

UNIT 9 Pick up your trash

A. LOGGING ON

1. GOALS

In this unit:

You will practice vocabulary related to air, water and noise pollution

You will practice if-clauses in the conditional perfect: (e.g. If they had built a landfill in my city, we wouldn't have had problems with the trash.)

You will practice reported speech: (e.g. The mayor of our city said that he would close air-polluting factories in our town)

2. VOCABULARY

INSTRUCTIONS: Click the phrase that best defines the underlined word in each of the following sentences.

1. Don't pollute the environment. Pick up the trash.
 - objects that are useful to us
 - things we don't need
 - waste found in rivers

2. The local government installed a garbage dump near my neighborhood.
 - where garbage is taken
 - deposit of toxic material
 - temporary store for trash

3. The garbage collector left one plastic bag full of trash on the sidewalk.
 - a vehicle for collecting garbage
 - a container used for putting garbage
 - a person who removes waste from outside the house

4. The sewer in my street needs cleaning.
 - the pipe along the street that carries waste substances
 - a deposit that treats waste water
 - waste substances produced by the human body

5. The clouds of toxic fumes intoxicated a lot of school children.

- waste gases that come out of cars
- smoke or gas that is dangerous to breathe
- smoke that comes out from cigarettes

3. WARM UP

INSTRUCTIONS: Drag the words to the corresponding blank spaces in the following passage.

fuel reservoir rainwater litters contamination
running cleaning potable plant oil

Fuel Spill Leaves Thousands Without Water

Thousands of residents of Cartago were left with only intermittent _____ (running) water for six day after a small boat spilled two liters of gasoline and _____ (oil) in the El Llano _____ (reservoir) in Orosi late last weekend. On Monday, nearly 600.000 residents in Cartago and San José went nearly 24 hours without _____ (potable) water because of the accident. Some residents had to collect _____ (rainwater) during the crisis, and some Cartago schools closed from Friday to Wednesday when the services were restored. According to officials from the Costa Rican Institute of Electricity Institute (ICE), the boat's _____ (fuel) tank cracked open and the gasoline spilled in the water. El Llano, which sends out some 21,000 _____ (litters) of water per second, supplies 90.000 homes in Cartago and 500.000 homes in San José. National Water and Sewer Service (A y A) executive president Everardo Rodríguez admitted that El Llano is "extremely vulnerable" to _____ (contamination), as are the other water sources in the country. The Cartago _____ (plant) was closed again on Monday and for about seven hours Wednesday, for additional _____ (cleaning), after residents informed that the water tasted strange. ICE officials stopped operations in El Llano because of the accident.

Adapted from *The Tico Times*, 3 September 2004, p. 9.

4. YOUR TURN

1. Where does the water in your house come from?
2. Is there a water reservoir in your area to supply water to the homes?
3. Who cleans the sewers in your neighborhood?
4. How many days a week does the garbage truck come to your neighborhood?
5. Where does the garbage truck take the garbage from your town?

B. TURN IT UP

1. Pre-listening

INSTRUCTIONS: Discuss the following questions with your classmates.

1. How would life be if there weren't cars in the streets?
2. How would you solve the problem of air pollution by cars in your city?
4. Do you agree with vehicle-inspecting agencies such as RITEVE in Costa Rica?

2. While listening

INSTRUCTIONS: Listen to the following passage on cars as pollutants and answer the questions that follow.

According to an expert in public health, cars, not factories, are responsible for two-thirds of the smog in our cities, and the smog presents the possibility of a whole new kind of epidemic, not caused by a germ, but caused by our polluted environment. The expert said that it is possible to have an epidemic of lung cancer in many countries where smog is a real problem. This is a new phenomenon in health concern. For this expert, the solution is not to find a less dangerous fuel than gasoline, but find a different system of transportation in cities. Because of the increased use of cars, the use of public transportation is declining; as a consequence, people need cars. This in turn causes many traffic jams. Finally, the expert called the car "Public Health Enemy No.1". Besides polluting the air and congesting the cities, cars cause accidents and contribute to heart disease.

Adapted from Hirasawa, L. & L. Markenstein. 1974. *Developing Reading Skills*. Rowley, Mass.: Newbury House.

