

IELTS Vocabulary

Environment

(Band Score 8 to 9)

VOCABULARY

1. Global Warming

(Noun)

Meaning – A gradual increase in the earth's temperature caused by gases surrounding the earth

Example – We have to fight global warming before it's too late.

VOCABULARY

2. Climate change

(Noun)

Meaning – Changes in the world’s weather, in particular an increase in temperature, caused by human activity

Example – Personally, I don’t think that climate changes can do us any good.

VOCABULARY

3. Ecosystem

(Noun)

Meaning – All the people, animals and plants living in an area and the way they affect each other and the environment

Example – It is well known that commercial fishing can have a very negative impact on the ecosystem, yet little has been done to address this.

VOCABULARY

4. Biodiversity

(Noun)

Meaning – The number and types of plants and animals in a specific area or in the world

Example – Biodiversity conservation plans should be a priority for governments around the world.

VOCABULARY

5. Habitat

(Noun)

Meaning – The natural environment where an animal or plant lives

Example – I believe new measures are necessary to protect wildlife habitats.

VOCABULARY

6. Pollute

(Verb)

Meaning – To make air, water or soil dirty

Example – If we continue to pollute our environment, our children and grandchildren will have to pay the consequences.

VOCABULARY

7. Endangered Species

(Noun)

Meaning – A type of plant or animal that might stop existing

Example –There are many organizations that are committed to saving endangered species.

VOCABULARY

8. Vegetation

(Noun)

Meaning – Plants in general

Example – The Amazon jungles are characterized by thick, green vegetation.

VOCABULARY

9. Deforestation

(Noun)

Meaning – The cutting down of trees in an area

Example – Forest biodiversity is threatened by mass deforestation carried out around the world.

VOCABULARY

10. Extinct

(Adjective)

Meaning – No longer existing

Example – Many species of plants and animals have become extinct due to human activity.

VOCABULARY

11. Sustainable

(Adjective)

Meaning – Causing little or no damage to the environment and therefore able to be continued over a long period of time

Example – Big companies should donate a percentage of profits to support sustainable development.

VOCABULARY

12. Renewable Energy

(Noun)

Meaning – Energy that is produced using natural resources such as the wind, sun, etc.

Example – The environmental benefits of renewable energy are countless.

VOCABULARY

13. Conservation

(Noun)

Meaning – The protection of animals, plants, natural areas and natural substances

Example – Energy conservation saves us money and helps the environment.

VOCABULARY

14. Devastates

(Verb)

Meaning – to completely destroy or ruin (a place or thing).

Example – An entire town was devastated by an earthquake.

A hurricane devastated the state, flooding many coastal towns and left thousands homeless.

VOCABULARY

15. Gloomy

(Adjective)

Meaning – dark or dim; feeling sad and without hope

Example – The gloomy weather shows no sign of improving.

He looks gloomy.

The sky was dark and gloomy.

VOCABULARY

16. Freezing

(Adjective)

Meaning – Very cold

Example – The temperature remained below freezing point throughout the day.

The air temperature was well below freezing.

It's freezing outside!

VOCABULARY

17. Boiling hot

(Adjective)

Meaning – (Of weather) very hot

Example – The sun was boiling hot, the average temperature reached 42 degrees!

The soup is boiling hot when poured into a bowl.

VOCABULARY

18. Mild

(Adjective)

Meaning – (of weather) warm and pleasant

Example – The weather in my country is mild but damp.

I think it's terrific because the climate is mild.

VOCABULARY

19. Cloudy weather

(Noun)

Meaning – (Of the sky or weather) covered with a lot of clouds

Example – The forecast is for dry, cloudy weather with no precipitation expected.

I dislike cloudy weather.

VOCABULARY

20. Rainy weather

(Noun)

Meaning – (Of the weather) to rain a lot

Example – I never go to the park in rainy weather.

We went to the beach in spite of the rainy weather.

VOCABULARY

21. To be drenched (to the skin)

(Adjective)

Meaning – To be completely wet

Example – I was caught in a shower and was drenched to the skin.

He was drenched while it was going to rain.

John was drenched by the rain and frozen by the icy wind.

