

2

OUR CHANGING PLANET

THE EARTH: A CHANGING PLANET



1 Scientists believe the Earth is 4.6 billion years old. However, the **mountains**, valleys, **hills**, **rivers**, **deserts** and **forests** we see today are much younger than that. For example, Mount Everest is about 60 million years old and the Amazon rainforest is only 10 million years old. The youngest **sea** in the world is the Baltic Sea, at about 15,000 years old.

2 The Earth is always changing because of **volcanoes**, earthquakes and, of course, wind and rain. Some of these changes are very slow and others are quick. Water and ice can make very big changes to the planet. For example, glaciers (rivers of ice) can cut through mountains and make **lakes** and deep **valleys**. Eighty or more volcanoes are under the oceans and sometimes they become new islands. This is happening in the South Pacific, near Tonga.

3 It's normal for our planet to change, but at the moment, scientists think it's changing faster than usual. They don't understand everything that's happening, but they know that some **deserts** (places where it doesn't rain much) are growing, and many forests are getting smaller. The weather is getting wetter in some places and drier in others, and there are more big storms.

4 However, these changes are not bad for everyone. Because the Arctic is getting warmer, some people in Greenland now own businesses and sell vegetables they grow on their land. That wasn't possible so far north 50 years ago. Farmers in Greenland like the warm weather and hope it will continue.



ABOUT YOU

What is the weather like in your country?
Is the weather the same every year?

VOCABULARY

AND

READING

Geographical features

1 In pairs, discuss the questions. Then read the article and check your ideas.

- 1 How old is the Earth?
- 2 What's happening to the Earth's weather at the moment?

2 Read the article again and choose the best heading for each paragraph.

- A Good news in one part of the world
- B Problems for the planet
- C The age of the planet
- D How the planet changes



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3 Match the words in **blue** in the article to the photos A-I. Listen and check. Then repeat.

EP



4 Complete each sentence with the correct word from Exercise 3.

- Not many plants and animals can live in _____ because they are very dry. *deserts / hills*
- Many _____ have snow on top of them all year. *mountains / valleys*
- There's a _____ near my home, and I like going fishing there. *river / sea*
- There were so many trees in the _____ that it was impossible to see the sky. *forest / lake*
- My friend and I cycled to the _____ for a swim. *lake / volcano*

5 Write five sentences of your own using the words from Exercise 3.



PRONUNCIATION

th: /θ/ and /ð/



- 6 Listen to the sounds θ and ð and repeat them. Then put the words in the box into the correct column.

north	other	south
that	there	these
thing	think	this

θ earth

ð weather

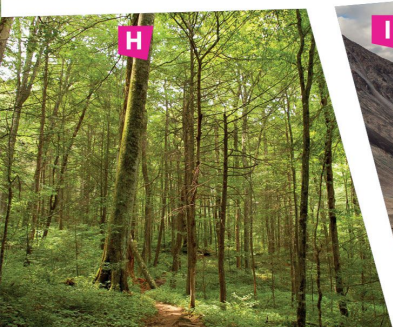


12 Listen and check. Then repeat.

7 Write sentences about the geography of your country.

There are mountains in the north of my country.

8 In groups of four, listen to each others' sentences. Which geographical features from Exercise 3 does each person talk about?



GRAMMAR

Verbs we don't usually use in the continuous

1 Find these verbs in the article on page 14 and underline them. What tense are they in?

believe	hope	know	like
own	think	understand	

The verbs above are about thinking, feeling and owning things. We don't usually use them in the continuous form.

2 Which of these words are also about thinking, feeling and owning things?

belong to	buy	climb	feel	hate
have	love	mean	need	prefer
run	sing	want	work	

GRAMMAR REFERENCE AND PRACTICE PAGE 148

3 Complete the sentences using the present simple or present continuous of the verbs in brackets.

- Can you turn the TV off? I _____ (hate) that programme!
- Mr Jones _____ (want) to talk to you. Are you free now?
- Why _____ (you sing)? I _____ (need) to study!
- That book _____ (belong) to me. It's not my friend's.
- I _____ (love) this T-shirt. Can I buy it, Mum?
- I can't talk now, sorry. I _____ (run).

