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# Unit 01 Acid Rain



## VOCABULARY CHECK

❑ Match the words with their definitions.

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 environmental | a. continuing a long time into the future            |
| 2 extinct       | b. no longer living                                  |
| 3 toxic         | c. relating to the natural world                     |
| 4 coat          | d. a chemical that can burn or melt other substances |
| 5 long-term     | e. to cover  |
| 6 filter        | f. poisonous, harmful                                |
| 7 experiment    | g. to try something in order to learn                |
| 8 acid          | h. something used to clean air or water              |

## Before You Read

1. What are some of the main effects of acid rain?
2. What can we do to solve the problem?

**A**cid rain is one of the biggest environmental problems today. It has many **long-term** effects, like damage to trees and buildings. It can lead to skin and breathing problems. It can also cause animals to become **extinct**.

Acid rain is caused by air pollution from cars and factories. These machines  
5 burn fuel for energy. When fuel burns, it produces smoke and invisible gases that mix with clouds. These dark clouds rain harmful chemicals onto the earth. Although the rain is not acidic enough to burn skin, it coats tree leaves, buildings, and the ground with **toxic** water.

Acid rain has actually been around since the mid-1800s. It was discovered  
10 by Robert Angus Smith. Smith found a relationship between acid rain and air pollution. However, scientists did not start studying acid rain seriously until the 1950s.

Acid rain can be prevented by burning less dangerous fuels. Factories have also **experimented** with special **filters** that remove harmful chemicals from the  
15 smoke. These are good solutions, but governments have to act fast. If **they** wait, the damage may be unstoppable.

## READING COMPREHENSION

- 1 What is the main idea of the passage?
  - a. Acid rain is the newest environmental disaster.
  - b. Acid rain is as dangerous as other forms of pollution.
  - c. Acid rain destroyed the environment in the mid-1800s.
  - d. Robert Angus Smith found a solution for acid rain.
  
- 2 Which of the following is NOT correct according to the passage?
  - a. Acid rain is a serious problem these days.
  - b. Acid rain is as dramatic as piles of garbage and rising oceans.
  - c. Cars and factories are main reasons for acid rain.
  - d. Acid rain has been known for more than 150 years.
  
- 3 The word 'they' refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. solutions
  - b. chemicals
  - c. fuels
  - d. governments
  
- 4 Which of the following is correct about acid rain?
  - a. It can cause humans to become extinct.
  - b. Toxic water from cars and factories causes acid rain.
  - c. Serious research on acid rain only started around 50 years ago.
  - d. It can make people get lung cancer.
  
- 5 What can be inferred from the passage?
  - a. The current measures are not enough to stop acid rain.
  - b. Scientists should pay more attention to acid rain.
  - c. Governments are mostly responsible for acid rain.
  - d. Acid rain can be gotten rid of by funding more research.
  
- 6 Which of the sentences below best expresses the information in the underlined sentence in the passage?
  - a. Governments usually make good solutions.
  - b. Governments are not interested in making good solutions.
  - c. There are no good solutions.
  - d. Solutions need to be put into effect to work.

## VOCABULARY REVIEW

□ Fill in the blank with the right form of the word from the box.

coat	extinct	environmental	acid
long-term	toxic	experiment	filter

- 1 They got him to sign a new \_\_\_\_\_ contract.
- 2 I will be a/an \_\_\_\_\_ protector and clean the river.
- 3 This picture was carved into the glass using \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 When the biscuits are cool, you \_\_\_\_\_ them with melted chocolate.
- 5 I felt dizzy after smelling the \_\_\_\_\_ smoke from that burning house.
- 6 Ozone is the Earth's primary \_\_\_\_\_ for ultraviolet radiation.

## SUMMARY

□ Complete the exercise by selecting the answer choices below.

One of them will NOT be used.

- a. Smoke and invisible gases are produced
- b. Harmful chemicals are removed from smoke
- c. Machines burn fuel for energy
- d. Acid rain is formed
- e. Trees and buildings are damaged

<Cause> 1 Fuel burns.

<Effect> → \_\_\_\_\_

2 Pollution is released into clouds.

→ \_\_\_\_\_

3 Acid rain falls to the ground.

→ \_\_\_\_\_

4 Factories equip special filters.

→ \_\_\_\_\_