

Unit 4

Protecting the Environment

Heaven does not speak in words. It speaks through the rotation of four seasons and the growth of all living things.

— Confucius

Getting Started

Look at the picture on the left and answer the questions.

1. What is the possible relationship between the two polar bears?
2. What might have separated them from each other?
3. What could humans do to help solve their problem?

《高中英语》（上外版）

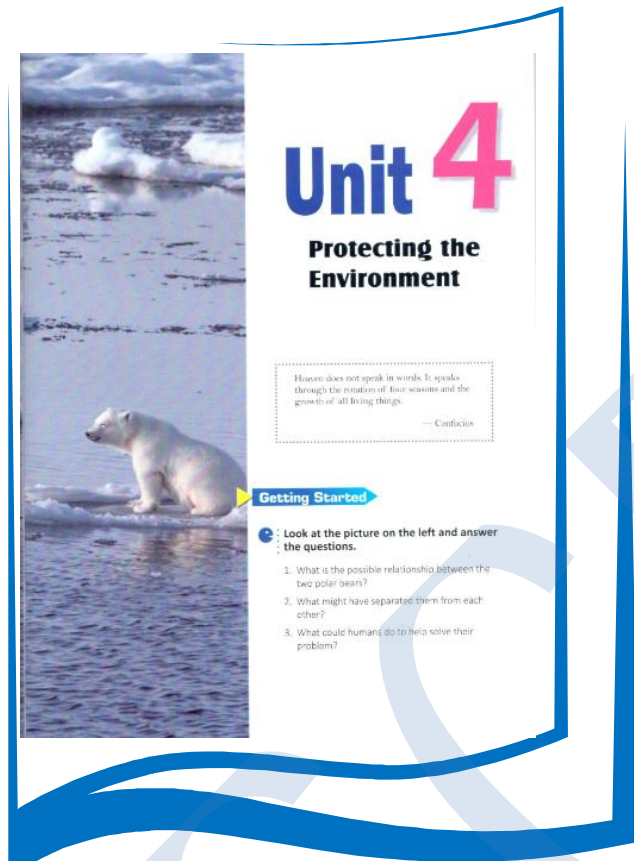
选择性必修第三册第四单元

Protecting the Environment

授课教师：沈宇丹

《高中英语》（上外版）

选择性必修第三册第四单元



课时	授课内容
1	Getting Started/ Reading A
1	Reading A/ Vocabulary Focus
1	Reading A/ Grammar in Use
1.5	Listening, Viewing and Speaking
1	Reading B
0.5	Critical Thinking
1	Writing
1	Further Exploration/ Self-assessment

学习目标 Learning Objectives:

At the end of the lesson, you will be able to ...

1. 能识别新闻类语篇的导语，分析导语的作用及语言特征；
recognise the news lead and its function and linguistic features;
2. 能识别“问题-解决”语篇模式，并能利用其梳理出环保组织和个人在解决海洋废弃物问题所采取的措施及预期效果；
figure out the “problem-solution” textual pattern and use it to analyse the solutions to waste in the ocean by organisations and individuals respectively and their expected results;
3. 能意识到海洋所面临的问题，树立起保护海洋环境的意识。
become aware of the problems facing the ocean and raise the awareness of protecting the environment of the ocean.

Pre-reading

- ◆ What are the people doing in the picture?

They are collecting plastic rubbish on the beach.

- ◆ Why are they doing so?

They are doing so to prevent the plastic rubbish from going into the ocean.



READING B

TOGETHER FOR OUR OCEAN



- What does the title mean?
- What may be discussed in the passage?

While-reading

Read the first paragraph and fill in the blanks.

TOGETHER FOR OUR OCEAN

Every year a huge amount of waste ends up in the world's oceans and causes problems for the animals living there. This is why many volunteers all over the world take part in International Coastal Clean-up.

The first paragraph is the lead of the news report, which introduces the main idea of the report and serves to attract readers' attention. Its language is usually brief, accurate and objective.

TOGETHER FOR OUR OCEAN

Every year a huge amount of waste ends up in the world's oceans and causes problems for the animals living there. This is why many volunteers all over the world take part in International Coastal Clean-up.

About 80% of all marine waste is plastic from bottles and packaging. This rubbish runs into rivers when it rains and then flows into the sea. Most of the rubbish sinks to the bottom of the ocean but some stays on the surface and collects in large areas like the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. The rest ends up on beaches. Rubbish causes problems for the animals living in the ocean. Some animals mistake rubbish for food. For example, some turtles living on jellyfish think that plastic bags are a type of food. The plastic can block their stomachs so that they starve, or it may poison the turtles. A survey by the University of Queensland showed that 50% of green turtles eat rubbish, and that figure is increasing. As six species of sea turtle are already threatened with extinction, this is a big problem.

With millions and millions of tons of waste entering the ocean every year, it is clear that we need to do something to protect the animals living there. One



organisation that does this is Ocean Conservancy, an organisation that started in the USA. Since 1986, it has organised International Coastal Clean-up. The event grows every year and now people are getting involved on over 6,000 beaches in more than 100 countries.

So why is it so important to clean up our oceans? Ocean Conservancy is clear about this. On their website you can read: "The ocean sustains us with the basic elements of life — it produces half of the oxygen in the air we breathe, and it is an essential part of the water cycle, helping to provide the water we drink." By cleaning up rubbish you are protecting the ocean environment and the animals that live there.