4 Correct the mistakes in the sentences.



- There are things in my bag that I'm needing at the moment.
- The weather's cold at the moment, but I'm preferring it like that.
- I'm thinking the party was great.
- My brother is liking summer and I'm liking winter.
- Get into the pool with me! The water is feeling great.

5 Use the prompts to write questions beginning *Do you ...* or *Are you ...* Then walk around the class and ask people your questions.

own / a bike?
 learn to / play an instrument?
 like / cabbage?
 do / an art project at the moment?
 think / English is easy?
 plan to / do something interesting this weekend?
 love / watching TV?
 need / study for an exam?

In pairs, discuss what you found out.

READING

- 1 Look at the picture below. In pairs, write down three things you know about pandas. Read the article once to check your ideas.
- 2 Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?
 - 1 The writer helped to look after giant pandas on her trip.
 - 2 It's possible to find wild pandas in several countries.
 - 3 Pandas only eat bamboo.
 - 4 Baby pandas are very light when they are born.
 - 5 Pandas start eating bamboo at the age of 18 months.
 - 6 Scientists know exactly how many wild pandas there are.
 - 7 It's possible to see a panda in Mexico.

Learning about the

GIANT PANDA



When I planned my trip to China, one of things I really wanted to do was to work at the Dujiangyan Panda Base in Chengdu. I spent seven days there, looking after the pandas, giving them food and cleaning their enclosures.

While I was there, I learned a lot about pandas. Wild pandas live in bamboo forests, high in the mountains of central China. In the past, they also lived in other parts of China and in Myanmar and Vietnam, but they don't any more. They spend about 12 hours a day eating bamboo, but they sometimes eat other plants or small animals. At Dujiangyan, we also gave them fruit, like apples, and special panda cakes made of rice, eggs and flour and other things.

Adult giant pandas weigh between 75 and 135 kilograms. Females usually only have one baby panda, or cub, at a time. The cubs only weigh about 85 grams when they are born! The little cub drinks milk for about four months and then begins to eat bamboo. Young pandas stay with their mothers for around 18 months.

Scientists think there are now between 1,500 and 2,000 pandas in the wild. This is a low number, but it's double what it was in the 1970s. The reason the number is going up is because of all the work scientists are doing at places like the Dujiangyan Panda Base in Chengdu. There are also about 325 pandas in zoos in a number of different countries, including the United States, Mexico, Japan and Germany.



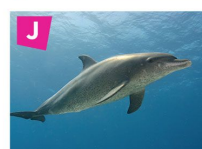
VOCABULARY

Animals



- 1 Match the words in the box to the photos A–J. Listen and check. Then repeat.

14 EP



dolphin elephant giraffe
monkey parrot penguin
polar bear snake
tiger whale

- 2 Answer the questions about the animals in Exercise 1.

- 1 Where do the animals come from?
- 2 Where do they live (sea, mountains, forest)?
- 3 Which are dangerous?
- 4 Look at each photo carefully. Are the animals in a zoo or are they wild?
- 5 How many other animals can you name in English?



TALKING POINTS

What are your five favourite animals?
Why do you like them?
How often do you go to zoos?
Do you like them?

LISTENING



PREPARE FOR THE EXAM

Listening Part 5

- 1** You will hear Gina talking to her uncle about some photos of animals. Where did he take each photo? For each question, choose the correct answer.



Photographs

- 0 lion **D**
- 1 monkey
- 2 snake
- 3 penguin
- 4 dolphin
- 5 elephant

Countries

- A Argentina
- B England
- C India
- D Kenya
- E Mexico
- F New Zealand
- G Scotland
- H South Africa



- 2** Listen again and check.

