

**Paper Reference(s) 4EB1/01**  
**Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1)**

**English Language B**  
**PAPER 1**

**Thursday 23 May 2024 – Morning**

**Time: 3 hours**

**Source Booklet**

**DO NOT RETURN THIS BOOKLET  
WITH THE QUESTION PAPER.**

**Y73897A**

## **Text One**

### **7 Ways In Which Youth Can Protect The Environment**

**adapted from a blog by Isha Reddy**

**In this passage, the American writer suggests possible actions that young people can take to protect the environment.**

**(continued on the next page)**



(continued on the next page)

Turn over

**Text One continued.**

## **Glossary**

**<sup>1</sup>ecosystems and environmental biodiversity – the balance of plants and animals in the natural environment**

**<sup>2</sup>carbon footprint – a measure of the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere as a result of human activities**

**Our planet is our home, the place that sustains us; but are we living in harmony with nature? It seems like we humans have chosen a path of self-destruction, destroying the very home that shelters us. From rising carbon emissions, to deforestation and land destruction, human activities are having detrimental effects on our ecosystems and environmental biodiversity<sup>1</sup>.**

**5**

**10**

**(continued on the next page)**

**Turn over**

**Text One continued.**

**As teenagers, sometimes we feel helpless and powerless, unable to take action, or do things that really matter to us, since governments and large businesses are the ones taking vital decisions. While major changes are only possible if countries and corporations alter their policies and actions, we as individuals also have the potential to make a difference, whether through small actions or larger initiatives.**

**15**

**20**

**Here are some ways in which you can take control of your future, and protect our environment and ecosystems:**

**25**

**(continued on the next page)**

**Text One continued.**

## **1. Start Your Own Initiative or Volunteer With Environmental Organizations**

**Whether it's something small like starting a community clean-up group, or building a large social organization with significant reach and impact, taking initiatives for environmental conservation can go a long way. 30**

**You can also make an impact by assisting environmental community groups. There are several ways in which you can get involved, from running online awareness campaigns to offering practical help like beach clean-ups and fundraising events. 35 40**

**(continued on the next page)**

**Text One continued.**

## **2. Reduce/Recycle Paper**

**What do you do with your old textbooks and novels that are not in use? Why not donate them to juniors, or kids in your neighborhood, or send them across to countries where children have little to no access to educational resources? While books aren't doing any harm sitting on a bookshelf, why not save resources by putting them to re-use?**

**45**

**50**

**Similarly, recycling unwanted paper will reduce the raw material demand for paper production, thus conserving trees and forest ecosystems. From online assignments, to writing e-exams, thanks to the development of technology, paper isn't something that is necessary any more. By making use of smart technologies that are available today, we can effortlessly shift away from paper-based activities, at all levels.**

**55**

**60**

**(continued on the next page)**

**Turn over**

**Text One continued.**

### **3. Recycle More Often**

**65**

**Recycling is a simple, yet effective, way of conserving resources and reducing your individual carbon footprint<sup>2</sup>.**

**Rather than throwing everything in the trash, separate your plastic, paper and metal waste, and deposit it in a recycling bin. Recycling helps reduce landfill pollution and reduces the consumption of raw materials and fossil fuels.**

**70****75**

### **4. Save Resources**

**Did you know that only 0.03% of the 70% of water available to us is fresh water? That's why saving water is so important for fresh water ecosystems.**

**80**

**By doing simple things like taking shorter showers, avoiding small clothes washes, and turning your taps off while brushing your teeth, you**

**(continued on the next page)**

**Turn over**



**Text One continued.**

**can save gallons of water! Similarly, 85**  
**it's important to be mindful of your**  
**electricity consumption, and make**  
**adaptations so that, by doing our bit at**  
**home and work, we can reduce fossil**  
**fuel dependency. 90**

## **5. Buy Sustainable Products**

**Plastic is one of the most significant**  
**contributors to soil and marine**  
**pollution, endangering both the**  
**land and marine life. Plastic isn't 95**  
**biodegradable, and is often consumed**  
**by animals who mistake it as food.**  
**When buying a product, be aware of**  
**its environmental impact and disposal**  
**after use. Companies are now being 100**  
**questioned on their environmental**  
**impact, and changing consumer habits**  
**are compelling them to become more**  
**sustainable. When you're stocking**  
**up on school or office supplies like 105**

**(continued on the next page)**

**Turn over**

**Text One continued.**

folders and pens, or buying toys and home accessories, try to look for more eco-friendly alternatives that can replace plastic. For example, some of us use so much plastic from buying bottled water every day, but buying your own reusable water bottle is not only cheaper, but also much better for the environment. Also, buying local products and produce is a great way to minimize carbon footprint, as goods don't have to travel longer distances and consume more fuel for transportation.

110

115

## **6. Decrease Meat & Dairy Consumption**

120

Methane is one of the most potent greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming. Livestock release large amounts of methane into the atmosphere, so excessive meat and

125

(continued on the next page)

Turn over

**Text One continued.**

dairy consumption has detrimental effects on our climate. Additionally, unsustainable dairy and cattle farming leads to the destruction of ecologically important areas such as wetlands and forests. Deforestation is damaging habitats and natural ecosystems, which hundreds of species depend on for survival. Thus, the only way we can prevent more damage is by being responsible and eating less meat and dairy products.

