



GRADUATE IN SECONDARY EDUCATION

OPEN TEST

COMMUNICATION SKILLS: ENGLISH

MAY 2016

SURNAMES AND NAME: _____

SIGNATURE:

Earth Hour

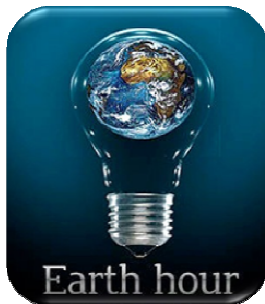
Time to switch the lights off

Earth Hour is an annual global campaign organized by the *World Wide Fund for Nature* (WWF) that encourages individuals, communities, and businesses around the world to switch off electricity at the same time for an hour. The aim of this lights-off event is to raise awareness and appreciation about the Earth's natural environment and to get people thinking about the planet they live on and the energy they use.



Towards the end of March, many countries switch their non-essential lights for one hour, as a symbol for their commitment to the planet. The end of March is around the time of the spring and autumn equinoxes in the northern and southern hemispheres respectively, so sunset times in both hemispheres are at similar times. This means that a global 'lights out' event has most visual impact at this time of year.

This international campaign was famously started in Sydney, Australia in 2007, by Andy Ridley, executive director of Earth Hour Global, WWF. He came up with the idea of Earth



Hour because he wanted to raise awareness of environmental issues by asking people to do something positive to help the planet. Switching off the lights for an hour can make a small difference to the amount of energy we use, but Earth Hour is also a symbolic event to make people think about the problems of climate change.

Since then it has grown to engage a large number of cities and towns worldwide. Earth Hour 2016 took place in an unprecedented 178 countries and territories for 60 minutes, making it the biggest celebration for our planet ever. Every year landmarks and well-known buildings around the world such as the *Sydney Opera House* and *Harbour Bridge*, the *Petronas towers* in Malaysia, the *UK Parliament*, *Buckingham Palace* and the *Empire State Building* take part and 'go dark' for Earth Hour. The campaign even went into space when astronauts reduced power on the International Space Station in 2011.

Today, Earth Hour engages a massive mainstream community on a broad range of environmental issues. The one-hour event continues to remain the key driver of the now larger movement.

1. Are these statements true or false? Correct the false ones. (2 points)

1. The *World Wide Fund for Nature* started *Earth Hour* to make people think about environmental issues.

TRUE / FALSE

.....

2. It is spring in both the northern and southern hemispheres in March.

TRUE / FALSE

.....

3. Even astronauts on the International Space Station reduced energy in 2012.

TRUE / FALSE

.....

4. This global campaign has a higher visual impact around the end of March.

TRUE / FALSE

.....

2. Find words or phrases in the text to match the following definitions. (1 point)

1. A group of people especially having the same religion, ideas, nationality or living in the same area.

.....

2. An action, object, event, etc., that represents a particular idea or quality for a group of people.

.....

3. A building or place that is easily recognized, especially one that you can use to judge where you are.

.....

3. Familiar or famous for many people.

.....

3. Choose the correct answer. (2 points)

1. What is the text about?
 - a- The increasing number of people working at the WWF.
 - b- Spring and autumn equinoxes in the earth.
 - c- An annual campaign to make people become aware about the effects of climate change.
 - d- Different problems caused by climate change.

2. What is the main idea of paragraph 2?
 - a- Symbols are important for global campaigns.
 - b- Switching off the lights for an hour can make a big difference for climate change.
 - c- Sunset times are longer at the end of March.
 - d- A worldwide "lights-out" activity has a considerably bigger impact in March.

3. In 2016...
 - a- ...the biggest celebration for our planet took place.
 - b- ...20% of world landmarks were switched off in 178 countries.
 - c- ...only *Sydney Opera House* and *Harbour Bridge*, the *Petronas towers*, the *UK Parliament*, *Buckingham Palace* and the *Empire State Building* turned off lights this year.
 - d- ...this campaign was special because "going dark" took more than an hour.

4. Earth Hour...
 - a- ... is about how much energy is saved in an hour.
 - b- ...is to inspire millions across the world to care about our planet.
 - c- ...alone, if done properly, can solve climate change.
 - d- ...is the answer to global warming.

4. Choose the best word from the box to complete the text. (2 points)

(There are **2 words** that you don't need)

The environmental impact of cities

More than half of the world's (1) lives in cities and towns. Traffic and pollution are becoming a big (2) in big cities all over the world. Huge traffic (3) in cities do not only make people lose (4) in getting to work, but they also make cities more (5) Too much space is taken away from nature and used for streets and parking areas. Some cities are far better at planning than others. In Amsterdam, for example, only 40% of the population uses their car to get to work, 35% (6) a bike while 25% use (7) transport. In Paris, about half of the city's commuters drive their car to work while on the other side of the Atlantic, 95% of Atlanta's workers go (8) car. For Third World cities the problems have just started. (9) is getting worse as more and more people can (10) to by a car.

ride	by	afford	problem
jams	population	have	increasing
time	public	polluted	traffic

Write your answers here:

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10



5. Write a composition of about 100 words on :

“Environmental problems” (3 points)



****These pictures and questions below are just to help you generate ideas.*

Think about these aspects:

- At present, world environmental crisis is considered one of the burning issues for human being.
- Environmental problems are too big to be managed by individual persons or countries. In other words, it is a global community problem.
- Global warming has become an undisputed fact about our current livelihoods; our planet is warming up and we are definitely part of the problem.
- Unless we address the various issues prudently and seriously we are surely doomed for disaster.
- Do current environmental problems require urgent attention?
- What can individuals do to protect our environment?

Remember: think and put your ideas in order before starting to write; you may use the last page to write a draft.

