

**environmental** [ɪnˌvaɪərən'mentl]

**an environmentally-friendly,**

**environment-friendly,**

**eco-friendly policy**

**to protect, to preserve the environment**

**the preservation of the environment**

**nature** ['neɪtʃə]

**nature conservation**

**wildlife**

écologique, lié à l'environnement

une politique qui respecte

l'environnement

protéger l'environnement

la protection de l'environnement

la nature

la protection de la nature

la faune et la flore

**The World Wide Fund for Nature** (WWF; the second "W" used to stand for "Wildlife") is the world's largest independent non-governmental organization working on issues regarding the conservation of the environment with over 5 million supporters worldwide. It is a charity (*organisation caritative*), with approximately 60% of its funding coming from voluntary donations by private individuals. Its mission is "to halt (*stopper*) and reverse the destruction of our environment". Currently, much of its work focuses on the conservation of three biomes (*biome*) that contain most of the world's biodiversity: forests, freshwater ecosystems, and oceans and coasts. **Greenpeace**, which started out as an anti-nuclear protest group, has now turned to other concerns such as whaling (*la chasse à la baleine*), bottom trawling (*pêche au chalutier*), global warming, nuclear power, and genetically modified organisms. **Friends of the Earth** is an international network of environmental organizations in 77 countries.

**a conservationist** [kɒnsə'veɪʃənɪst]

**an environmentalist, an ecologist**

**a green activist**

**a tree-hugger**

**an eco-warrior** [ɪkə'wɔːriə]

**to make people aware of a problem**

**an awareness(-raising) campaign**

**a natural reserve, a national park**

**eco-tourism**

**to destroy the biosphere** ['baɪəsfiə]

**to be / pose a threat to sth**

**to jeopardize sth** ['dʒepədəɪz],

**endanger sth** [ɪn'deɪndʒə]

**to put sth at risk**

**to be at risk, in danger**

un défenseur de l'environnement

un écologiste

un militant écologiste

un écolo

un militant écologiste

sensibiliser les gens à un problème

une campagne de sensibilisation

un parc naturel

le tourisme écologique

détruire la biosphère

être / représenter une menace pour qch

mettre en danger qch

mettre qch en danger

être en danger

**James Lovelock** is an independent scientist, author, researcher, environmentalist, and futurist who is known for proposing the **Gaia hypothesis**, in which he postulates that the Earth should be viewed as a single organism. In other words, the biosphere and the physical components of the Earth (atmosphere, cryosphere, hydrosphere and lithosphere) are closely integrated to form a complex interacting system.

to harm the environment, do harm to the environment	nuire à l'environnement
harmful	nuisible, nocif
harmless	inoffensif, sans danger
damage ['dæmɪdʒ]	dégâts
to damage sth	endommager qch, porter atteinte à qch
to do damage, to cause damage	causer des dégâts
to deteriorate [dɪ'tɪəriəreɪt]	se détériorer OU détériorer

Ecology and economics should push in the same direction. After all, the "eco" part of each word derives from the Greek word for "home", and the protagonists of both claim to have humanity's welfare (*le bien-être*) as their goal. Yet environmentalists and economists are often at loggerheads (*en désaccord*). For economists, the world seems to be getting better. For many environmentalists:

- Natural resources are running out (*s'épuiser*).
- The population is ever growing, leaving less and less to eat.
- Species are becoming extinct in vast numbers: forests are disappearing and fish stocks are collapsing.
- The planet's air and water are becoming ever more polluted.

Human activity is thus defiling (*souiller*) the earth, and humanity may end up killing itself in the process.

*The Economist*, August 2nd, 2001

natural resources [nɪ'sɔ:slz]	les ressources naturelles
the depletion [dɪ'pli:ʃən] of resources	l'épuisement des ressources
scarcity ['skæəsɪti]	la rareté
raw materials	les matières premières

Most oceans are polluted with plastics, and over 85% of wetland area has been lost. This destruction of ecosystems has led to a million species (500,000 animals and plants and 500,000 insects) being threatened with extinction, although many are preventable if we improve our management of biodiversity. The largest driver (*facteur*) of biodiversity loss on land in recent decades has been land use change, primarily the conversion of pristine (*vierge*) native habitats into agricultural systems to feed the world, while oceans are over-fished. This has been driven in large part by a doubling of the world's population, a fourfold increase in the global economy, and a tenfold increase in trade.