1. What is the main idea of this listening passage?
Cars are dangerous to our health.
2. What is the best solution to the smog problem?
A different system of transportation.
3. Which body organs are affected by the smog?
The lungs and the heart.
4. Besides polluting the environment, what is the other problem caused by cars?
Congested cities.

3. Post listening

INSTRUCTIONS: Drag the following words to the corresponding blanks spaces.

accidents	expert	polluted	smog
cars	fuel	jams	system

INSTRUCTIONS: Drag the following words to the space where they correspond.

According to an expert in public health, _____, **CARS** not factories, are responsible for two-thirds of the smog in our cities, and the smog presents the possibility of a whole new kind of epidemic, not caused by one germ, but caused by our _____ **POLLUTED** environment. The experts said that it is possible to have an epidemic of lung cancer in many countries where _____ **SMOG** is a real problem. This a new phenomenon in health concern. For this expert, the solution is not to find a less dangerous _____ **FUEL** than gasoline, but find a different _____ **SYSTEM** of transportation in cities. Because of the increasing use of cars, the use of public transportation is declining; as consequence, people need cars. This is in turn causes many traffic _____ **JAMS**. Finally, the _____ **EXPERT** called the car “Public Health Enemy No.1”. Besides, polluting the air and congesting the cities, cars cause _____ **ACCIDENTS** and contribute to heart disease

4. Pronunciation

INSRUCTIONS: Pronounce the following noun + noun combinations after your teacher. Notice that the first noun is pronounced more loudly. The syllable that receives the heaviest stress has been underlined for you.

landfill
oil spill

air pollution
water sources

garbage truck
sewer service

trash collector
rainwater

C. System tools

1. Warm up

INSTRUCTIONS: Ask a classmate to answer the following questions.

1. What would you have done to if you had known that we had a pop quiz today?
2. What would you have done if you had seen me crying in the street this morning?
3. What would you have told your father had told that you had to quit school to work?

2. Charts

If Clauses in the Conditional Perfect

Last night Adolfo had a birthday party at his house. He didn't invite his friend Enrique because he thought Enrique was not in town. Adolfo told him Enrique: “If I had known that you were in town, I would have invited to my birthday party.”

Two things happened: (1) Adolfo didn't know that Enrique was in town.
(2) Adolfo didn't invite Enrique to his birthday party.

When you are referring to past actions in the conditional, use the past perfect: (I had known. Use **would + present perfect + past participle** in the main clause: “I would have invited you to my birthday party.”

Remember; past *participles* can belong to regular verbs: **talked, called, needed** or to irregular

verbs: *gone, seen, broken.*

NOTE:

(1) The past conditional refers to an action that didn't take place in the past because the right circumstances were not given: "If I had won the lottery this Sunday, I would have gone to Europe," but (1) I didn't win the lottery; consequently, (2) I didn't go to Europe.

(2) The if clause can go in initial or final position in the sentence.

(3) Both parts of the sentence the if clause and the main clause can take the negative form:

If the car hadn't been in such bad condition, Riteve would have approved it.

Bryan wouldn't have come to the party if he had been sick.

(4) Add a comma after the if clause if it is in initial position in the sentence:

If we had arrived to the concert on have gotten good seats.

But no comma is necessary when the if clause is in final position.

We would have to the movies if the weather hadn't been so bad.

2.1. Practice

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the situations and rewrite with if.

SITUATION: The garbage truck didn't collect our garbage this morning because my brother Ronny forgot to take it out on time.

1. If my brother Ronny _____ (take out) our garbage on time, the garbage truck _____ (collect) it.
HAD TAKEN OUT WOULD HAVE COLLECTED
2. If the garbage truck _____ (collect) our garbage, the dogs _____ (open) the plastic garbage bags.
HAD COLLECTED WOULDN'T HAVE OPENED
3. If the dogs _____ (open) the plastic garbage bags, the garbage _____ (be) spread all over the sidewalk.
HADN'T OPENED WOULD HAVE BEEN

3. Your turn

INSTRUCTIONS: Ask a friend what he/ she would have to stop pollution in cities if he/she had been elected President of Costa Rica.