» PREPARE FOR THE EXAM PAGE 132

- 3** Work in pairs. Look at the photos of the two animals below. Use the prompts 1–9 to write questions about these animals.

- 1 What kind of animal / it?
- 2 Where / from?
- 3 Where / live?
- 4 What / eat?
- 5 How much / weigh?
- 6 How many / left in the wild?
- 7 What / babies / called?
- 8 How many babies / female have?
- 9 How long / baby stay with / mother?

» Student A, go to page 136. You have information about the kakapo there.

» Student B, go to page 138. You have information about the sand cat there.



Kakapo

WRITING



PREPARE TO WRITE

An article about an animal

GET READY Underline the prepositions *between*, *about*, *around* and *including* in the article about pandas on page 16. Think about their meaning. Which two have the same meaning in the article?

Complete the sentences with *between*, *about*, *around* or *including*.

- 1 This competition is for anyone _____ the ages of 10 and 14.
- 2 There are _____ 40,000 African lions left in the wild.
- 3 All my friends, _____ Tariq, are interested in animals.
- 4 The zoo is closed _____ January and March.
- 5 I've got lots of pets, _____ a rabbit and two cats.

PLAN Plan your article about an animal. Choose one of the animals in Vocabulary Exercise 1 or a different one. Write three paragraphs. Make notes for what to include in each paragraph.

- Paragraph 1** the kind of animal it is / where it lives / what it eats
- Paragraph 2** what it weighs / information about its babies
- Paragraph 3** how many are left in the wild / in zoos

WRITE Write your article. Try to include the prepositions from *Get Ready*.

IMPROVE In pairs, compare your articles. Can you improve them?



Sand cat

GRAMMAR REFERENCE AND PRACTICE

UNIT 2

VERBS WE DON'T USUALLY USE IN THE CONTINUOUS

There are some verbs which we don't normally use in the present continuous:

- Verbs of thinking: *believe, understand, know, think, mean, hope.*

Scientists believe the Earth is 4.6 billion years old.
(not *Scientists are believing ...*)

- Verbs of liking and not liking: *like, hate, love, want, need, prefer.*

I like those monkeys over there. (not *I'm liking ...*)

- Verbs of owning: *own, belong, have.*

That coat belongs to me. (not *That coat's belonging ...*)

- Verbs to describe sensations: *see, feel, hear, smell, taste.*

The water feels very cold.

However, we can use the present continuous to say how someone looks or feels now.

How do you feel today? I feel better.

or *How are you feeling today? I'm feeling better.*

We often use *can* with these verbs.

I can hear the sea from my bedroom. (not *I'm hearing*)

- When *think* means 'have an opinion' about something, we do not use the continuous.

Scientists think there are about 1,000 wild pandas left. (not *Scientists are thinking ...*)

However, when *think* means 'consider', we use the continuous.

I'm thinking of working in a zoo when I'm older.

Practice

1 Complete the table with the verbs.

believe	buy	climb	feel
hate	like	make	mean
need	own	run	sing
understand	want	work	

Verbs we can use in the continuous

run

Verbs we don't normally use in the continuous

need

2 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- Jack's behind that tree. I can see / 'm seeing him.
- I know / 'm knowing the names of all the rivers in my country.
- My brother learns / 's learning about the weather at the moment.
- You need / 're needing to do your homework before Tuesday.
- You're very quiet. What do you think / are you thinking about?
- My friends don't play / aren't playing football today. It's cold.
- Can you say that again? We don't understand / aren't understanding.
- Can you hear / Are you hearing that strange noise?

3 Write complete sentences. Use the present simple or the present continuous.

- Shh! I / think.
Shh! I'm thinking.
- I / not understand / this exercise.
- My friends / think football is boring.
- What / you / do right now?
- We / not want to watch the film.
- That dog / belong to my cousin.
- Penguins / not feel / the cold weather.
- I / not like this book very much.