


*English*

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

# Vocabulary Warm-up



L.O. To identify technical vocabulary.

 Seven Worlds, One Planet (53:30)



Listen carefully for the words. Place on a counter when you hear them.

sustainable	diverse	industrial
economy	deforestation	plantations
planet	efficient	intelligent

Log on to BBC iPlayer. Watch the episode from 53 mins 30 secs in until the end.

If you haven't any counters, you could cross out the words, or just write them down when you hear them.

Now find out what the words mean, using a dictionary or WordHippo.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000b1tw/seven-worlds-one-planet-series-1-2-asia>

<https://www.wordhippo.com/>

## Transcript – Seven Worlds, One Planet

Since 1960, the destruction of Borneo's rainforests has been happening on an industrial scale. Huge areas were initially stripped for timber, and then a very different type of tree was planted – oil palm. Today it has become the most widely used vegetable oil in the World, and Borneo is the location of almost half the oil palm plantations on the planet. These uniform plantations can't support life in the same way as a rich and diverse rainforest, but oil palm is very important to the local economy and it's highly efficient. Simply using another type of oil might take up more land, leading to more deforestation. And this is where it ends up. - palm oil is found in around half the packaged products in our supermarkets, as well as in bio-fuels. The balance between our needs and conservation is hard, but we can offer a vital lifeline for our forest relatives – we may be able to protect them through simple choices like buying products made with deforestation-free sustainable palm oil, from companies that support local people using existing plantations without cutting down more rainforest...Their future will be determined by the choices we make today. Back in 1956, I never imagined that within the space of my lifetime, these intelligent apes and the ancient forests they have lived in for millions of years, would be placed under such dire threat. Just how much longer they will inhabit the planet, is up to all of us.

David Attenborough *Seven Worlds, One Planet* (Series 1 Asia - from 53:30)

Spot the  
noun  
phrases.

On Tuesday, you learnt about noun phrases and created some expanded noun phrases.

We are going to use that key skill in our writing today.

Read the transcript from *Seven Worlds, One Planet* and highlight or write down the noun phrases you can spot. Some of these may come in useful when you are writing today.

For help finding them, see the next page...

## What is a noun phrase?

A group of words that has a noun as its head, or key word.

We add adjectives to the noun to create an expanded noun phrase.

A little  
bit of  
help...

girl  
the girl  
the tall girl  
the tall girl by the wall

Since 1960, **the destruction** of Borneo's rainforests has been happening on **an industrial scale**. Huge areas were initially stripped for timber, and then **a very different type of tree** was planted – oil palm. Today it has become **the most widely used vegetable oil in the World**, and Borneo is **the location** of almost half **the oil palm plantations on the planet**. These

Look for a **determiner** (the, a, an, many, some etc);

The **main noun** (destruction, scale, type, vegetable oil, location, oil palm plantations).

Then, the added **adjectives** (industrial, very different) to describe the noun and any **prepositions** (in the World, on the planet).

# Your task...

Today, you are going to write a persuasive letter about the issue of palm oil from Rang-tan (the orangutan in the advert) to the human race. You need to really empathise with the character – use Magic Mirror to get into role before you write.

Watch the advert again to gather ideas and then look at the next pages for more detail on your task.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JdpspllWI2o>

L.O. To present views about a current global issue in a persuasive letter.

Your task is to write a letter from the young orang-utans' point of view to the human race, outlining the issues around the use of palm oil and what you would like them to do about it.

You need to make it clear what the problem is and how it affects everyone, not just the orang-utans.

Make suggestions in what they could do to help e.g. aim to buy products that use only sustainable palm oil in their production.

*This is an independent writing task, so I won't be modelling today, but there is a good example on the next page for you to look at.*



Read the example on the next page from a Blue Whale to the human race.

Then, use PALS and the planning sheet to plan your letter.

L4 v



Imagine that an endangered whale could write a letter. What would the whale say? Young writer Louise Plater asked herself just this question. She imagined that she was a blue whale, and wrote this letter.

Joe Deene  
Editor

Dear Humans,



I am a blue whale and I live in the Pacific Ocean. I am writing this letter to ask for peace in the world's oceans on behalf of the creatures of the sea. For years we have lived among the tall sea plants that grow up from the sea bed. We have swum among the gentle waves as they lap against each rock.

