

B1

60 min

Green Talk

tweeTweak your lessons,
with the power of AI**Skills:**

Can give simple reasons to justify a viewpoint on a familiar topic.

Can exchange, check and confirm accumulated factual information.

Adults / teens

Group



1 Work in small groups. Look at the pictures and brainstorm possible reasons why people go vegan. Which of them would make you try this type of diet?

2 Read the article and answer the question.

If everyone stopped eating meat, the world's pollution from food would go down 70% by 2050. This would save about \$550 billion.

It has also been estimated that if the whole world became vegan by 2050, people would live longer and there would be fewer deaths — Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS). This would help the world's economy a lot.

The world's population is growing very fast. It goes up about 1.11% every year. According to the UN, by 2050, there will be about 10 billion people. Because of this, we need to make more food. We might need 60% more food than now. More people are drinking milk and eating eggs and meat. This is bad for the environment. There might not be enough food for everyone soon because so much of our grain goes to feed animals, not people.

People who don't eat meat use less land and water. The average American diet makes about 2.5 tons of CO₂e per person each year. But for people who eat a lot of meat, it's about 3.3 tons of CO₂e. For vegetarians, it's 1.7 tons of CO₂e, and for vegans, it's 1.5 tons of CO₂e.

Over a quarter (26%) of the world's pollution comes from food. Pollution makes the earth hotter. Hotter weather can change rain patterns, make storms worse, and raise sea levels. Farming uses half of the world's land and 70% of the world's water. According to The Economist, food could make up 50% of all pollution by 2050. This is dangerous for the environment.

A new study shows that if everyone in the United States was on a plant-based diet, we would have enough food to feed 350 million more people. This is good news for the environment and for people who don't have enough to eat.

It's also good for businesses. More and more people are choosing to eat vegan, so companies need to offer vegan options to keep their customers. This means there are now more vegan choices available than ever before. And because of this, the prices of vegan foods are getting lower.

So, eating plant-based might benefit everybody: the people, the environment and the economy.

What would happen to the environment and the economy if everyone switched to the vegan diet?

3 Fill in the gaps in the statements below.

food (2) deaths billion CO2 plant-based animals meat 70
pollution grain world's population stopped eating meat water land longer

1. The world's pollution from food would go down by ____ (1)% if everyone ____ (2) by 2050.
2. About \$550 ____ (3) could be saved if everyone stopped eating meat.
3. People would live ____ (4) if they become vegan, and there would be fewer ____ (5).
4. As the ____ (6) grows, there will be a need for about 60% more ____ (7) than now.
5. Consuming ____ (8) contributes to environmental issues because a significant amount of ____ (9) goes towards feeding ____ (10) instead of people, leading to potential ____ (11) shortage.
6. Over a quarter of the world's ____ (12) comes from food.
7. A ____ (13) diet uses less ____ (14) and ____ (15), helps reduce ____ (16) emissions, and can provide enough food to feed more people while benefiting the environment.

4 Work in pairs. Each pair will receive a card with the name of an animal-based food. Google the ingredients that vegans use to make plant-based versions of these foods. Share what you've found with the rest of the group.

5 Check out the different opinions expressed by people about veganism. Remember, each opinion is subjective and there's no right or wrong one. Your task is to choose the opinion that you can relate to. Once you've chosen an opinion, talk about it by adding your own thoughts and examples. You have 5 min to prepare the answer.

You can start with these phrases:

If you totally agree with it:

I like [Name]'s idea about veganism because ...
I can relate to [Name]'s opinion because
I feel the same way about ... as [Name]...

If you partly agree with it:

I agree with [Name]'s a little, but I also think...
In some ways, [Name]'s right, but I also believe...
Some of what [Name]'s said makes sense, but on the other hand...

John



I don't agree with veganism because it's not what humans naturally do. We are supposed to eat animals, and that's how it has been for a long time. I grew up on a farm where we ate meat and hunted, so it is important to me.

Emily



I think veganism is great because it shows love towards animals. It doesn't feel right to eat something that was once alive. When I see how some animals are treated in big farms, it makes me sad. My dog Max is rescued, and he loves me back more than anything, making me believe this even more.

Sarah



Being vegan means everything to me. Animals are sensitive beings that deserve all our love and respect. I watched a documentary that showed terrible things done to animals in slaughterhouses, which made me realize their pain. So, I can't be part of someone else's suffering.

Alex



Veganism is hard for me because I have different opinions about it. I know it's essential to take care of animals and the environment, but I also love eating meat. It feels like there's always a battle going on inside my head.

Correct answers

1

The idea is generated in the “Lead-in Activities” tool.

Possible answers:

- They don't want animals to be harmed for food.
- To help the environment from pollution
- They want to stay away from antibiotics or hormones sometimes used in raising animals for food.
- To save fresh water used for irrigating feed crops, drinking water for animals, and cleaning animal farms.

2

Created in the “Simplify or Upgrade a Text”. The original article is [here](#):



3

Created in “Open Questions” + “Fill in the Gap”.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. 70 | 9. grain |
| 2. stopped eating meat | 10. animals |
| 3. billion | 11. food |
| 4. longer | 12. pollution |
| 5. deaths | 13. plant-based |
| 6. world's population | 14. land |
| 7. food | 15. water |
| 8. meat | 16. CO2 |

5

Created in the “Four Opinions” tool.

Pictures are taken from:



Printable activities

EGGS

CHEESE

FISH

CHICKEN

MILK

MEAT