VOCABULARY

22. Downpour

(Noun)

Meaning – A heavy rain

Example – The heavy downpour brought their picnic to an abrupt end.

The air was still fresh following a downpour the day before.

The downpour and the resultant flood destroyed almost every house.

VOCABULARY

23. To pour down

(Verb)

Meaning – To rain heavily

Example – The air is warm, but rain pours down constantly.

It has been pouring down since two o'clock.

VOCABULARY

24. Humid

(Adjective)

Meaning – Hot and wet in a way that makes us feel uncomfortable

Example – The recent hot, humid weather is affecting air quality.

If it is hot and humid, then it is raining.

VOCABULARY

25. Heavy snow

(Noun)

Meaning – When a lot of snow falls

Example – He came in spite of the heavy snow.

In spite of heavy snow and cold temperature, the game continued.

Heavy snow continues to fall at the airport.

VOCABULARY

26. Snowstorm

(Noun)

Meaning – A large amount of snow

Example – It had been delayed by several days due to a snowstorm in the area.

All the schools were closed since there was a big snowstorm.

VOCABULARY

27. Windy weather

(Noun)

Meaning – (Of the weather) with a lot of wind

Example – I can fly my kite in windy weather.

The flower does not bloom well in windy weather.

VOCABULARY

28. Elegant

(Adjective)

Meaning – Attractive, graceful and stylish in appearance or style

Example – Yellow lights made the room seem warm and elegant.

He was so elegant in a suit.

She is so elegant that everybody admires her.

VOCABULARY

29. Cramped

(Adjective)

Meaning – Describing a place where there is not enough space for people or things in it

Example - It was so cramped that it looked like a cupboard.

We can fit seven people in our tent, but it'll be very cramped.

VOCABULARY

30. Messy

(Adjective)

Meaning – Untidy, dirty, or badly organized

Example – I couldn't endure that messy room.

His bedroom was so messy.

VOCABULARY

31. Cosy

(Adjective)

Meaning – To be comfortable, warm, and relaxing

Example – It was raining outside, but inside it was warm and very cosy.

My room is very cosy.

VOCABULARY

32. Sunny weather

(Noun)

Meaning - (of the weather) with a lot of bright light from the sun

Example – We are having sunny weather today.

In spite of the sunny weather, the air was rather chilly.

They wanted sunny weather for an enjoyable picnic.

VOCABULARY

33. Sunshine

(Noun)

Meaning – The shining or direct light of the sun

Example – I love summertime because of the long days and bright sunshine.

Despite the sunshine, the has not yet melted.

This is the only day we've had sunshine all week.

VOCABULARY

34. Changeable weather

(Noun)

Meaning – Weather that tends to change suddenly and often

Example – The heavy rain might settle the changeable weather.

The accident was caused chiefly by the changeable weather.

VOCABULARY

35. Rays

(Noun)

Meaning – Narrow beams of light

Example - The rays of the sun fell upon the trees.

The rays of the sun breaking through the clouds.

The rays of the sun entered my window when the sun rose early in the morning.

VOCABULARY

36. Impressed

(Adjective)

Meaning – To have a good feeling on something because it is interesting or beautiful

Example – I was impressed with her advanced level of Japanese.

We were very impressed with the accommodation in New York.

I'm really impressed with his house.

VOCABULARY

37. Chilly

(Adjective)

Meaning - Unpleasantly cold

Example – In spite of the sunny weather, the air was rather chilly.

The bathroom gets chilly in the winter.

It's chilly today, so I think you should wear a coat.

VOCABULARY

38. Degrees Celsius

(Noun)

Meaning – A temperature scale (used to measure the temperature)

Example – Water boils at 100 Degrees Celsius.

Temperatures vary between 8 and 20 Degrees Celsius.

VOCABULARY

39. To go below zero

(Verb)

Meaning – To become negative (about temperatures)

Example – The temperature often goes below zero degrees in January, February, and March.

VOCABULARY

40. Environmentalism

(Noun)

Meaning – The study of or an environment and the belief that it must be protected from harmful human activity

Example – Some believe that eco-tourism can promote environmentalism.