

# Europe's Environmental Issues

## CLOZE Notes 1

### ACID RAIN IN GERMANY

#### Acid Rain

- Over the past 30 years, acid rain has been \_\_\_\_\_.
- It contaminates soil, \_\_\_\_\_, eats holes in the surfaces of buildings & statues, pollutes rivers, and harms wildlife.

#### What is Acid Rain?

- Acid rain is a result of \_\_\_\_\_.
- When any type of fuel is burned, a lot of different \_\_\_\_\_ and released into the air.
- The chemicals mix with water in the clouds and \_\_\_\_\_.
- The rain that falls has weak \_\_\_\_\_ mixed in.
- It's not acidic enough to burn your skin, but it is \_\_\_\_\_ for the environment.

#### Causes

- The main source of acid rain is \_\_\_\_\_ (burning fuels like natural gas, coal, & oil). \_\_\_\_\_ also produce harmful gases.

#### Effects

- Acid rain can \_\_\_\_\_ in several different ways.
- It dissolves & \_\_\_\_\_ and minerals in the soil.
- It also causes the \_\_\_\_\_ such as aluminum into the soil.

#### Black Forest

- Acid rain has destroyed nearly \_\_\_\_\_ in Germany!
- This has really \_\_\_\_\_ because one of its major natural resources is timber.

#### Effects

- Acid rain causes the water in rivers and lakes to become \_\_\_\_\_ that live in these waters are dying, as well as the animals that drink from these waters.
- It also causes people to face harmful \_\_\_\_\_ because the rain contaminates the drinking water in fresh water reservoirs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ in acid rain are eating away at many of Germany's landmarks, causing buildings and artwork to deteriorate.
- Concrete, metals, limestone, and marble are all susceptible to acid rain, and many of Germany's cultural objects that are hundreds of years old are \_\_\_\_\_.

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## CLOZE Notes 2

### Germany's Solution

- In Germany, power \_\_\_\_\_ are replacing many coal-burning factories.
- They are developing \_\_\_\_\_, such as wind turbines and solar power.
- Germany's government has passed laws to \_\_\_\_\_ from cars and factories.

### AIR POLLUTION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

#### Air Pollution

- Many of the world's largest and most \_\_\_\_\_ are in Europe.
- Paris, \_\_\_\_\_, Berlin, Rome, Amsterdam
- These cities tend to have a \_\_\_\_\_, a lot of traffic, and produce a lot of air pollution.
- A country that has been \_\_\_\_\_ by this problem is the UK.

#### UK's Air Pollution

- London, the capital of UK, is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The word "smog" was first used in 1905 to describe air in London ( \_\_\_\_\_).
- Thick London smog happens when sunlight acts on the gases from factory or automobile exhausts, or when water in the \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Causes

- In the past, the major source of air pollution was smoke from \_\_\_\_\_ in factories.
- The air quality in the UK began diminishing due to the \_\_\_\_\_ emitted from the burning coal.
- Today, \_\_\_\_\_ is the big problem.
- Emissions from automobiles contain carbon monoxide and nitrous oxide, which stay close to the ground and contribute to \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Effects

- \_\_\_\_\_ are linked to vehicle emissions.
- Air pollution \_\_\_\_\_, nose, and eyes, and endangers human life.
- When air pollution levels are high, children, sick people, and the elderly \_\_\_\_\_ to avoid breathing the hazardous air.
- Air pollution also \_\_\_\_\_.
- Vegetation exposed to polluted air for long periods of time \_\_\_\_\_ and is more susceptible to disease and insects.
- This causes a major \_\_\_\_\_ production.

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## CLOZE Notes 3

### UK's Solution

- Starting in the 1950s, UK's government has created \_\_\_\_\_ in London where only smokeless fuels could be used.
- \_\_\_\_\_ has also been used more in factories and homes.
- Laws have been created that require automobile makers to build cars that \_\_\_\_\_ and are encouraged to use public transportation or walk.
- People have been asked to \_\_\_\_\_.

### WHAT IS EUROPE DOING OT FIX THESE PROBLEMS?

#### Environmental Policies

- In Western Europe, nations are trying to \_\_\_\_\_.
- They are spending money and \_\_\_\_\_ to produce power that cause less environmental damage.
- In Eastern Europe, \_\_\_\_\_ are researching new technologies.
- They have \_\_\_\_\_.

#### European Union

- Most countries in Europe are members of a group called the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Since its formation in 1993, the \_\_\_\_\_ designed to fight acid rain, improve air quality, restrict toxic waste, and reduce pollution.

### NIGEAR DISASTER IN CHERNOBYL, UKRAINE

#### Nuclear Power

- Between 1922 and 1991, Ukraine was \_\_\_\_\_ and was known for its fertile farmland and successful agricultural industry.
- During the 1980s, many countries in Europe began using \_\_\_\_\_ to produce cleaner and cheaper energy in order to rely less on fossil fuels.
- Many European countries had strict regulations on nuclear power use; however, \_\_\_\_\_.
- Chernobyl was a growing city in Ukraine, and it was home to the \_\_\_\_\_ in Europe.
- Unlike other nuclear power plants, Chernobyl was used to produced \_\_\_\_\_ material.

#### Chernobyl

- In 1986, the Soviet Union \_\_\_\_\_ of the world's nuclear power.
- On April 26, 1986, one of the reactors at the Chernobyl nuclear \_\_\_\_\_.
- The explosion released large amounts of \_\_\_\_\_ into the atmosphere.

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## CLOZE Notes 4

### Soviet Reaction

- The morning after the explosion, there was \_\_\_\_\_ of being exposed to radiation, the people were finally told to pack their clothing and evacuate their homes.
- There was an \_\_\_\_\_.

### Worldwide Impact

- Nearly \_\_\_\_\_ of radioactive material (90 times as much as the Hiroshima bomb) was hurled into the sky.
- Over the following days, winds mostly blowing north and west, carried fallout into Belarus, as well as Russia, Poland, & other \_\_\_\_\_.

### Effects

- In the first months after the accident, \_\_\_\_\_ from acute radiation syndrome.
- Doctors have noticed an increase in \_\_\_\_\_ who lived nearby.
- Many \_\_\_\_\_ or got sick.
- Fish in nearby rivers were \_\_\_\_\_ for many years.
- Millions of acres of \_\_\_\_\_.
- The people exposed to the high levels of radiation developed a high level of \_\_\_\_\_, including thyroid cancer, autoimmune disorders, birth defects, and other health issues.

### Chernobyl Today

- Chernobyl continued to produce electricity for \_\_\_\_\_, until international pressure forced its closure in 2000.
- An \_\_\_\_\_ around the plant remains in place, extending for 18 miles.
- It is one of the most \_\_\_\_\_ on Earth.
- In 2011, Ukraine opened up an area so tourists can see \_\_\_\_\_ of the disaster.
- Forests surrounding the city have repopulated with a \_\_\_\_\_ and vegetation.
- Radiation levels are still so high that humans cannot live here for \_\_\_\_\_!