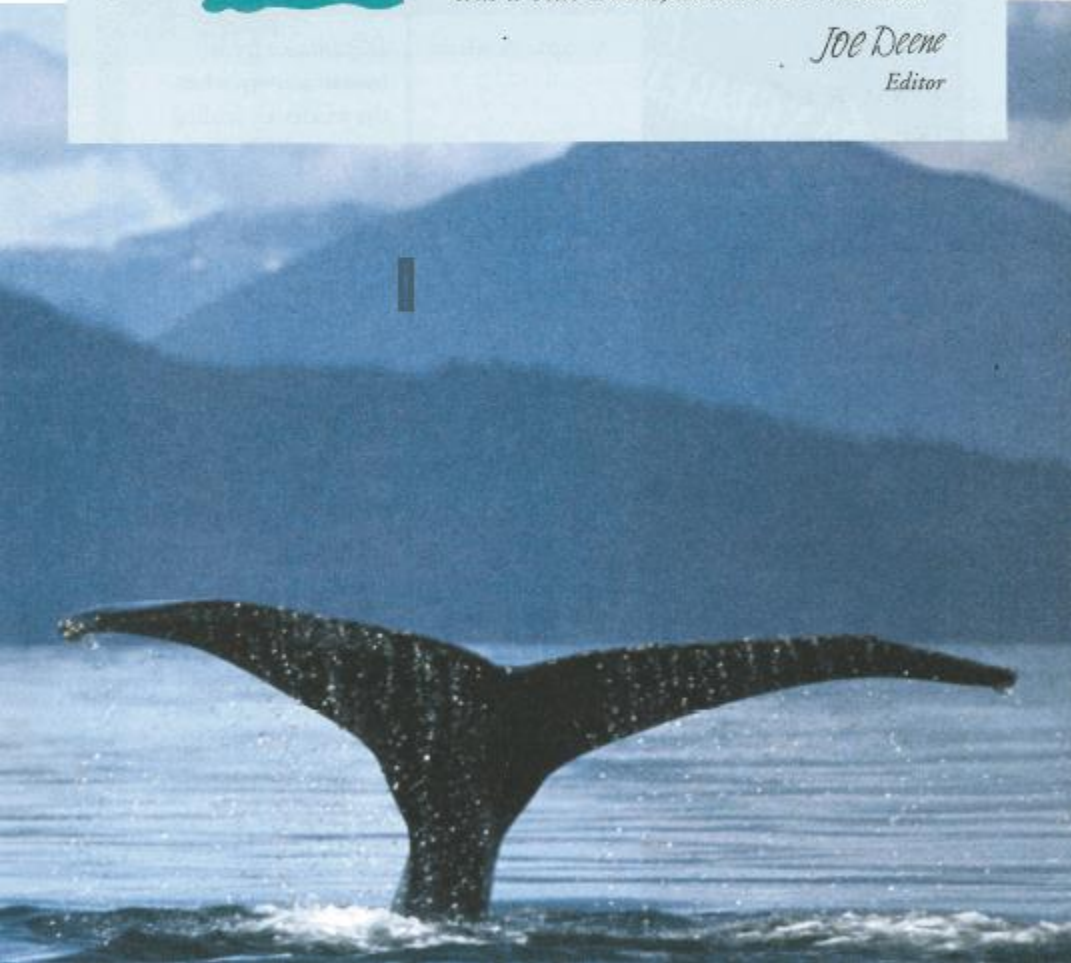
You turn a peaceful sea into an angry sea. Now, the waves boil and swell in huge currents. As you dump piles of smelly oil into our clear water it becomes murky. Oil wraps itself cruelly in a coat around so many sea birds and fish. Oil sticks to their feathers and clings to their eyes and mouths. It has poisoned them. It killed them. You killed them.

You kill us whales too. You hunt us in big ships. You follow us. When you have us trapped between ships, you drop a net down. We are victims of you, just like the birds and fish are victims of oil. The sight of a net coming towards us fills us with alarm. Sheer panic overcomes us. We see no way out. The strong wires in the net press tightly against our bodies.

