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Concern For Environment

Environment refers to all that surrounds us. In our surroundings, we have both living beings and non-living things. Air, water, soil, animals, plants, micro-organism and various elements constitute the environment.

Every species of plants and animals influences its environment and in turn gets influenced. Plants and animals in general are not able to influence their environment in any major way because their population is kept within limits due to natural checks and balances. They are not able to alter their mode of life or the environment to a large extent. Man is the only creature who influences the environment most. China, India, Vietnam, Indonesia and Philippines are the most polluted countries in the world.

On the basis of the type of environment being polluted, we may recognise air pollution, water pollution, land (soil) pollution, marine pollution, etc. Man, today, is



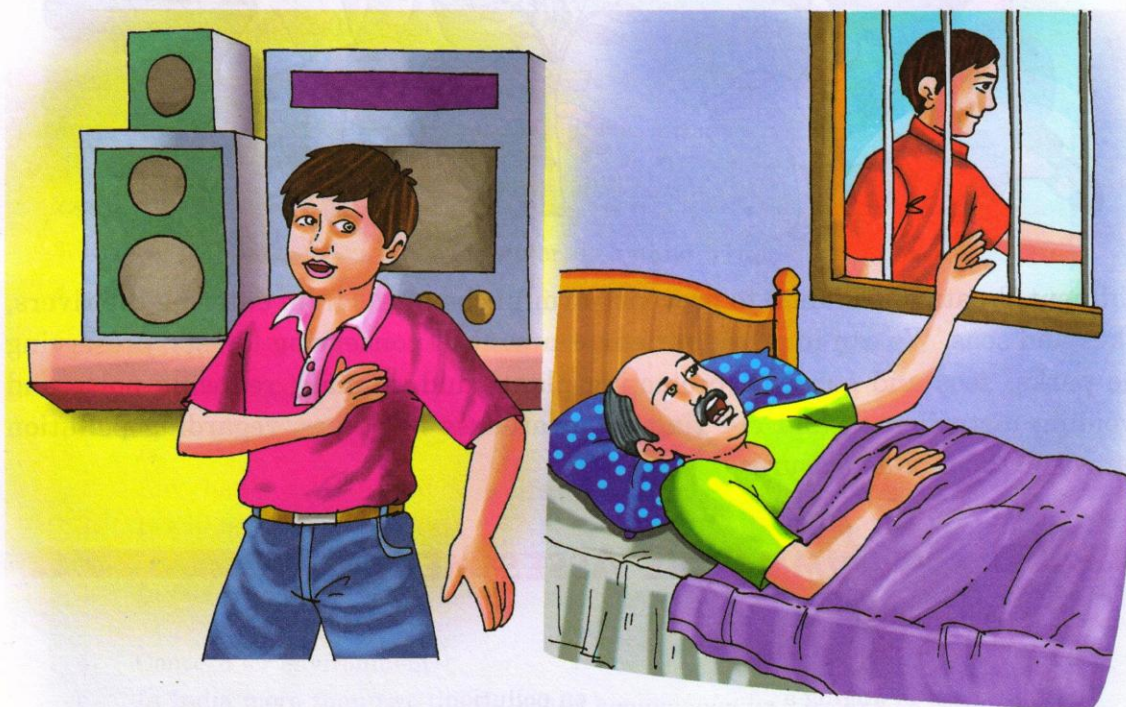
waging a war on pollution. First, let us talk about air pollution. Each of the atmospheric gases plays an important role in maintaining the environmental balance of the Earth. Any change in the equilibrium affects life on the planet. Each of them helps to protect our life. For example, we would find it difficult to breathe if the level of oxygen in the air dropped suddenly.

Air pollution results from gaseous emissions mainly from industry, thermal power stations, automobiles, domestic combustion, etc. The polluting exhausts from these vehicles pose a serious threat to our environment and the air we breathe. Air pollution makes the eyes water, itchy and irritated.

Man has polluted the water too. We use water for drinking, cleaning, cooking, bathing, washing clothes and dishes, generating power, running industries and fighting fire. The chief sources of water pollution are sewage and other waste, industrial effluents, agricultural discharges and industrial wastes from chemical industries. Each of these sources of pollution carries a variety of pollutants that enter our water bodies. We cause water pollution when we dump plastics, polythene bags, used metals and oil into oceans, lakes or rivers.



Noise pollution is the unwanted or unpleasant sound that causes discomfort. The human ear is constantly assailed by man-made sounds from all sides. The chief man-made sources in the urban areas are automobiles, factories, industries, trains and aeroplanes. Noise makers are horns, sirens, musical instruments, TV, radio, transistors, telephones, dogs, loudspeakers, washing machines, vacuum cleaners, food mixers, pressure cookers, fans, air-conditioners, coolers, etc. Noise harms both the body and the mind. It leads to high blood pressure, irritation and deafness.



In India, more than two thirds people are engaged in agriculture. Lack of management, urbanisation and industrialisation are the causes of environmental imbalances.

Concern for environment makes us conscious of the gifts of nature. It forbids us to abuse natural resources. Concern for environment makes us respect, appreciate, protect and regenerate environment and helps us to create an environment awareness in the minds of all people. It compels us to prevent pollution, deforestation and depletion of natural resources. It motivates us to work for a clean and healthy environment.

In order to control these kinds of pollution we must keep our environment clean and plant more trees. We should never use polybags. Factories must use ETP's



(Effluent Treatment Plants) to prevent harmful chemicals from entering the rivers, lakes and seas. We can improve our environment by conserving forests, preserving the parks, zoos and gardens, protecting plants and animals, reducing noise and avoiding disturbances and creating an awareness in others, regarding pollution control methods and measures.



SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT

A. Tick (✓) the correct option:

1. Man today is waging a on pollution.
 (a) war (b) play (c) study (d) support
2. Any change in the equilibrium affects life on the
 (a) tree (b) planet (c) paper (d) forest
3. Noise harms both the and the mind.
 (a) heart (b) eyes (c) nose (d) body
4. has polluted the water too.
 (a) Child (b) Animal (c) Man (d) Plant
5. We cause pollution when we dump plastics, polythene bags, used metals and oil into oceans, lakes or rivers.
 (a) water (b) air (c) sound (d) noise

B. Complete the following sentences:

1. Environment refers to all that us.
2. Every species of plants and animals its environment and in turn gets influenced.
3. Each of the atmospheric gases plays an important role in the environmental balance of the Earth.
4. Any change in the affects life on the planet.
5. Air pollution makes the eyes, itchy and irritated.

C. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false statements:

1. Every species of plants and animals influences its environment and in turn gets influenced.
2. We should use polybags.
3. Noise pollution makes the eyes water, itchy and irritated.
4. Man has polluted the water.
5. Concern for environment makes us conscious of the gifts of nature.

D. Match the following :

A	B
1. Any change in the equilibrium affects	(a) life on the planet.
2. It will be difficult to breath	(b) both living beings and non-living things.
3. In our surroundings, we have	(c) if the level of oxygen in the air dropped suddenly.
4. Concern for environment	(d) engaged in agriculture.
5. In India more than two-thirds people are	(e) makes us conscious of the gifts of nature.

E. Answer the following questions:

1. What is environment?
2. What are the causes of air pollution?
3. How does the water of rivers get polluted?
4. What are the different methods of expressing concern for the environment?
5. How is the environment getting destroyed?



FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

- Stop the use of polybags in your house and persuade others in your neighbourhood to do the same.