REPORTED SPEECH

Use reported speech to report what another persons said but without using exactly the same words:

Direct Speech

“This is great weather.”

Reported Speech

My friend Xinia said this is great weather.

Use quotation marks “ ” to quote the speaker’s exact words, but don’t use in reported speech.

NOTE: If the reporting tense is in the present, then you report in the past. If it is in the past, you report in the past perfect. That is, shift back in time. Notice also how sentences with modal auxiliaries (can, must, may) are reported.

Direct Speech

Simple present

“The movie starts at 2 pm”

“It is a wonderful movie”

Present progressive

“It is showing at selected theaters

Simple past

“It won three Oscars”

Past progressive

“It was showing for two weeks.

Future

“I am going to rent this movie later”

Modal auxiliaries

“It will win other prizes”

“It can win a Golden Globe”

“It may be a box office hit.

“It has to cost millions of dollars”

“It must be very entertaining”

Reported Speech

Mayra said that the movie started at 2 pm

She said that it was a wonderful movie.

She said it was showing at selected theaters.

She said that it had won three Oscars.

She said that it had been showing for two weeks.

She said that she was going to rent the movie later.

She said that it would win other prizes

She said that it could win a Golden Globe.

She said that it might be a box office hit.

She said that it had to cost millions of dollars.

She said that it had to be very entertaining.

In all examples of reported speech, the relative pronoun *that* is optional.

2.2. Practice

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the paragraph in direct speech. Then change into reported speech in the second paragraph.

Today Bernardo Solano is starting as the mayor of Llano Lindo. His main concern is with the effective disposal of garbage. In his speech before the city council Mr. Solano is telling the town representatives about his plans for garbage:

“I am aware that garbage is a serious problem in our community. For that reason, the first thing I will do is to find the funds to buy two more garbage trucks. We will collect the garbage at your houses two days a week, not one. Also, I plan to hire new personnel so that they pick up the garbage in the streets, sidewalks and parks. I can assure that in the next two months this is going to be the cleanest town in San José. Actually, I may campaign for a second term in office in order to achieve all my goals.

Two months later the mayor had done none of the things that he had promised. Rocío Jiménez, who was present the day the mayor took office is telling her friend Teresita about what he said. Rocío is using reported speech.

When he first took office Bernardo Solano said that his main concern _____ WAS with the effective disposal of garbage here in Llano Lindo. In his speech he _____ WAS TELLING the town representatives about his plans for garbage. He said he _____ was aware that garbage _____ WAS a serious problem in our community. For that reason, he said that the first thing he _____ WOULD do _____ WAS to find the funds to buy two more garbage trucks. He also said that they _____ WOULD collect the garbage two days a week instead of one. He also mentioned that he _____ PLANNED to hire new personnel so that they _____ PICKED UP the garbage in the streets, sidewalk and parks. Ramírez said he _____ assure the people in that meeting that in two months this _____ going to be the cleanest town in San José. He said he _____ MIGHT campaign for another four years in order to achieve all his goals.

4. Your turn

INSTRUCTIONS: Ask a classmate for solutions to the problem of garbage and pollution in our neighborhoods. Then report his/her words to the class.

D. Scan it

1. Pre reading

INSTRUCTIONS: Discuss the following questions with a classmate.

1. What is the population of Costa Rica?
2. What are the major environmental problems?
3. Do teachers teach you about the importance of protecting the environment?
4. What would you do to protect rivers and other bodies of water?
5. Do you think that population growth causes damage to the environment? How?

2. While reading

The problem of population control has to be discussed in a world environmental context. In dealing with population pressure or anything else that affects the environment, the most important need is to protect human life on this planet. The situation today is that the world's

population is increasing faster than the supply of food and available resources. At the present rate of population expansion, land depletion, reduction of available water, and exhaustion of natural resources, by 2005 this planet will experience survival tensions of a type that never existed before. One figure alone is worth considering: the approximate annual rate of world population increase is 2 percent annual. If, starting within a few thousand human beings 5,000 years ago, the human race had experienced a constant 2 percent annual increase, the Earth today would be swarming with people fighting for standing room.

