

Topic : Australia and the Environment : Man and Nature

AXE 1: Man and Nature

KEY QUESTION: How do Australians interact with their environment, and what does this reveal about their relationship with nature in the context of climate change?

LESSON 3

Modern threats : Man vs Nature?

To what extent do human actions protect or threaten the natural world?

Activity 1 : Brainstorming (5–10 min)

1. What natural disasters affect Australia?
2. How can fire, drought and human activities threaten nature?



1- Describe the document.

- Type of document ? Country ? Topic ?

2- What is the main message of the document?

- ☐ Australia is a safe natural paradise
- ☐ Australia faces many environmental threats
- ☐ Nature in Australia is fully protected

3- Name four environmental challenges shown in the document.

4- Match each challenge with its consequence.

Challenge	Consequence
Wildfires	loss of marine biodiversity
Drought	threat to native animals
Coral bleaching	destruction of forests and habitats
Invasive species	water scarcity

C. Focus Man vs Nature

5- Which challenges are partly caused by human activities? Give examples.

6- Why can we say that the relationship between humans and nature is unbalanced in Australia?

7- What does the document suggest about the future of Australia's environment?

Activity 2

Australia's environment in 'shocking' decline, report finds - BBC News July 2022

HELP!

A sticking point= something that hinders progress

ACT= AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Drought= sécheresse

The Great Barrier Reef

A riverbank= rive, berge

A platypus= unornithorynque

At risk of extinction

Watch this video and answer the following questions:

1. Who is being interviewed?

2. What are the results of a five-yearly environmental report which has just been released by the government? Give a detailed answer using what is said in the whole video.

3. What natural disasters are mentioned in the video?

4. According to Lucy Hawkings, what is the real sticking point in Australia? What is she calling on the new government to do?

5. How are some animals in Australia affected by climate change?

Grammar :

a) Australia's environment **has declined** dramatically.

b) Bushfires **destroyed** millions of hectares in 2019 and 2020.

Present Perfect = Construction :

Lien avec le sens :

Past Simple = Construction :

Lien avec le sens.....

Exercise 1 – Choose between present perfect or past simple.

1. Australia's environment _____ (decline) over the past decades.
2. The government _____ (publish) the report in July 2022.
3. Bushfires _____ (kill) thousands of animals in recent years.
4. Climate change _____ (cause) extreme weather events.

Exercise 2 : Explain how the video shows that Australia's environmental problems are both recent and ongoing.

Expression of cause and consequence :

Cause : *because of / due to / as a result of*

Conséquence : *so / therefore / Consequently / as a result / that's why / That's the reason why*