Sir Robert Watson, *The Guardian*, Sep 19, 2019

biodiversity [baɪəʊdaɪ'vɜ:səti]	la biodiversité
habitat ['hæbɪtæt]	l'habitat
a niche [ni:ʃ]	une niche

a conservation area  
an ecosystem  
a species ['spi:ʃi:z]  
an animal species  
a plant species  
a mammal ['mæməl]  
animal trafficking

un secteur sauvegardé, une zone protégée  
un écosystème  
une espèce  
une espèce animale  
une espèce végétale  
un mammifère  
le trafic d'animaux

**Darwin's Nightmare** is a controversial documentary film that was released in 2004. It describes the disastrous effects of the development of the fishing industry around Lake Victoria in Tanzania. The film discusses the effects of the introduction of the Nile perch to Lake Victoria, how it has affected the ecosystem and economy of the region. The film also dwells at length on (*s'étend sur*) the contradiction between on the one hand, European aid which is being funneled (*diriger*) into Africa and on the other, the unending flow of munitions and weapons from European arms dealers.

an endangered species  
to be threatened with extinction  
to become extinct  
overfishing  
bluefin tuna ['tju:nə]  
a dolphin / a whale  
whaling

une espèce en voie de disparition  
être menacé d'extinction  
disparaître  
la surpêche  
le thon rouge  
un dauphin / une baleine  
la pêche à la baleine

There is an inclination towards mysticism and spiritualism within the Romantic tradition which can be readily (*facilement*) found within current environmentalism; indeed, in many ways the two appear identical (read Blake, Emerson, Ruskin, Morris, for example). Prince Charles, in his recent Reith lecture, appealed to this sense of the "spiritual", as a basis of respect toward the environment.

*The Independent*, Friday, 4 August 2000

the ozone layer ['əʊzəʊn 'leɪə]  
ultra-violet rays  
the hole in the ozone layer  
ozone depletion  
CFCs  
ozone-friendly

la couche d'ozone  
les rayons ultra-violets  
le trou dans la couche d'ozone  
la diminution de la couche d'ozone  
les CFC  
respectueux de la couche d'ozone

There is a striking (*frappant*) contrast between the ancient pantheistic religions, in which God and nature are intermingled (*entremêlés*), and religions such as Christianity and Judaism, in which God created a separate, subordinate nature. This separation, in the eyes of many environmentalists, has encouraged the neglect of nature. One of the first to voice (*exprimer*) this complaint was Lynn White, an American historian, who in a famous *Science* article in the 1960s put the blame for the ecological crisis on the Christian tradition, condemning Christianity as "the most anthropocentric religion man has ever seen".

*The Economist*, December 22, 1996

a rainforest, a tropical forest  
sustainable development  
to fell, cut down trees  
deforestation  
logging  
the logging industry  
the rainforest is shrinking  
to reforest [ri:'forɪst]  
reforestation

une forêt tropicale  
le développement durable  
abattre des arbres  
le déboisement, la déforestation  
l'exploitation du bois  
l'industrie du bois  
la forêt tropicale se réduit  
reboiser  
le reboisement

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Deforestation of the Brazilian Amazon surged last month, prompting concerns that president Jair Bolsonaro is giving a free pass to illegal logging, farming and mining. The world's greatest rainforest—which is a vital provider of oxygen and carbon sequestration—lost 739sq km during the 31 days of May, equivalent to two football pitches every minute, according to data from the government's satellite monitoring agency. Since the far-right Bolsonaro came to power in January, he has weakened the environment ministry, loosened (*relâcher*) controls on economic exploitation of the Amazon, halted demarcation of indigenous land and encouraged mining and farming interests to expand in the region.