What can each and every one of us do about that rubbish in the oceans? Perhaps the most important thing is that you can think about how much packaging is included with the products you buy, and where you throw away any rubbish you have. Less packaging and fewer products are a step on the way to more sustainable

development. You can also take part in ocean clean-up day. If rubbish is picked up from the beach, it will not flow out to the ocean and cause problems for animals that eat it or become trapped in it.

Cleaning up the oceans seems like an impossible task, but if everybody reduces the amount of rubbish they produce, and keeps rubbish off the beaches, one day there may no longer be a need for ocean clean-up day.

Skim the passage and find out its structure, textual pattern and main idea by filling the blanks.

Paragraph

Para.1

Para(s). 2

Para(s). 3-5

Para(s). 6

Content

the lead

the problem

the solutions

the conclusion

The textual pattern: problem-solution

The passage is mainly about the waste problem in the ocean and the suggested solutions to the problem.

While-reading Scan the passage and complete the diagram.

Problem with the ocean

Problem: Waste in the ocean

Consequences of the problem:

Solutions to the problem

Solution 1

For organisations:

Expected result:

Solution 2

For individuals:

- 1)
- 2)

Expected results:

- 1)
- 2)

Conclusion: _____ if
everyone reduces rubbish and keeps it away from beaches.

While-reading

waste in the ocean

80%: plastic from bottles and **packaging**
20%: other waste

About 80% of all **marine waste** is plastic from bottles and packaging. This rubbish runs into rivers when it rains and then flows into the sea. Most of the rubbish sinks to the bottom of the ocean but some stays on the surface and collects in large areas like the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. The rest ends up on

beaches. Rubbish causes problems for the animals living in the ocean. Some animals mistake rubbish for food. For example, some turtles living on jellyfish think that plastic bags are a type of food. The plastic can block their stomachs so that they starve, or it may poison the turtles. A survey by the University of Queensland showed that 50% of green turtles eat rubbish, and that figure is increasing. As six species of sea turtle are already threatened with extinction, this is a big problem.



Problem

Consequences



Problem with the ocean

Problem: Waste in the ocean / Marine waste

sink to the bottom

stay on the surface and collect in large areas

end up on beaches

Consequences of the problem:

Rubbish causes problems for the animals living in the ocean. /
Some animals mistake rubbish for food.

How does the writer illustrate the consequences?

While-reading

About 80% of all marine waste is plastic from bottles and packaging. This rubbish runs into rivers when it rains and then flows into the sea. Most of the rubbish sinks to the bottom of the ocean but some stays on the surface and collects in large areas like the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. The rest ends up on beaches.

Problem

Rubbish causes problems for the animals living in the ocean. Some animals take rubbish for food. For example, some turtles living on jellyfish think that plastic bags are a type of food. The plastic can block their stomachs so that they starve, or it may poison the turtles. A survey by the University of Queensland showed that 50% of green turtles eat rubbish, and that figure is increasing. As six species of sea turtle are already threatened with extinction, this is a big problem.

feeding on

giving examples

Consequences

using statistics

are already in danger of dying out /
are already under the threat of extinction

threaten v. *to be a danger to sth*
threaten ...with... / be threatened with
→ n. threat *under threat / under the threat of...*

While-reading

With millions and millions of tons of waste entering the ocean every year, it is clear that we need to do something to protect the animals living there. One organisation that does this is Ocean Conservancy, an organisation that started in the USA. Since 1986, it has organised International Coastal Clean-up events that grow every year and on over 6,000 beaches.

→adj. sustainable

e.g. sustainable development

So why is it so important to clean up the oceans? Ocean Conservancy is clear about this. On their website you can read: “The ocean **sustains** us with the **basic elements** of life — it produces half of the **oxygen** in the air we breathe, and it is an essential part of the water cycle, helping to provide the **water** we drink.” By cleaning up rubbish you are protecting the ocean environment and the animals that live there.

Solution 1

For organisations:

Organisations like Ocean Conservancy have organised International Coastal Clean-up.

Expected result:

By cleaning up rubbish you are protecting the ocean environment and the animals that live there.

While-reading

What can each and every one of us do about that rubbish in the oceans?

Perhaps the most important thing is that you can think about how much packaging is included with the products you buy, and where you throw away any rubbish you have. Less

packaging and fewer products are a step on the way to more sustainable development. You can also take part in

keep sb in a dangerous place or bad situation that they want to get out of but cannot become trapped in it.

Solution 2

For individuals:

- 1) Individuals should use less packaging and pay attention to where they throw away the rubbish.
- 2) Individuals can also take part in ocean clean-up day.

Expected results:

- 1) Less packaging and fewer products are a step on the way to more sustainable development.
- 2) If rubbish is picked up from the beach, it will not flow out to the ocean and cause problems for animals that eat it or become trapped in it.

While-reading

Cleaning up the oceans seems like an impossible task, but if everybody reduces the amount of rubbish they produce, and keeps rubbish off the beaches, one day there may no longer be a need for ocean clean-up day.

Conclusion:

There will be no need for ocean
clean-up day in the future if
everyone reduces rubbish and
keeps it away from beaches.



Post-reading

Group discussion:

Can you think of other solutions to settle the issue? List the solutions and expected results in the table.

Solutions	Expected results

Homework:

1. Read the passage of Reading B aloud.
2. Give an oral account of the waste problem in the ocean logically based on the diagram in the textbook.



Thank you!