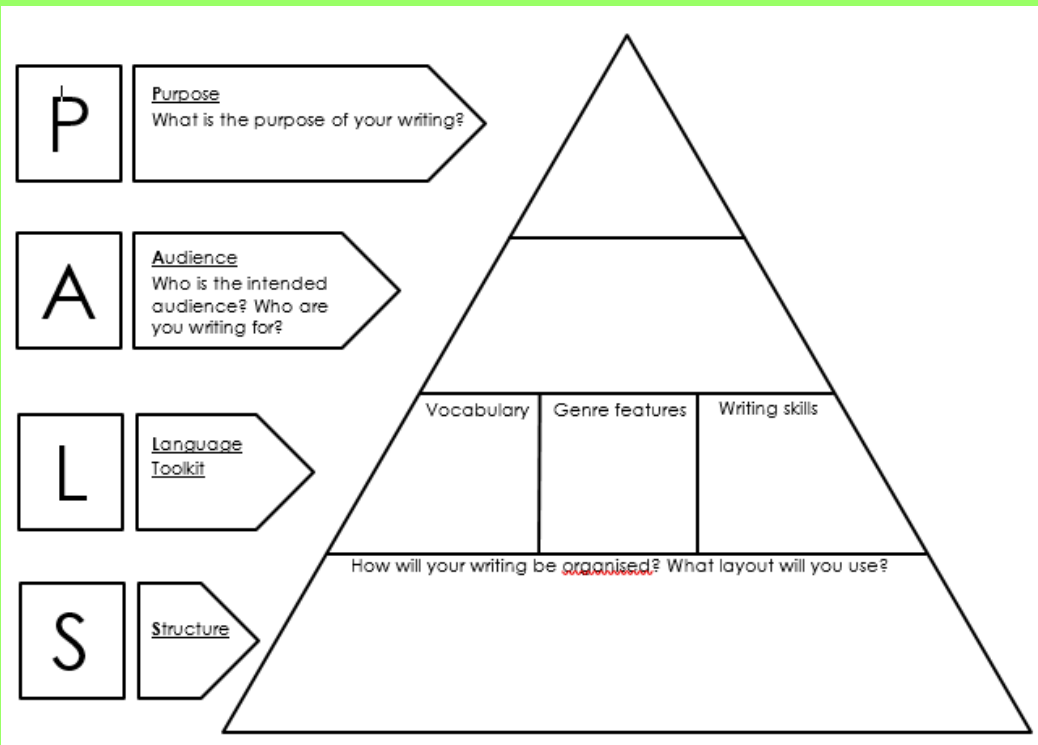
I have not experienced this myself. Luckily I am still alive and able to write this letter to you. Many of my friends, however, and family, have not been so fortunate. It is as much for them as for anyone else that I am asking you to stop doing this. You are driving us to extinction. Please, give us peace.

Yours beseechingly,  
Blue Whale

Can you spot persuasive noun phrases? For example... an angry sea, sheer panic.







Use Resource Sheet 2 PALS and Resource Sheet 3 Plan to help you plan and organise your letter.

L.O. To plan a persuasive letter about a current global issue.

	Structure	My ideas
Chunk 1	Opening	Who you are and why you are writing?
Chunk 2	Outline the issues	What is happening and why?
Chunk 3	Effects of the issue	How does this affect you, the other wildlife and the planet? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You</li> <li>Other wildlife</li> <li>Our planet</li> </ul>
Chunk 4	How the issue could be helped/resolved	What can humans do to help?
Chunk 5	Final summary	Summarise and final plea for help.

Don't forget to use expanded noun phrases with persuasive adjectives to make your letter really persuasive. And... you have a bank of noun phrases with technical vocab from the warm-up too.

# Final reminders...

- You are writing from the **point of view of Rang-tan** on behalf of the orang-utans.
- You will need to write in **first person** (I, we etc).
- You are writing to the **human race**, so really direct your letter at them (**you** destroy our habitats...)
- You will need to think carefully about tense – use **present tense** for issues happening now, and **future tense** when writing about the impact in the future.
- Use **persuasive expanded noun phrases** with **technical vocabulary** e.g. the destruction of Borneo's rainforest is happening on an industrial scale (see resource sheet 4)
- Don't forget to use your information from your homework on palm oil.

Now you are ready to write...

Dear Humans...