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Module : Communication and Expression Techniques in English
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Guided Work Session n°5

Objective : Learn how to summarize a text

Environmental Pollution

Environmental pollution is one of the most pressing challenges of our time, affecting not only human health but also ecosystems, biodiversity, and the global climate. It manifests in various forms, such as air, water, and soil pollution, as well as noise, visual, and light pollution. Each of these forms has devastating consequences for the environment and the quality of life of populations, especially in urban and industrialized areas.

Air pollution, for example, is responsible for millions of premature deaths each year due to the respiratory diseases it causes. It mainly stems from vehicle emissions, industrial activities, and the burning of fossil fuels. Fine particles and toxic gases, such as sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides, contaminate the atmosphere and worsen the effects of climate change by increasing the greenhouse effect.

Water pollution, on the other hand, results from the introduction of chemical substances, plastic waste, and toxic products into rivers, lakes, and oceans. This endangers aquatic ecosystems and threatens the survival of many marine species, while also contaminating drinking water sources essential to human life.

Soil, often overlooked in the pollution debate, is also severely affected by the intensive use of pesticides, chemical fertilizers, and the dumping of industrial waste. This leads to land degradation, reducing soil fertility and affecting agricultural production, while also contributing to deforestation and erosion.

Facing these challenges, it is crucial to adopt both collective and individual measures to reduce our ecological footprint. Transitioning to renewable energy, sustainable resource management, and waste reduction are among the solutions needed to slow the degradation of our planet. However, this will only be possible through global awareness and ambitious environmental policies at all levels of society.

Ultimately, environmental pollution is not only a scientific or technological issue but it is a moral and ethical problem that requires each individual to take part in protecting our Earth for future generations.

Questions :

1. Identify the main idea of each paragraph.
2. Based on these ideas, summarize the text in 5 to 10 lines.



Correction – Guided Work Session No. 5

Learning to Summarize a Text

1. For each paragraph in the text, identify the main idea in a few words. What is it about ?

1. 1st paragraph: It discusses the global challenges of environmental pollution.
2. 2nd paragraph: It deals with air pollution and its effects on health and climate.
3. 3rd paragraph: It addresses water pollution and its dangers to aquatic ecosystems.
4. 4th paragraph: It mentions soil pollution and its impacts on agriculture and deforestation.
5. 5th paragraph: It talks about the necessary measures to reduce pollution and protect the environment.
6. 6th paragraph: It emphasizes everyone's moral and ethical responsibility regarding pollution.

2. Based on these ideas, summarize the text in 5 to 10 lines ?

(Model answer: other answers are possible)

Summary: Environmental pollution is a major challenge, affecting human health, ecosystems, and the climate. It manifests in various forms, such as air, water, and soil pollution, each with devastating effects. Air pollution, stemming from vehicles and industries, causes respiratory illnesses and worsens global warming. Water pollution, caused by chemicals and plastics, threatens marine ecosystems and drinking water resources. Soil pollution, linked to the use of pesticides and industrial waste, affects land fertility. Collective actions, such as adopting renewable energy and sustainable resource management, are essential to counter these threats. Pollution is thus a moral issue requiring global awareness.