

PRACTICE II

Exercise 1. *Put the following sentences in the right order (1-11). The words in bold will help you.*

1. **First**, there is a danger of nuclear war since the pressurized water reactor works on the same principle as the atomic bomb.
2. **On the contrary**, nuclear power does not add to the greenhouse effect.
3. **What is more**, nuclear power comes to the consumer as electricity, which is clean and convenient form of energy.
4. There are several arguments for using nuclear power as a source of energy.
5. **Besides**, the earth contains a large supply of natural uranium.
6. **However**, there are reasons why nuclear power is not the best source of energy.
7. **Lastly**, although the capital investment is high, the cost of generating electricity from an established nuclear power station is relatively low.
8. **Next**, fossil fuels are very harmful to the environment. They contribute to the greenhouse effect.
9. **Second**, even 'peaceful' nuclear power is a danger to health. The radiation released when atoms split causes cancer and birth defects.
10. **To start with**, the earth contains a limited supply of fossil fuels.
11. **Finally**, there are the problems of nuclear reprocessing and nuclear waste.

Exercise 2. *Read the text below and decide which of the words a, b, or c, does not fit each space.*

Why do we need to conserve the rainforests? **(1)**, the rainforests are the lungs of the world. They take in carbon dioxide and give out oxygen by photosynthesis. **(2)**....., the rainforests are the world's most important means of storing water. The trees soak up water in the rainy season and slowly release it into the ground and rivers. **(3)**....., the fragile soils are protected from the potentially devastating effects of tropical storms. **(4)**....., the rainforests control the climate. If the rainforests disappear, so will the rain. Without the rain, the temperature difference between the tropics and the temperate zones would be far greater. **(5)**....., the rainforests are a reservoir of micronutrients. When the trees are cut down, vital nutrients are washed away with the run-off and a whole ecosystem quickly dies. **(6)**....., the rainforests and the ecosystems that they support, are an important source of raw materials for many different industries. **(7)**..... hundreds of useful products-from rubber to peanuts-they also supply us with various medicinal plants. **(8)**....., the rainforests are the home of several million people, who still live in primitive tribal societies within the forests and have an intimate knowledge of many thousands of plants and animals that live there.

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|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1 a) to start with | b) at first | c) first |
| 2 a) second | b) therefore | c) next |
| 3 a) so | b) thus | c) in addition |
| 4 a) also | b) third | c) nevertheless |
| 5 a) however | b) in addition | c) besides |
| 6 a) what is more | b) moreover | c) therefore |
| 7 a) in addition to | b) besides | c) nevertheless |
| 8 a) lastly | b) at last | c) finally |

Exercise 3. Read the text below and decide which of the words a, b, or c, best fits each space.

Volcanoes are among the most destructive natural forces on the earth. Since the 1400's they have killed almost 200,000 people. There are fifteen capital cities in the world in a position to be wiped out or seriously damaged by volcanic eruptions. (1)....., volcanoes also produce benefits. (2)....., many volcanic materials have important industrial and chemical uses. (3)....., rock formed from lava is commonly used in building roads. Pumice, a natural glass that comes from lava, is widely used for grinding and polishing stones, metals and other materials. Sulphur deposits from volcanoes are used in making chemicals. (4)....., weathered volcanic ash greatly improves soil fertility. The soils from volcanic ashes are light, easily worked, drain well and are full of plant nutrients. A light fall of ash, (5)..... it may destroy one year's crop, often pays the farmer back in future years through the fertility it adds to the soil. (6)....., coffee in Columbia, vines in Italy and rice in Japan are just a few of the crops that flourish on volcanic soils. (7)..... people continue to live in these dangerous areas. (8)....., people in volcanic regions use underground stream as a source of energy. This geothermal energy is used to produce electric power in such countries as Italy, Mexico, New Zealand, and the United States. In Reykjavik, Iceland, for example, most people heat their homes with water piped from volcanic hot springs. (9)....., in many places, the way in which the flows of lava concentrate minerals makes them attractive to mining companies. There is growing evidence that gold is among the minerals collected by volcanic flows, and the diamond-mining industry in South Africa takes advantage of the huge pressures within past volcanoes which have produced diamonds. And (10)....., volcanoes serve as windows to the earth's interior. The materials they erupt help scientists learn about conditions within the earth.

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|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 a) so | b) however | c) in addition |
| 2 a) for example | b) to start with | c) at first |
| 3 a) for instance | b) nevertheless | c) however |
| 4 a) for example | b) besides | c) thus |
| 5 a) yet | b) however | c) although |
| 6 a) such as | b) for example | c) so |
| 7 a) also | b) moreover | c) therefore |
| 8 a) however | b) what is more | c) in addition to |
| 9 a) on the other hand | b) yet | c) furthermore |
| 10 a) finally | b) at last | c) nevertheless |

Exercise 4. Complete the texts choosing the appropriate conjunctions/linkers provided in the boxes below.

