

NCERT SOLUTIONS

CLASS - 11th



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Subject : English

Chapter : 5

Chapter Name : The Ailing Planet : Green Movement's Role

Q1 Locate the lines in the text that support the title 'The Ailing Planet'.

Answer. Some of the lines which support the title are:

- "The earth's vital signs reveal a patient in declining health"
- "When this happens , fisheries collapse , forests disappear, grasslands are converted into barren wastelands and croplands deteriorate."
- "...the environment has deteriorated so badly that it is critical in many of the eighty-eight countries investigated".
- "Are we to leave our successors a scorched planet of advancing deserts, impoverished landscapes and ailing environment".

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Q2 What does the notice 'The world's most dangerous animal' at a cage in the zoo at Lusaka, Zambia, signify?

Answer. 'The World's most dangerous animal' at a cage in the zoo at Lusaka, Zambia signifies an animal who is a major threat to the environment. That cage consists of nothing but a mirror which shows the visitors their own reflection, demonstrating that humans are the most dangerous species on earth. We are responsible for exploiting all the resources gifted to us by nature. Our greed is leading us nowhere but destruction.

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Q3 How are the earth's principal biological systems being depleted?

Answer. As explained in the chapter, there are four principal biological systems known as fisheries, forests, grasslands and croplands on which the entire environment rely upon. With increase in population human needs increases thus affecting these systems to the core. Overfishing is affecting fisheries, forests are being exploited for firewood, grasslands are turning into deserts and croplands are being overused due to increase in crop production leading to infertility of land. Hence our entire ecosystem is being affected due to rapid increase in population which leads to the deterioration of biological systems.

Page : 47 , Block Name : Understanding the text

Q4 Why does the author aver that the growth of world population is one of the strongest factors distorting the future of human society?

Answer. According to the author, overpopulation is the strongest reason for the distortion of the future of human society because it wax poverty, unemployment, exploitation of the resources and also deeply affects biological systems of the environment.

Lack of spread of education is the leading cause for increase in population. Raise in population leaves a lot of people 'unemployed' which incurs poverty. The author asserts, "The choice is really between control of population and the perpetuation of poverty" to highlight the worsening condition of the society.

Page : 47 , Block Name : Understanding the text

Q1 Laws are never respected nor enforced in India.

Answer. It's true to some extent. Mostly people living in India want all the efforts from the government's part. They fail to understand that individual efforts by each and everyone will bring bigger triumphs. People fail to be the change they want to see in the world, and thus implementation of laws in India never gets acceleration.

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Q3 "We have not inherited this earth from our forefathers; we have borrowed it from our children".

Answer. Mother Earth has never been a personal property of someone, rather it's a blessing we have received from nature. We owe it a lot of preservation and care, but the thing we always do is its exploitation. We must not forget that we are living because it's giving us all the natural resources. It's our responsibility to save it for our children else we will be the destroyers and murderers of our future generations without bloodshed.

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Q4 The problems of overpopulation that directly affect our everyday life.

Answer. Overpopulation is the major reason we all are suffering today. Increase in population leads to increase in use of natural resources. Whether be it land, water or food production, need for everything increases. Exploitation of resources takes place which directly affects our environment hazardously.

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Q The phrase 'inter alia' meaning 'among other things' is one of the many Latin expressions commonly used in English. Find out what these Latin phrases mean.

1. prima facie-
2. ad hoc-
3. in camera -
4. ad infinitum-
5. mutatis mutandis-
6. tabula rasa -

Answer.

1. prima facie- at first sight
2. ad hoc- for specific purpose only
3. in camera - secretive
4. ad infinitum- 'to infinity, having no end'
5. mutatis mutandis- 'Changing those things which need to be changed'
6. tabula rasa - newbie; without any prior experience.

Page : 48 , Block Name : Thinking about language

Q1 Locate the following phrases in the text and study their connotation.

1. gripped the imagination of
2. dawned upon
3. ushered in
4. passed into current coin
5. passport of the future

Answer. Gripped the imagination of - Received attention or become a centre of attraction.

Dawned upon- Realised for the first time.

Ushered in- Marked the beginning of a new era

Passed into current coin- Have been brought into use.

Passport of the future- a thing that makes something possible.

Page : 48 , Block Name : Working with words

QII The words 'grip', 'dawn', 'usher', 'coin', 'passport' have a literal as well as a figurative meaning. Write pairs of sentences using each word in the literal as well as figurative sense.

Answer.

1. Grip : a) This suitcase is heavy so grip the handle firmly. b) The 'Quit India Movement' gripped the minds of Indians.
2. Dawn: a) A new day dawns. b,) I don't want to be there as the truth dawns on him.
3. Usher: a) The sepoy mutiny of 1857 ushered the era of struggle for freedom in India. b) The bridesmaids ushered the bride at the wedding.
4. Coin : a) The term 'cell' was coined by Robert Hooke. b) I gave you two silver coins.
5. Passport : a) No one can travel abroad without a passport. b) Hard Work is the passport to success.

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