

Sustainability: Protecting Our Precious Planet

Learning objective: To write a persuasive and informative report on sustainable living, understanding how human actions impact the environment and how we can protect our world for the future.

Use this scaffold to structure your report. Ensure you provide evidence for your claims and use technical vocabulary related to sustainability, such as 'renewable', 'carbon footprint', and 'conservation'.

Our planet is a magnificent, complex system that provides us with everything we need to survive, yet our modern consumption habits are placing unprecedented pressure on Earth's finite resources.

Word bank: consequently · furthermore · in contrast · sustainable · renewable energy · environmental impact · conservation · mitigate · nevertheless · biodiversity

1. Introduction: Define sustainability and explain why it is vital for our future. Start with: Sustainability means meeting the needs of the present without... (3 marks)

2. The Challenge: Describe a specific environmental issue (e.g., plastic pollution or energy consumption). Use the sentence starter: A significant threat to our local ecosystem is... (3 marks)

3. Sustainable Solutions: Explain how we can change our habits to reduce waste. Start with: To mitigate these negative effects, we could... (3 marks)

4. The Economic Aspect: Compare the cost of sustainable choices versus traditional habits. Consider the price of energy-efficient products in £. Start with: Whilst sustainable alternatives may initially cost more, such as £... (4 marks)

5. Justification: Why is it our responsibility to act now? Start with: It is imperative that we take action because... (3 marks)

6. Conclusion: Summarise your main points and offer a final thought for the reader. Start with: In conclusion, if we alter our lifestyle choices today... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Greater Depth Challenges: 1. Explain why some communities find it more difficult to adopt sustainable practices than others. 2. Compare and contrast the impact of individual actions versus government policy. 3. Justify your answer: Is it possible to have a truly zero-waste society? 4. What might happen to global biodiversity if we do not change our current consumption patterns? 5. Create a 'Sustainability Pledge' for your school. 6. Research a local conservation project and evaluate its success.