A

Thunderstorms are the most common types of storms. Thunder itself, (1)..... frightening, is not dangerous. It is the lightning that causes the problems. Lightning and thunder occur together. (2)....., we hear the thunder after we see the lightning. Sound waves travel about one mile in five seconds, (3) lightning travels at more (4) 186,000 miles per second. (5)....., lightning is seen immediately when it occurs, and thunder is heard a little later. The different sound of thunder (deep roar/loud crash) is caused by different types of lightning, (6)....., the thunder that has a sharp crackle is caused when a large trunk of lightning forks into many branches.

however, for example, although, than, therefore, while

B

(1)..... lightning can be very dangerous and it has killed and maimed many people, it is important to follow safety measures and protect ourselves and our property. During a storm stay indoors. (2)....., if you are caught outside in a severe storm, never stand under any tall objects such as trees. It is better to lay down in an open field away from any surrounding tall objects. Avoid large bodies of water (3)..... if you are swimming, leave the water immediately. Stay away from metal objects such as bicycles and tractors. Never play golf (4)..... go fishing during a storm. (5)..... you are driving a car during a thunderstorm stay in the car (6)..... this is thought to be a safe place. (7)....., avoid touching any metal in the car. Do not use the telephone (8)..... lightning might strike the tall telephone poles. Avoid using any electrical equipment (9)..... hair dryers, electric razors, microwave ovens (10)..... washers.

or, however, if, as, however, since, such as, or, since, and

C

There are many myths and misconceptions about lightning and some of them are very dangerous. The old expression (1)..... lightning never strikes twice in the same place is not true. (2)....., it has been shown that some very tall buildings have been struck several times in the same storm. (3)....., many people, especially children, think that during a thunderstorm it is better to seek shelter under tall trees. This (4)..... is very dangerous, (5)..... tall trees are more likely to get struck by lightning. (6)....., another erroneous belief is that a clap of thunder always occurs after a bolt of lightning. (7)....., many thunderclaps are never heard (8)..... their distance from the observer.

indeed, yet, in fact, also, that, in fact, due to, for

Exercise 5. Complete the essay filling in the missing linking words from the box.

Environmental Problems Caused by the Car.

which, however, what is more, since, which, to start with,

When Karl Benz produced the world's first car, he could not have predicted the environmental damage the car would cause.

Nowadays the car has become an important and irreplaceable means of communication. Cars comfortable and convenient way of travelling. They are symbols of freedom, wealth and independence, (1)..... are important values of our society. (2)....., they represent a

personal choice to travel when and where you want. (3)....., the car has caused serious environmental problems which can no longer be ignored.

(4)....., cars pollute the air. (5)..... cars burn gasoline they produce carbon dioxide, (6)..... is a greenhouse gas, and other toxic products.

but also, when, such as, for example, which, for example, besides, moreover, not only....

These poisonous gases are (7)..... bad for people's health, (8).....they contribute to the greenhouse effect. (9)....., they destroy our flora and fauna. (10)....., when you travel by car you can see a lot of dead trees on both sides of the motorway. (11)....., the growing numbers of cars in our cities lead to traffic jams, (12)..... contribute to air pollution and aggravate the problem. (13)....., the average of traffic in London in the rush hours is 11 miles per hour. (14)..... traffic moves that slowly air pollution increases dramatically. The photochemical smog, which is produced when car emitted gases, (15)..... nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbons react together, is worst in congested cities on hot, dry summer days.

consequently, thus, in addition, to sum it up, obviously, also, such as, furthermore, not only, as

(16)..... to the problems of air pollution, the car is to blame for the destruction of the countryside (17)..... more and more of the countryside is being destroyed to build new roads or to widen the existing ones. An extensive road network encourages people to build amenities, (18)..... shopping centres, movie theatres and sport facilities out of town. (19)....., instead of walking or cycling to the supermarket or sports ground, people drive their cars. (20)....., the increasing numbers of cars require new parking places. (21)....., instead of planting trees and creating parks huge territories of land are turned into parking lots. (22)....., the car (23)..... damages our countryside with new roads and car parks, it is (24)..... the biggest single cause of air pollution with all grave consequences. Winston Churchill described the car as the curse of the 20th century. This will (25)..... be true of the centuries to come.

Exercise 6. *Fill in the gaps with the appropriate linking words. Then compare your answers with the key.*

The Greenhouse Effect : Advantages and Disadvantages

The greenhouse effect is one of the urgent issues on the world's agenda today. (1)..... the greenhouse effect is said to be a natural phenomenon. (2)....., it is regarded as the result of man's activity, which, (3)....., has considerably altered and is still changing the Earth's climate pattern. The change seems to have both positive and negative consequences to people, the flora and the fauna of the Earth.

