

Pre-Intermediate 1

Unit 2 Vocabulary

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conserve = keep, save

count on = depend on = rely on

crime (n.) = law-breaking

- criminal (n.) = a person who breaks the law

decade = 10 years

century = 100 years

millennium = 1000 years

decrease ≠ increase

destroy (v.) = demolish

- *In 1906, an earthquake destroyed much of San Francisco.*
- *A bomb fell on the church and destroyed it.*

destruction (n.) = getting destroyed

- *The destruction of the rain forests is an environmental disaster.*
- *Unusually high winds left widespread destruction over the area.*

destructive (adj.) = causing destruction

- *His criticism was very destructive.*

distribute (v.) = divide among people

- *Their teacher distributed a review for the exam.*

distribution (n.) = dividing something or things among people

- *We could reduce our costs by developing a better distribution network.*

the environment = nature, the ecosystem

heat (v.) ≠ cool

let down = disappoint

nation (n.) = all the people who live in the same country

national (adj.) = related to a nation

natural ≠ man-made, artificial

petroleum = raw oil

pollute (v.) = contaminate

- *We won't invest in any company that pollutes the environment.*
- *We should respect the environment and not pollute it.*

pollution (n.) = contamination

- *Car exhaust is the main reason for the city's pollution.*

pollutant (n.) = a material that pollutes the environment

population (n.) = the number of people in an area

populated (adj.) = very crowded

skill (n.) = what you are good at

skilled (adj.) = good at doing something

talent (n.) = what you can be good at

talented (adj.) = having the ability to do something well



● **brake (n.)**

the part of a vehicle that makes it go slower or stop: *She had no brakes on her bicycle.*

● **chemical (n.)**

a substance used in or produced by chemistry: *You must wear gloves when handling any of these chemicals.*

● **conserve (v.)**

avoid wasting sth; save: *Conserve your energy – you'll need it.*

● **count on (v.)**

depend on or be certain of sb/sth: *I knew I could count on you to be on time.*

● **crime (n.)**

sth that sb does that is against the law: *There has been an increase in car crime this year.*

● **decade (n.)**

a period of ten years: *Prices have risen during the past decade.*

● **decrease (n.)**

a reduction in the amount, size, etc of sth: *In Spain there has been a decrease in the number of young people out of work.*

● **definitely (adv.)**

certainly; without doubt: *"So we'll see you on Sunday at 7:00?" "Definitely!"*

● **depend on (v.)**

be able to trust sb/sth to do sth: *I wasn't worried; I knew I could depend on you.*

● **destroy (v.)**

damage sth so badly that it can no longer be used or no longer exists: *The building was destroyed by fire.*

● **distribution (n.)**

the way that sth exists over a particular area: *They studied the geographical distribution of the disease.*

● **environment, the (n.)**

the natural world, e.g. land, air, water, etc in which people, animals, and plants live: *We need stronger laws to protect the environment.*

● **growth (n.)**

increase in size, amount, or degree: *The government is trying to control population growth.*

● **headlight (n.)**

one of the two lights on the front of a vehicle, used for driving at night: *It was foggy, and all the cars had their headlights on.*

● **heat (v.)**

make sth hot; become hot: *We'll heat (up) some milk for the coffee.*

● **insect (n.)**

a very small animal that has six legs: *Ants, flies and butterflies are all insects.*

● **issue (n.)**

a subject or problem which people are thinking and talking about: *I'm not interested in environmental issues.*

● **labor force (n.)**

all the people who work for a company or in a country: *They have plans to cut the company's labor force.*

● **let down (v.)**

make sb disappointed by not doing sth they are expecting you to do: *I'm counting on you to help me – don't let me down!*

● **nation (n.)**

a country and all the people who live in it: *The Arab nations agreed to meet in Baghdad.*

● **natural (adj.)**

existing in nature and not produced or caused by people: *She died of natural causes.*

● **organize (v.)**

prepare or arrange an activity or event: *Who's organizing the conference?*

● **petrochemical (n.)**

a chemical substance obtained from petroleum or natural gas: *a petrochemical company*

● **petroleum (n.)**

oil which is found under the surface of the earth or under the seabed: *Petrol and paraffin are obtained from petroleum.*

● **pollute (v.)**

make air, rivers, etc dirty and dangerous: *Many of Britain's rivers are polluted with chemicals from factories.*

● **population (n.)**

the number of people who live in a place: *What is the population of your country?*

● **repair (n.)**

work that is done to fix sth that is broken or damaged: *How much will the repairs cost?*

● **resource (n.)**

things such as trees and oil that exist in nature and can be used by people: *Russia is rich in natural resources such as oil.*

● **shall (v.)**

used for offering help, making a suggestion, or asking sb what they would like you to do: *Shall I help you with your baggage?*

● **skilled (adj.)**

having or needing a special ability to do sth well: *We need skilled workers.*

● **soil (n.)**

the top covering of the earth in which plants grow; ground: *The plant grows well in a sandy soil.*

● **unemployment (n.)**

the number of people in a country who do not have a job; the state of being unemployed: *Fear of unemployment causes many people to stay in jobs that they hate.*

● **United Nations, the (n.)**

an international organization that encourages countries to work together in order to solve world problems such as war and disease: *The UN has called on the warring nations to find a peaceful solution.*

● **use up (v.)**

use sth until no more is left: *I've used up all my vacation days.*

Expressions

● **give sb one's word**

promise to do sth: *You gave me your word that you would take care of them.*

● **thousands of**

a lot of: *I have passed that place thousands of times.*