*The Guardian*, June 4, 2019

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According to Global Footprint Network, a not-for-profit organization (*organisation à but non lucratif*) whose goal is to advance sustainability, **Earth Overshoot Day** is the day when humanity has exhausted nature's budget for the year. For the rest of the year, society operates in ecological overshoot (*dépassement*) and accumulates carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The first Earth Overshoot Day was December 19, 1987. In 2014, Earth Overshoot Day was August 19. In 2021 it landed on July 29.

### Traduire en français

1. According to the Gaia hypothesis, the Earth is a self-regulating system whose components interact with each other.
2. *Darwin's nightmare* shows how all the prime fillets of the Nile perch in Tanzania are sold to European supermarkets, leaving the local people to survive on the carcasses of the gutted fish.
3. Greenpeace started out as an anti-nuclear protest group and went on to fight other causes such as whaling or GMOs.
4. Even though ecologists and economists are often at loggerheads, they all claim to have humanity's welfare as their goal.
5. The energy industry gave G.W Bush's presidential campaign millions and later reaped billions of dollars' reward in regulatory relief.
6. Between 2000 and 2005 Indonesia lost 2% of its forest each year, representing an area the size of Wales.
7. Western companies complain that their competitors in developing countries can produce goods with little regard for the environment.
8. Sustainable development is defined as development that "meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".
9. As consumers become more aware of environmental issues they put more pressure on companies to inject more sustainability into their strategies.
10. Greenery does not have to be motivated by altruism; and it is far more likely to be effective when it is not.

### Traduire en anglais

1. Il faudrait organiser une campagne pour sensibiliser l'opinion publique à la menace que représente la surpêche.
2. L'industrialisation a causé beaucoup de dégâts et la qualité de l'air s'est beaucoup détériorée.
3. Le plus préoccupant, c'est l'épuisement des matières premières.
4. En Alaska, l'extraction du pétrole a bouleversé l'équilibre de l'écosystème local.
5. Certaines espèces animales ont déjà disparu et bien d'autres sont menacées d'extinction.
6. Comment se fait-il que l'on n'a pas compris l'importance de la couche d'ozone plus tôt ?
7. Peut-on dire que tout le monde se sent concerné par la protection de l'environnement ?
8. Le déboisement de la forêt amazonienne est surtout dû à l'exploitation illégale du bois.
9. Dans quelle mesure peut-on dire que les premiers écolos étaient des idéalistes ?
10. On a prétendu que le christianisme était en partie responsable de la crise écologique.

### Questions

- Should environmentalists be trusted when they predict the worst?  
What is the best way to take account of environmental concerns?  
What specific problems need to be tackled most urgently?

**06. La traduction des mots suivants ne pose qu'un problème d'orthographe.**

1. un dauphin • 2. un mammifère • 3. un écosystème • 4. la biodiversité • 5. l'environnement  
 • 6. des ressources • 7. les CFC 8 une forêt 9 se détériorer 10 détruire

**07. Associer les mots suivants pour former cinq noms composés et les traduire.**

- industry - conservation - natural - development - materials—area - logging - sustainable  
 - reserve - raw

**08. Compléter les phrases avec la préposition adéquate.**

1. Industrialization has done a lot of harm ..... our planet.
2. Overfishing is putting the bluefin tuna ..... risk.
3. Wildlife is ..... danger in many popular tourist destinations.
4. Human activity is probably the greatest threat ..... nature.
5. Polar bears in Alaska, sea turtles in Florida, corals everywhere are threatened ..... extinction as a result of global warming.

**09. Compléter avec les mots adéquats.**

1. The role of organizations such as Friends of the Earth is to make people ..... of the dangers posed by man's activity on the planet.
2. .... is the cutting or burning down of all the trees in an area.
3. Tigers, rhinos and whales are among the best-known endangered .....
4. The ozone ..... absorbs 97–99% of the sun's high frequency ultraviolet light, which is potentially damaging to life on earth.
5. The decline in the volume of ozone in the stratosphere is called "ozone ....."