130  
135

## **7. Only Buy What You Need**

Lastly, think about your purchasing habits. Do you buy too many products? Can you do without some of the things that you often buy? Are you being a responsible consumer? Simply buying more because of tempting offers or discounts will actually cost us and the environment more. Whether it's

140  
145

**(continued on the next page)**

**Turn over**

**Text One continued.**

**groceries, clothes, accessories or home products, by purchasing only what you need you reduce the amount of waste generated and thus pollution. 150**

## **Text Two**

### **The Climate Book**

**adapted from a book by  
Greta Thunberg**

**In this passage, the writer suggests that climate change is already happening and not enough is being done by people and governments to prevent it.**

**(continued on the next page)**



(continued on the next page)

Turn over

**Text Two continued.**

## **Glossary**

**<sup>1</sup>high-emitting nations – countries that use a lot of fossil fuels (such as coal and oil) to provide energy**

**<sup>2</sup>doomsday glaciers – glaciers which could raise sea levels massively if they melt**

**<sup>3</sup>on steroids – super-charged**

**<sup>4</sup>greenwashed – believing in false or misleading statements about the environment**

**Maybe it is the name that is the problem. Climate change. It doesn't sound that bad. The word 'change' resonates quite pleasantly in our restless world. No matter how fortunate we are, there is always room for the appealing possibility of improvement.**

**(continued on the next page)**

**Turn over**



**Text Two continued.**

Then there is the 'climate' part. Again,  
it does not sound so bad. If you live in  
many of the high-emitting nations<sup>1</sup> of 10  
the global north, the idea of a 'changing  
climate' could well be interpreted as the  
very opposite of scary and dangerous.  
A changing world. A warming planet.  
What's not to like? Perhaps that is 15  
partly why so many people still think  
of climate change as a slow, linear and  
even rather harmless process.

But the climate is not just changing.  
It is destabilising. It is breaking down. 20  
The delicately balanced natural patterns  
and cycles that are a vital part of the  
systems that sustain life on Earth are  
being disrupted, and the consequences  
could be catastrophic. Because there 25  
are negative tipping points, points of  
no return. And we do not know exactly  
when we might cross them. What we do  
know, however, is that they are getting



## Text Two continued.

**awfully close, even the really big ones. 30**  
**Transformation often starts slowly, but**  
**then it begins to accelerate.**

**The Greenland ice sheet is melting, as are the ‘doomsday glaciers’<sup>2</sup> of west Antarctica. Recent reports have stated that the tipping points for these two events have already been passed. Other reports say they are imminent. That means we might already have inflicted so much built-in warming that the melting process can no longer be stopped, or that we are very close to that point. Either way, we must do everything in our power to stop the process because, once that invisible line has been crossed, there might be no going back. We can slow it down, but once the snowball has been set in motion it will just keep going.**

**(continued on the next page)**

**Turn over**

**Text Two continued.**

**'This is the new normal' is a phrase we 50**  
**often hear when the rapid changes in**  
**our daily weather patterns – wildfires,**  
**hurricanes, heatwaves, floods, storms,**  
**droughts and so on – are being**  
**discussed. These weather events aren't 55**  
**just increasing in frequency, they are**  
**becoming more and more extreme.**  
**The weather seems to be on steroids<sup>3</sup>,**  
**and natural disasters increasingly**  
**appear less and less natural. But this 60**  
**is not the 'new normal'. What we are**  
**seeing now is only the very beginning**  
**of a changing climate, caused by**  
**human emissions of greenhouse**  
**gases. Until now, Earth's natural 65**  
**systems have been acting as a shock**  
**absorber, smoothing out the dramatic**  
**transformations that are taking place.**  
**But the planetary resilience that has**  
**been so vital to us will not last forever, 70**  
**and the evidence seems to suggest more**  
**and more clearly that we are entering a**  
**new era of more dramatic change.**

**(continued on the next page)****Turn over**

**Text Two continued.**

**Climate change has become a crisis  
sooner than expected. So many of the 75  
researchers I've spoken to have said  
that they were shocked to witness  
how quickly it is escalating. It seems  
like the vast majority of people were  
preparing for a different, less urgent 80  
scenario. A crisis that would take place  
many decades into the future. And yet  
here we are. The climate and ecological  
crisis is not happening in some faraway  
future. It's happening right here and 85  
right now.**

**It will take many things for us to start  
facing this emergency – but, above  
all, it will take honesty, integrity and  
courage. The longer we wait to start 90  
taking the action needed to stay in  
line with our international targets, the  
harder and more costly it will get to  
reach them. The inaction of today and  
yesterday must be compensated for in 95  
the time that lies ahead.**

**(continued on the next page)**

**Turn over**

**Text Two continued.**

**For us to have even a small chance  
of avoiding setting off irreversible  
chain reactions far beyond human  
control, we need drastic, immediate, 100  
far-reaching emission cuts at the  
source. When your bathtub is about  
to overflow, you don't go looking for  
buckets or start covering the floor  
with towels – you start by turning off 105  
the tap, as soon as you possibly can.  
Leaving the water running means  
ignoring or denying the problem,  
delaying doing anything to resolve it  
and downplaying its consequences. 110**

**We are approaching a precipice. And I  
would strongly suggest that those of us  
who have not yet been greenwashed<sup>4</sup>  
out of our senses stand our ground.  
Do not let them drag us another inch 115  
closer to the edge. Not one inch. Right  
here, right now, is where we draw  
the line.**

## **Sources taken / adapted from:**

**Text One: <https://www.voicesofyouth.org/blog/7-ways-which-youth-can-protect-environment>**

**Photograph 1: © Stefano Guidi / Contributor / Getty Images**

**Text Two: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/oct/08/greta-thunberg-climate-delusion-greenwashed-out-of-our-senses>**

**Photograph 2: © Tim Whitby / Contributor / Getty Images**