

Noise pollution

Upper-Intermediate level

Task 1 - Warm-up

Listen. What is the lesson going to be about.



Task 1 - Warm-up

Answer the following questions.

- How much are you exposed to noise?
- Do you like listening to music loudly?
- Do you feel comfortable at the concert, party, in the street with intense traffic?
- What have you heard of noise pollution?
- Could it be harmful or even dangerous for people?



Task 2 - Lead-in

Here are some facts about noise.

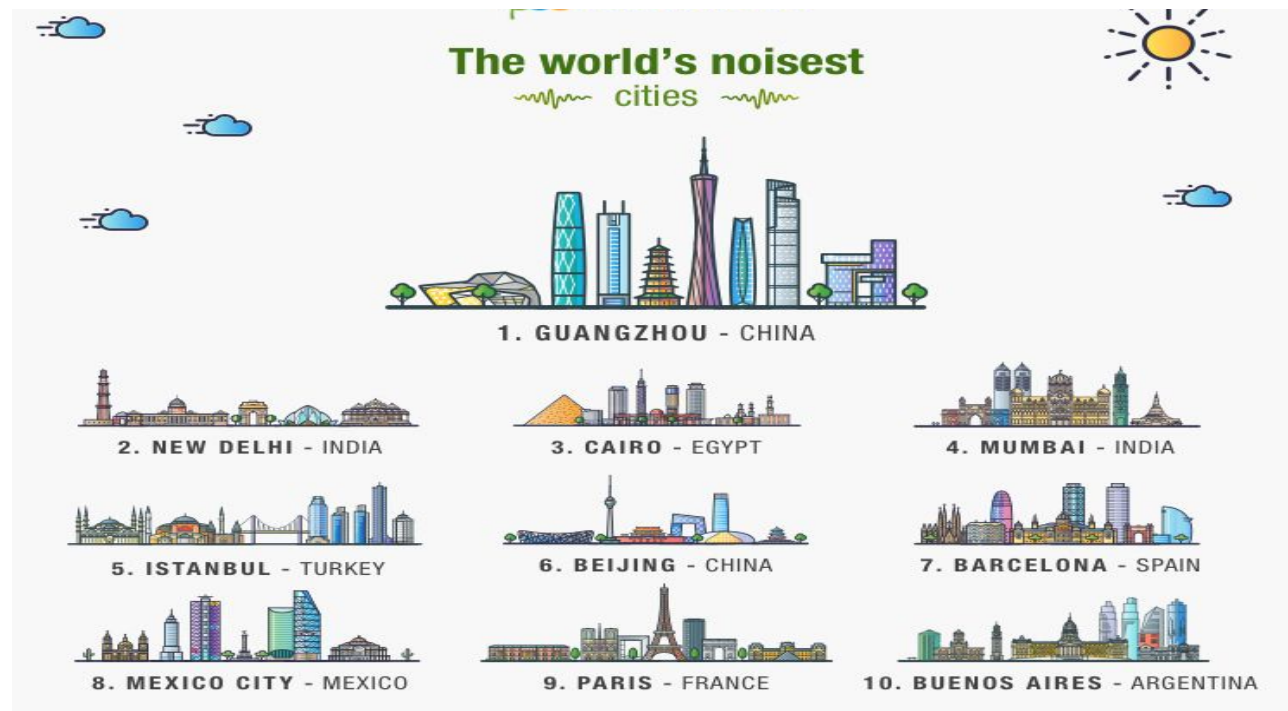
- WHO defines noise above 65 decibels as noise pollution.
- Traffic noise accounts for most polluting noise in cities. For example, a car horn produces 90 dB and a bus produces 100 dB.
- A single aircraft produces 130 dB.
- Building and car park construction and road and pavement resurfacing works are very noisy. For example, a pneumatic drill produces 110 dB.
- Bars, restaurants and terraces that spill outside when the weather is good can produce more than 100 dB. This includes noise from pubs and clubs.
- The noise made by animals can go unnoticed, but a howling or barking dog, for example, can produce around 60-80 dB.

How much noise pollution is there in your neighbourhood?

What are the sources?

Task 2 - Lead-in

Analyze the picture.



Created by Yevgeny Ryabinin for Skyteach, 2020©

Picture and info taken from

<https://www.iberdrola.com/environment/what-is-noise-pollution-causes-effects-solutions>

Task 3 - Vocabulary

Read the sentences, guess the meaning of the words in bold.

1. We could **stroll** along the beach after dinner.
2. She knew that by failing her finals she could **jeopardize** her whole future.
3. These chemicals have a **detrimental** impact on the environment.
4. This year's budget **dwarfs** all previous ones.
5. A **ripple** of laughter ran through the crowd.
6. Due to frequent hair dying here **follicles** got damaged.
7. She seemed rather **aloof** when in fact she was just shy.
8. She decided to **forego** going for a walk because of the rain.
9. The decision to invest in the energy company was a **no-brainer**.
10. Yesterday I bought a **lawnmower** to cut the grass in the backyard.

Match the words with their definitions.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. to stroll | a. any of the very small holes in the skin that a hair grows from |
| 2. to jeopardize | b. a machine used for cutting grass |
| 3. detrimental | c. not friendly or willing to take part in things |
| 4. to dwarf | d. something that is very simple to do or to understand |
| 5. a ripple | e. to give up or do without |
| 6. a follicle | f. to walk in a slow relaxed way, especially for pleasure |
| 7. aloof | g. causing harm or damage |
| 8. to forego | h. a sound or feeling that is slight but is noticed. |
| 9. no-brainer | i. to make something seem small by comparison |
| 10. a lawnmower | j. to put something in danger of being harmed or damaged |

Task 4 - Reading

Read the [article](#) and answer the questions.

1. What are the sources of noise pollution?
2. How can noise impact brain and hearing power?
3. What is the connection between noise and heart problems?
4. Can noise have a psychological influence on a human being?
5. Can you feel sleep deprived because of the noise?
6. What should be done to dwarf noise pollution?



Task 5 - Speaking

Discuss the questions.

1. Do you agree or disagree with the facts described in the article?
2. Do you have any problem mentioned in the article?
3. Do you know anyone who suffers from noise a lot?
4. How often do you listen to the music using earphones? Does it influence you somehow?



Task 6 - Video

Watch the [video](#). Are these statements true or false?

1. In the USA 1 in 4 adults are completely deaf.
2. The best idea to protect yourself is to limit noise level to 85 decibels.
3. It takes 2 hours to damage your hearing if noise level is 105 decibels.
4. Hair cells in ears act as sound detectors.
5. Brain uses additional functions if hair cells are damaged.
6. In 1980-es American government didn't care much about noise pollution.
7. It's up to a person if they want to control their being exposed to noise.



Task 7 - Discussion

Discuss the questions:

1. Have the facts in the video surprised you?
2. Do you have the same situation with noise pollution like in the video?
3. Is there any noise control policy in your city?
4. Where do you feel like a fish out of water in your city due to the high noise level?
5. What do you personally do to protect yourself from noise pollution?



Homework

For additional information watch the following videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1HzuHfsEKfw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5jfmzufa8qo>

Keys

Task 3

1f, 2j, 3g, 4i, 5h, 6a, 7c, 8e, 9d, 10 b

Task 6

1F, 2F, 3F, 4T, 5F, 6T, 7T