(4).....the greenhouse effect is that it raises the Earth's temperature making the planet a pleasant place to live. If it did not occur at all, the temperature of the planet would be 40 degrees lower and the oceans would freeze. Higher temperatures (5)..... would probably be regarded as an advantage by people living in the northern parts of the globe where the climate is usually cold and severe, (6).....the warming of the surface means more pleasant living and more favourable agricultural conditions. (7)....., people could enjoy longer, warmer summers and the farmers would be able to grow better crops, as the rainfall would also increase.

(8)....., the greenhouse phenomenon would inevitably have a lot of negative

and even disastrous effects. (9).....some scientists, the higher average temperatures produced by global warming could cause dramatic changes in the weather. Less rain might fall over large land masses. (10)....., the southern areas of the globe could expect hotter and drier summers leading to worse conditions for agriculture. (11)....., Central Africa, south Asia, parts of the USA, the Mediterranean region may become drier and hotter than now. (12)..... many arable lands would turn into deserts; lots of people would get deprived of their homes.

(13)....., more rain might fall on coastal areas and over the oceans. (14)....., there might be more storms and hurricanes in the Pacific.

(15)..... that a rise in the Earth's average temperature of only one or two degrees would probably melt the polar ice caps and raise the sea levels.

(16)....., many low-lying areas, coastal zones, such as Bangladesh, the Netherlands, the Nile delta would be permanently flooded. Many of the world's major population centres could become uninhabitable. (17)....., millions of people would be driven from their native places. They would suffer from famine, various diseases and epidemics.

(18)....., the greenhouse phenomenon would undoubtedly affect the fragile fauna and flora of the Earth. (19)..... the global warming a lot of rare species of animals and plants would get extinct. (20)....., this could upset the balance of nature and lead to disastrous consequences.

(21)....., it is obvious that the greenhouse effect can cause global warming, which might make far northern areas more attractive to live in. (22)....., it will inevitably cause a lot of disasters, such as floods, droughts, extinction of plant and animal species and millions of ecological refugees.

Exercise 7. Complete the following sentences choosing possible words / phrases in brackets. Point out a word / phrase which, in your opinion, is most inappropriate.

1. Scientists, water professionals and environmentalists have been raising warning signals for decades that a water crisis is looming, but **(unfortunately, mainly, surprisingly)** their call fell on deaf ears.
2. **(Generally speaking, as a matter of fact, at most)**, Asia's rivers, which are among the most polluted in the world, contain ten times as many bacteria from human waste as waterways in rich countries.
3. **(Noticeably, unfortunately, indeed)**, there have been improvements in recent years but most of them in the developed countries.
4. **(Most encouragingly, interestingly, merely)** even the poorest people either in Bangladesh or any developing country appear to be willing to pay for clean, piped water.
5. The ominous warning that we're headed for a period of water wars would **(by no means, definitely, undoubtedly)** be a terrifying prospect.
6. All these plants will **(undoubtedly, of course, to be more exact)** take time to grow.
7. The time of high-water thus changes from day to day, and is **(likely, obviously, evidently)** related to the position of the moon.
8. The British Isles consist of England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland and many small islands **(mainly, particularly, chiefly)** to be found in the west.
9. Conflicts over cross-boundary water sources are raising a problem, **(at any rate, especially, particularly)** in the arid Middle East.
10. Extinct volcanoes have been inactive since the beginning of recorded history. They **(probably, as a rule, perhaps)** will not erupt again.
11. Rock formed from lava is **(commonly, typically, in particular)** used in building roads.
12. Equally dubious is the cooling role of anthropogenic aerosols – which **(are likely, largely, basically)** originate in the Northern Hemisphere.
13. This is **(clearly, apparently, doubtless)** an illegal tactic.
14. How did humans come to develop the ability to symbol? **(Oddly enough, surprisingly, that is to say)** it all began with posture.
15. **(Unbelievably, it is worth noting, shockingly)**, over 200 000 acres of rainforest are burned every day.

16. Supplies must have always been short and chancy, (**particularly, especially, needless to say**) in the winter.
17. Scientists (generally, **as a rule, merely**) agree on the likely rise in the average global temperature over the next century.
18. (**Unfortunately, to tell the truth, most likely**) projecting the change in particular regions is more difficult.
19. (**Surprisingly, especially, ironically**), the discovery was made after the bone was broken by scientists during the excavation.
20. "The problem is that a lot of volcanoes that could erupt are perhaps not monitored to the degree they should be, and (of **course, undoubtedly, likely**) we learnt that lesson from the Boxing Day tsunami disaster," he said.