

Oil prices

Level

Intermediate and above

Tasks

Completing a chart which shows worldwide oil production

Scanning an article to check the answers

Reading the article and summarising the two points of view

Identifying words and expressions in the article from the definitions given

Discussing issues arising from the article

How to use the lesson

- 1 Ask students to name some countries which provide oil, such as Saudi Arabia, Russia etc. Hand out the worksheet and ask students to look at the chart which shows how much oil is produced and consumed in different continents/areas worldwide. The figures are for 2002. Ask Students to guess the position of the four areas in column one.
- 2 Ask students to scan the first paragraph in order to check their answers to exercise 1.

Answers

- (1) *Middle East*
- (2) *Europe and Eurasia*
- (3) *North America*
- (4) *Asia Pacific*

- 3 Ask students to read the whole article and then summarise the two points of view. Ask general comprehension questions such as 'Why is oil important?' and 'List alternative energy sources'.
- 4 Ask students to find words or expressions in the article from the definitions given.

Answers

(a) *outstrip* (b) *running out of* (c) *tapped* (d) *dwindling* (e) *overestimated* (f) *recession*

- 5 Ask students to work in groups to discuss their answers to the questions. Monitor the discussion. Ask some students to report their ideas to the class, then hold a class feedback session.

Related websites

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

<http://www.oilnews.com/>

<http://www.bp.com/subsection.do?categoryId=111&contentId=2002152>

<http://www.iea.org/>