Any view of the future must begin with a sense of the whole. The human habitat is in jeopardy. There can no longer be privileged sanctuaries on this planet. Nor can nations be regarded as the ultimate form of human organization. It now becomes necessary to develop the United Nations into an agency with adequate authority to attack world problems, most especially with respect to war and environmental destruction. The role of people in helping to bring this about will be accelerated by the development of a world philosophy and outlook.

Adapted from Hirasawa, L. & L. Markstein. 1975. *Developing Reading Skills*. Rowley, Mass.: Newbury.

INSTRUCTIONS: Click true or false according to the contents of the reading.

1. TRUE FALSE Apparently no world effort has been made to face environmental problems. true
2. TRUE FALSE There is no connection between lack of resources and world hunger. false
3. TRUE FALSE Fortunately, for the sake of space on Planet Earth the human population has not grown constantly. true
4. TRUE FALSE The word *swarming* at the end of the first paragraph gives you the idea great crowds. true
5. TRUE FALSE Although the reading does not say directly, the Earth is in danger. true
6. TRUE FALSE In dealing with such problems as food and water supplies, land depletion and exhaustion of natural resources, there is no doubt that the United Nations has played a crucial role. false

3. Post reading

INSTRUCTIONS: Discuss the following questions with your classmates.

1. If you had been the United Nations Secretary 30 years ago, what would you have done to stop the problems mentioned in the reading: lack of food supply, shortage of water or, land depletion.
2. In your opinion, which of these three problems is affecting Costa Rica the most in the present time. Refer to specific situation and give examples.

G. Type it up

1. Pre writing

INSTRUCTIONS: Discuss these questions with your friends.

1. What measures does your school take in order to dispose of the garbage properly?
2. Have you participated in a campaign to clean trash like in streets or beaches?

2. Writing

INSTRUCTIONS. Ask your parents, other relative, teachers or adult friends about differences between population growth today and population growth when they were young. Ask them about positive and negative consequences and what can be done to solve present time problems derived from such growth. Report their opinions in a paragraph.

3. Post writing

INSTRUCTIONS: Read this paragraph and follow the instructions for classroom discussion.

Population growth in Costa Rica does not seem to decline, especially with the arrival of immigrants. What kind of project or plan would you put into practice so that these immigrants, together with Costa Rican nationals, become aware of the damage done to the environment if garbage in this country is not disposed properly. Discuss the project or plan with your classmates.

F. Logging off

1. Team Project for Unit 9

Objective: Find the methods of solid waste disposal.

Product: You are going to find three different ways of garbage disposal. Study the differences between them and their characteristics.

Dissemination: Group work.

Roles	Job Description	Student's Name
Student 1 Leader	Sees that everybody uses English Sees that everybody participates Presents the product	
Student 2 Secretary	Writes information about project	
Student 3 Designer	Designs layout and adds artwork	

Student 4 Assistant	Helps secretary and designer with their work	
------------------------	--	--

Steps

1. Choose roles for each member of your team. Give the project a name.
2. In your group, decide what you are going to do and how you are going to present the information.
3. Create the text for your section according to your role.
4. Create artwork for your section.
5. Put everything together.
6. Present your project to the class.

2. Surfing the Net (icon)

Surf the net using

http://www.encyarta.msn.com/encyclopedia_761569634/Solid_Waste_Disposal.html to find the differences and characteristics of the three most common methods of waste disposal: (1) landfills, (2) incinerators, and (3) composting. List your Internet resources and present the information found in class.

Other Internet Address	http://
Topic	
Information found	

PAIR UP AND WORK

Situation A: You are the president of the local government at a town in the rural area. You are informing the audience about a proposal by the government of the country to open a landfill in empty lot nearby. You tell the people at the meeting about all the economic support, new roads and employments that the government has offered if the landfill is open in your area.

Situation B: You are at a meeting of the local government with people from your town. The president of the municipality is telling you about an offer by the government to open a landfill in your town. You raise your hand to disagree with this proposal because it represents great damage to the environment. State your reasons.

