

## The Planet in 2011 今天的地球

英语学习点: *Conservation Vocabulary* 环保词语

This coming Sunday is World Environment Day. So what is the state of the planet in 2011?

This time last year, engineers in the USA were still battling to stop the largest oil spill of its kind in the Gulf of Mexico.

A year on, engineers are trying to prevent a different kind of ocean leak – a radiation leak.

Following the nuclear meltdown at Fukushima in Japan, scientists are struggling to stop contaminated water from reaching the sea.

But for many environmentalists the key challenge remains climate change.

According to the International Energy Agency, carbon emissions reached a record level last year. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is aiming for greenhouse emissions to peak by 2020, but there are growing doubts about whether the necessary curbs will be implemented.

A recent report by the charity Oxfam highlights the impact global warming will have on food security. Food prices could almost double in the next twenty years, with climate change the main cause.

But there is one good piece of news for conservationists, relating to deforestation. According to the think-tank Chatham House, global illegal logging has fallen by nearly a quarter since 2002.

That fits nicely with the theme for this year's World Environment Day: "Forests - Nature At Your Service".

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分



*There is some good news relating to deforestation*

## Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. Is this statement true, false or not given? *Engineers are still battling to clean up the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.*
2. Did carbon emissions go up last year?
3. Is this statement true, false or not given? *Everyone thinks that greenhouse emissions will peak in 2020.*
4. Why is the news from Chatham House especially relevant to World Environment Day this year?
5. Look at the article. Which phrase refers to the ability of citizens in a country to access food?

## Exercise 练习

请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个语法正确且意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. This time last year, engineers in the USA were battling to stop a large oil \_\_\_\_\_ in the Gulf of Mexico.

slip	spring	sill	spill
------	--------	------	-------

2. In Japan some people are still worried about the \_\_\_\_\_ of food and water supplies.

contamination	meltdown	leaking	logging
---------------	----------	---------	---------

3. Tough \_\_\_\_\_ on carbon emissions are needed to meet the 2020 targets.

curbs	stops	aims	doubts
-------	-------	------	--------

4. \_\_\_\_\_ will be pleased to hear the news about the fall in illegal logging.

Conversationalists artists	Conservationists	Conservatives	Confidence
-------------------------------	------------------	---------------	------------

5. In the last twenty years there has been rapid \_\_\_\_\_ of the Amazon rainforest.

defenestration	deforesting	defrosting	deforestation
----------------	-------------	------------	---------------

## Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

### Quiz 小测验

1. Is this statement true, false or not given? *Engineers are still battling to clean up the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.* Not given – they were battling to stop it last year, but no mention is made of what they are doing this year.
2. Did carbon emissions go up last year? Yes, they reached a record level.
3. Is this statement true, false or not given? *Everyone thinks that greenhouse emissions will peak in 2020.* False – "there are growing doubts" about whether the necessary curbs will be implemented.
4. Why is the news from Chatham House especially relevant to World Environment Day this year? The Chatham House news is about illegally removing trees, and the special focus of World Environment Day this year is the world's forests.
5. Look at the article. Which phrase refers to the ability of citizens in a country to access food? Food security.

### Exercise 练习

1. This time last year, engineers in the USA were battling to stop a large oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.
2. In Japan some people are still worried about the contamination of food and water supplies.
3. Tough curbs on carbon emissions are needed to meet the 2020 targets.
4. Conservationists will be pleased to hear the news about the fall in illegal logging.
5. In the last twenty years there has been rapid deforestation of the Amazon rainforest.

### Glossary 词汇表

oil spill 石油泄漏	radiation leak 辐射泄漏
nuclear meltdown 核泄漏	contaminated (被) 污染的
environmentalist 环保人士	climate change 气候变化
carbon emissions 碳排放	curb 控制
greenhouse (gas) emissions 温室气体排放	global warming 全球变暖
food security 食品安全	conservationist 保护自然人士
deforestation 砍伐森林	illegal logging 非法砍伐