

Climate change

Level

Intermediate and above

Tasks

Matching words to create collocations

Scanning an article to look for collocations

Reading an article about climate change

Deciding the frequency of words and phrases taken or adapted from the article

Discussing points arising from the article

How to use the lesson

- 1 Tell students that the lesson on 'climate change'. Hand out the worksheet and ask students to match words from the first box with those in the second to create some collocations. Elicit feedback. Ask students to create sentences with some of these phrases, e.g. 'The US didn't sign the Kyoto protocol'.

Answers

carbon + emissions / + footprint

Kyoto + protocol

greenhouse + gas(es)

global + warming

renewable + energies

- 2 Ask students to read the article extract and underline the collocations from exercise one.

Answers

Paragraph 1: climate change (also, the title)

Paragraph 2: carbon emissions (x2) / carbon footprint

Paragraph 3: climate change (x2) / greenhouse gases / Kyoto protocol / renewable energies / global warming

- 3 Students read the whole article. Ask them to summarise it. You may wish to look at any useful vocabulary, such as: *disclosure / combat / fleet / convention*.

- 4 Remind students of the star system used in the Macmillan English Dictionary. Ask students to decide the frequency of the words and phrases.

Answers

Red (three star): energy / software / scientist

Red (two star): carbon / emission / recession

Red (one star): innovative / greenhouse gas / global warming

Black: carbon emission / climate change / industrialised

- 5 Ask students to discuss the questions in small groups. Then, ask each group to report their ideas back to the class. Encourage students to explain their ideas. Finish the lesson by giving language feedback.

Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climate_change

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kyoto_protocol

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/news/datablog/2009/mar/10/carbon-emissions>

<http://unfccc.int/2860.php>

<http://en.cop15.dk/>