to tackle the problem

2 Writing: Sustainable tourism

a) Visit the site below and collect information about sustainable tourism.



[Sustainable tourism](#)

b) Collect words and phrases that are used on this page and make a glossary of common words that are used to discuss these issues. Use the glossary for the following task.

c) Write an **article** about sustainable tourism for a magazine for young people promoting an environmentally friendly lifestyle. In your article, you should:

- define what sustainable tourism is
- explain the reasons why it is so important
- make suggestions what people could do to support this initiative.

Write an **article** of about **200 words**. Give your article a **title**.



3 Creating a poster: Protecting marine wildlife

a) Study the sources below and make notes about the issues described.



[National oceanic and atmospheric administration](#)



[Marine wildlife](#)

b) Design a poster to promote the protection of marine wildlife. Use at least three pictures, one diagram or graph and cover a minimum of three aspects. Make sure that your poster conveys one consistent message. Create a title for your poster.

4 Listening/Speaking: Podcasts on maritime wildlife

- a) Work in pairs. Each of you chooses different podcasts from the website below and listens to it. While listening, make notes of the most important aspects.



[National oceanic and atmospheric administration: Podcasts](#)

- b) Open the transcript and check if you have really picked out the most important issues. In addition, check if your spelling is correct.
 c) Interview each other on the podcasts you have chosen.
 d) Finally, listen to your partner's podcast.

5 Video/Reading: The great garbage patch

One of the most striking aspects of maritime wildlife is the so-called great garbage patch, a large area of plastic debris in the Pacific Ocean.



- a) Watch three videos about the great garbage patch and find out more about the following aspects:
- What are the reasons for this area of plastic debris in the Pacific Ocean?
 - What are the dimensions of the great garbage patch?
 - What are its consequences for maritime wildlife?
 - Which measures can be taken to deal with the problem?



[YouTube videos: The great garbage patch](#)

- b) Go to the website of the British paper The Guardian and search for texts about the great garbage patch. Read at least one article about this issue.



[The Guardian: The great garbage patch](#)

6 Creative writing: A day in the life of a sea turtle in the Pacific

- a) Do some research on the internet on the ideal habitat and living conditions for a sea turtle. Take notes and collect useful words and phrases.



[Living conditions of a sea turtle](#)

- b) Write a fictitious story of a day in the life of a sea turtle in the Pacific Ocean whose habitat is endangered by waste. Tell the story in the first person and include the following aspects:



- describe where you and your ancestors have lived
- analyse what has changed over the last few decades
- explain how your own life has been affected by the great garbage patch
- discuss your expectations for the future
- when you have finished your story, find a suitable headline