

**MAKING NEW WORDS YOUR OWN****Lesson 24** **CONTEXT: Ecology and Environment*****Balancing Society and the Environment: Global Warming***

A blanket of carbon dioxide and other gases surrounds the earth. This blanket is part of the earth's atmosphere and has warmed the earth for many thousands of years. Originally, the gases were produced by natural processes. For example, a volcanic eruption releases carbon dioxide into the air. Some of this gas is then used by green plants or absorbed by the ocean. The rest rises into the atmosphere and becomes part of the blanket.

In the following exercises, you will have the opportunity to expand your vocabulary by reading about global warming. These ten Vocabulary Words will be used.

adjust	candidate	disgust	employer	hazard
ballot	corporation	dissolve	foul	merchandise

**EXERCISE 1** **Wordbusting** 

**Directions.** Follow these instructions for this word and the nine words on the next page.

- Figure out the word's meaning by looking at its **context**, its **structure**, and its **sound**. Fill in at least one of the three CSS boxes. Alternate which boxes you complete.
- Then, look up the word in a dictionary, read all of its meanings, and write the meaning of the word as it is used in the sentence.
- Follow this same process for each of the Vocabulary Words on the next page. You will need to draw your own map for each word. Use a separate sheet of paper.

1.

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Many scientists believe the earth's blanket of carbon dioxide is out of balance. These scientists say that if we don't **adjust**, or change, our behavior, global warming may result.

Context:

Structure:

Sound:

Dictionary:

2.

**hazard**

The blanket of gases is becoming thicker, environmentalists say. As a result, the earth may be getting warmer. Global warming would be a **hazard**, endangering plants and animals.

3.

**corporation**

Scientists say that some industries contribute to possible global warming more than others. Some **corporations** burn a lot of coal, oil, or gas.

4.

**disgust**

Many people feel **disgust** at the sight of litter on the highway, but other threats to the environment do not seem sickening at all. They come from things we take for granted, like automobiles and airplanes.

5.

**dissolve**

Cars use fossil fuel that releases gases into the air. Scientists say that we must change our everyday habits. Our environmental problems will not just **dissolve**, or fade away, into thin air.

6.

**merchandise**

Environmentalists tell us that one way to protect the environment is to use products that do not contribute to global warming. These products are environmentally friendly **merchandise**.

7.

**employer**

Changing our behavior is difficult, however, especially when a company that is a major **employer** is forced to make changes that lead to a loss of jobs.

8.

**foul**

We must not continue to **foul** our environment. Environmentalists say that we can help stop pollution and prevent global warming if we develop cleaner technologies and conserve energy.

9.

**ballot**

One way that we can change our behavior is by conserving, or saving, energy. Because our government can make laws that deal with conservation, people can express their views on the environment through the **ballot**, or vote.

10.

**candidate**

Many **candidates** who run for government offices want to protect the environment. They feel that a healthy, balanced environment is in everyone's best interest.

**EXERCISE 2****Context Clues** 

**Directions.** Scan the definitions in Column A. Then, think about how the **boldface** words are used in the sentences in Column B. To complete the exercise, match each definition in Column A with the correct Vocabulary Word from Column B. Write the letter of your choice on the line provided. Finally, write the Vocabulary Word on the line before the definition.

**COLUMN A**

\_\_\_\_\_ 11. word: \_\_\_\_\_  
*n.* a danger; an obstacle; *v.* to attempt

\_\_\_\_\_ 12. word: \_\_\_\_\_  
*v.* to break up; to disappear

\_\_\_\_\_ 13. word: \_\_\_\_\_  
*n.* a ticket by which a vote is cast; a list of people running for office

\_\_\_\_\_ 14. word: \_\_\_\_\_  
*v.* to change so as to fit; to become used to

\_\_\_\_\_ 15. word: \_\_\_\_\_  
*adj.* offensive to the senses; dirty; evil; unfavorable; (in baseball) not fair; *v.* to cause or to become dirty or rotten

\_\_\_\_\_ 16. word: \_\_\_\_\_  
*n.* a person who seeks or is proposed for an office, award, and so on; a person or thing destined for a certain end

\_\_\_\_\_ 17. word: \_\_\_\_\_  
*n.* goods that are bought and sold; *v.* to trade on or advertise a particular product

\_\_\_\_\_ 18. word: \_\_\_\_\_  
*n.* a business firm or organization that is run by a group of people and that has many of the legal rights of an individual

\_\_\_\_\_ 19. word: \_\_\_\_\_  
*n.* a person, business firm, and so on, that hires people to work for wages or salary

\_\_\_\_\_ 20. word: \_\_\_\_\_  
*n.* a feeling of extreme distaste or dislike; *v.* to sicken

**COLUMN B**

(A) When gasoline is burned, carbon dioxide is released. Carbon dioxide **dissolves** into the air and becomes part of the blanket surrounding the earth.

(B) In everyday life, it is almost impossible to notice carbon dioxide. Unlike many gases, it has no **foul** smell. Carbon dioxide is odorless.

(C) **Employers** can help to cut down on pollution by encouraging the people who work for them to carpool or ride buses to their jobs.

(D) Many **corporations** encourage workers to ride bicycles to work. These businesses provide special parking spaces for the bikes.

(E) Not all products that are merchandised as environmentally safe are truly safe. We must not be fooled by tricky methods of selling goods.

(F) If you want to buy environmentally friendly goods, do not just **hazard** a guess as to which products are really safe. Educate yourself.

(G) It may be hard to **adjust** to a new way of shopping. Many people are not used to looking for environmentally friendly products.

(H) Pollution **disgusts** most people. If we do not change our behavior, say environmentalists, pollution will become even more sickening.

(I) In an election, environmental laws are often an item on the **ballot**. Some people vote based on what impact the laws will have on jobs. Others consider the laws' effect on the environment.

(J) Environmentalists say that we must work to prevent global warming. If we do not, the earth will become a **candidate** for worldwide environmental problems—a sad destiny for all of us.

**EXERCISE 3*****Like Meanings and Opposite Meanings***

**Directions.** For each item below, circle the letter of the choice that means the same, or about the same, as the boldface word.

21. the store's merchandise

- (A) location
- (B) goods
- (C) popularity
- (D) recycling bin

22. to adjust the temperature

- (A) study scientifically
- (B) increase
- (C) correct or change
- (D) lower gradually

23. to mark the ballot

- (A) legal contract
- (B) sworn statement by a politician
- (C) ticket by which a vote is cast
- (D) driver's license

24. the new **corporation**

- (A) tax system
- (B) government agency that studies the law
- (C) court of law
- (D) business firm

25. the **candidate** for president

- (A) person who seeks office
- (B) president's trusted advisor
- (C) someone who studies the weather
- (D) famous person

**Directions.** For each item below, circle the letter of the choice that means the opposite, or about the opposite, of the boldface word.

26. to dissolve

- (A) stay solid
- (B) eat with water
- (C) use as fuel
- (D) study carefully

29. filled with **disgust**

- (A) pleasure
- (B) sense of doubt
- (C) feeling of hatred
- (D) shock

27. an understanding employer

- (A) high school teacher
- (B) neighbor
- (C) worker
- (D) partner

30. a foul smell

- (A) pleasing
- (B) dim
- (C) incredible
- (D) hopeful

28. a health hazard

- (A) risk
- (B) mistake
- (C) mystery
- (D) safety