**010. Trouver un synonyme pour les mots suivants.**

1. an ecologist • 2. an environmentally-friendly policy • 3. to jeopardize sth • 4. to protect (nature) • 5. to harm (nature)

1. According to the Gaia hypothesis, the Earth is a self-regulating system whose components interact with each other. **D'après l'hypothèse Gaïa, la Terre est un système auto-régulateur dont les composantes interagissent.**
2. *Darwin's nightmare* shows how all the prime fillets of the Nile perch in Tanzania are sold to European supermarkets, leaving the local people to survive on the carcasses of the gutted fish. **Le cauchemar de Darwin montre comment les meilleurs filets de perche du Nil en Tanzanie sont vendus aux supermarchés européens, tandis que la population locale survit en mangeant les carcasses des poissons vidés.**
3. Greenpeace started out as an anti-nuclear protest group and went on to fight other causes such as whaling or GMOs. **Greenpeace a commencé comme organisation anti-nucléaire, puis a combattu pour d'autres causes comme la pêche à la baleine ou les OGM.**
4. Even though ecologists and economists are often at loggerheads, they all claim to have humanity's welfare as their goal. **Bien que les écologistes et les économistes soient souvent en complet désaccord, ils prétendent tous avoir pour but le bien-être de l'humanité.**
5. The energy industry gave G.W Bush's presidential campaign millions and later reaped billions of dollars' reward in regulatory relief. **Les entreprises du secteur de l'énergie ont donné des millions pour la campagne présidentielle de G.W. Bush et ont ensuite récolté des milliards grâce à des mesures assouplissant la réglementation.**
6. Between 2000 and 2005 Indonesia lost 2% of its forest each year, representing an area the size of Wales. **Entre 2000 et 2005, l'Indonésie a perdu 2 % de sa forêt chaque année, ce qui représente une surface de la taille du Pays de Galles.**
7. Western companies complain that their competitors in developing countries can produce goods with little regard for the environment. **Les entreprises occidentales se plaignent de ce que leurs concurrents dans les pays du Sud produisent sans guère se soucier de l'environnement.**
8. Sustainable development is defined as development that "meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". **On définit le développement durable comme le développement qui permet de « satisfaire les besoins du présent sans compromettre la capacité des générations futures à subvenir à leurs propres besoins ».**
9. As consumers become more aware of environmental issues they put more pressure on companies to inject more sustainability into their strategies. **Au fur et à mesure que les consommateurs prennent conscience des problèmes environnementaux, ils font de plus en plus pression sur les entreprises pour qu'elles injectent plus de « durabilité » dans leurs stratégies.**
10. Greenery does not have to be motivated by altruism; and it is far more likely to be effective when it is not. **Il n'est pas nécessaire que l'écologie soit motivée par l'altruisme, et elle a bien plus de chances d'être efficace si elle ne l'est pas.**

1. Il faudrait organiser une campagne pour sensibiliser l'opinion publique à la menace que représente la surpêche. **A campaign should be organized to make public opinion aware of the threat posed by overfishing.**
2. L'industrialisation a causé beaucoup de dégâts et la qualité de l'air s'est beaucoup détériorée. **Industrialization has caused a lot of damage and the quality of air has deteriorated a lot.**
3. Le plus préoccupant, c'est l'épuisement des matières premières. **The most worrying issue is the depletion of raw materials.**
4. En Alaska, l'extraction du pétrole a bouleversé l'équilibre de l'écosystème local. **In Alaska, the extraction of oil has disrupted the balance of the local ecosystem.**
5. Certaines espèces animales ont déjà disparu et bien d'autres sont menacées d'extinction. **Some animal species are already extinct and many others are threatened with extinction.**
6. Comment se fait-il que l'on n'a pas compris l'importance de la couche d'ozone plus tôt ? **How come the importance of the ozone layer was not understood sooner?**
7. Peut-on dire que tout le monde se sent concerné par la protection de l'environnement ? **Can it be said that everyone feels concerned about the preservation of the environment?**
8. Le déboisement de la forêt amazonienne est surtout dû à l'exploitation illégale du bois. **The deforestation of the Amazon forest is mostly due to illegal logging.**
9. Dans quelle mesure peut-on dire que les premiers écologistes étaient des idéalistes ? **To what extent can it be said that the first tree-huggers were idealists?**
10. On a prétendu que le christianisme était en partie responsable de la crise écologique. **It has been claimed that Christianity was partly responsible for the ecological crisis.**