CULTURE NOTE

Due to the fact that the Costa Rica Institute of Technology (TEC) owns 90 acres of secondary forests, grasslands, lakes and creeks which are not in use, the Institutional Council agreed to use these natural resources to create what they call “an irreplaceable space.” This is going to work as a facility for the people from Cartago which in turn will be used as a model for both the TEC and the national and international community. In the forests located on campus, trees from different native species will be planted. Each tree will bear the name of a virtue or value. Also, each forest will be devoted to a special group of people. Thus, the Council will honor a TEC professor or scientist by inviting him or her to plant a tree. In this way, the institution aims to promote such values as love and respect for Nature while giving an ethical and spiritual message. There will be seven forests on the TEC campus divided into the Forest of Loyalty, the Forest of Hope, the Forest of Generosity, the Forest of Prudence, the Forest of Solidarity, the Forest of Justice and the Forest of Perseverance.

Review of Unit 9

1. Vocabulary

INSTRUCTIONS: Drag the words to the corresponding blank space in the following paragraph.

fumes	garbage	sewers	toxic
garbage dumps	gases	smog	trash

1. The factory was closed by the Ministry of the Environment because its chimneys were giving off lots _____ materials. TOXIC
2. The local government needs to install more _____ in the city in order to stop the spread of garbage in the streets. GARBAGE DUMPS
3. The sign DON'T LITTER tells people that they should pick up their _____, not left it lying in public places. TRASH
4. In certain large and overpopulated cities people have trouble breathing because of the _____ that pollutes the air. SMOG
5. _____ expelled from car mufflers are a major source of pollution in my city. FUMES
6. The bad smell in my neighborhood comes from the dirty _____. The municipality workers are on strike, so we have no one to clean them. SEWERS

7. Waste _____ are another source of pollution. In this particular case, water bodies such as rivers, lakes and oceans are primarily affected. GASES
8. In order to recycle _____ properly, it must put away in three different containers for plastics and paper, glass and regular waste such as food. GARBAGE

2. Grammar

2.1. INSTRUCTIONS: Read the following past conditional sentences. Fill in the blanks using the correct form of the verbs in parentheses.

1. Thirty years ago, the governments of many countries were supposed to start campaigns to sustain the environment and thus deal with the future demand for more and better food.

If some governments _____ (start) campaigns to sustain the environment, people in many of countries _____ (eat) more and better food.
HAD STARTED WOULD HAVE EATEN

2. Car manufacturers have been improving cars with new types of fuel and construction materials which are environmetally friendly, but this idea came up until recently, so smog caused by cars fuels is a major problem today.

Many of today's problems with air pollution _____ (avoid) if car makers _____ (use) environmentally friendly types of materials to manufacture cars.

2.2. INSTRUCTIONS: The following statements are part of the speech that the major said when she first took office in our town. Read the statements and then rewrite them using reported speech.

“All of us have to make very important decision concerning cleanliness in our town. First of all I will be devoted to start recycling campaigns. Then together with my staff I am going to visit home by home. Neighbors have to understand that a clean town is possible. I need everybody's cooperation in this effort. Garbage can be dust away from our streets. I believe that the bad smell caused by the garbage may disappear in the next two months.

The new major of our town said that all of us _____ HAD to make a very important decision concerning cleanliness in our town. First of all, she said that she _____ WOULD be devoted to start recycling campaigns. She said that together with her staff she _____ WAS going to visit home by home because neighbors _____ HAD to understand that a clean town _____ WAS possible. She said that she _____ NEEDED everybody's cooperation in this effort. She said that garbage _____ COULD be dust away form our streets. She said that she _____ BELIEVED that the bad smell caused by the garbage _____ MIGHT disappear in the next two months.

SELF ASSESSMENT UNIT 9

In this unit you have learned about air, water and noise pollution.

Skills

- I can understand the meanings of words related to pollution.
- I can use these words to complete spaces in a reading about a fuel spill.
- I can understand how cars pollute the air by listening about car fumes.
- I can understand the use of the conditional perfect.
- I can understand how and why reported speech is used.
- I can refer to population control and its influence on the environment.
- I can write about population growth in the past and today.

Self reflection

1. What was the most useful thing you learned in this unit?

2. How will this help you in real life?
