

# TIME English guide - teacher copy

## "Capitalist tools for cutting CO<sub>2</sub>"

TIME April 3, 2006

### Discussion

What do you do to reduce the damage you cause to the environment? What more could you do to reduce the impact you make? Would you be willing to pay to reduce or even repair the environmental damage you cause? How much?

### Comprehension

You are going to read a TIME article about carbon trading. Read the questions below before trying to find answers.

1. How would Coldplay's album cause pollution? **Its production and distribution would create carbon emissions.**
2. How did they set out to neutralize its carbon emissions? **Planting 10,000 mango trees.**
3. The Karnataka villagers will benefit twice from Coldplay's support. How? **From the fruit and from selling the carbon credits earned by the trees growing.**
4. How can firms earn the right to sell carbon credits? **By cutting their emissions below allowances or helping polluters in developing countries.**
5. Which country ignores carbon trading? **USA.**
6. How much carbon does the Chicago Climate Exchange "cap and trade"? **8% of emissions from stationary sources.**
7. Which country produces the same volume of carbon as CCE's members? **Britain.**
8. What do online businesses like TerraPass do? **Help commuters work out how to neutralize their carbon emissions.**
9. How much would it cost you to become carbon neutral? **Typically \$99 a year.**
10. What do Carbonfund customers choose? **Which energy their money supports.**

### Vocabulary

Match a word in the numbered column with a meaning from the lettered column. Words appear in the order they appear in the TIME article.

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. Flowing            | A Poor, without good things                                |
| 2. Neutralize         | B Motivation to do something                               |
| 3. Impoverished       | C Vomited  |
| 4. Surging            | D Emit from a machine                                      |
| 5. Adaptive           | E Agreed or promised                                       |
| 6. Incentive          | F Able to change according to circumstances                |
| 7. Pump out           | G Continually moving like a river                          |
| 8. Offset             | H Take away the effect of something with an opposite force |
| 9. Clean up their act | I Rolling forward powerfully (like waves in the sea)       |
| 10. Pledged           | J Ended damaging or harmful practices                      |
| 11. Spewed            | K Balance or compensate for                                |

**1G, 2H, 3A, 4I, 5F, 6B, 7D, 8K, 9J, 10E, 11C.**

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### Grammar revision: get

Look at this sentence from the TIME article:

"Coldplay gets to do right by the environment: the impoverished Indian villagers not only get the mangoes but will also earn money from the CO<sub>2</sub> locked in the trees..."

Get is one of the commonest words in spoken English. It has many meanings and its most common - to receive, obtain, fetch or make - is shown in the TIME article: "the villagers not only get the mangoes..." meaning they receive them. This is the most common meaning and you can spot this use when get is followed by a direct object. He got a letter. Did you get what you wanted? She got a new coat. Please get me a tea.

However, get plus the infinitive usually means "be allowed, have the opportunity or chance, manage or succeed. For example, "Coldplay gets to do right by the environment" means "the band has the opportunity to benefit the environment".

Did you get to visit the new museum? Meaning: Did you manage to?

Have you got to hear his new record yet? Meaning: Have you had the chance?

When will I get to see you again? Meaning: When will there be an opportunity to meet?

He didn't get to finish everything. Meaning: He didn't manage it all.

Exercise:

There is one other example of get being used to mean to be allowed or have the opportunity in the TIME article. Can you find it?

**"Those that cut CO<sub>2</sub> emissions below their allowance or help polluters in developing nations clean up their act get to sell their credits -" para 2, col 2.**

### Exercise/roleplay

Working in pairs, one of you has just been to a famous city on business with just a few hours free to visit the sites and the other wants to know what you did with your spare time. One student ask questions of the other about what he/she managed to see, do, visit, enjoy and how much time was allowed for relaxing. Use get plus the infinitive as much as possible.

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### Revision: Phrasal verbs

You can never know enough phrasal verbs in English. The basic rule is that they are short verbs used with one or more prepositions or adverbs to mean something very different, such as in the TIME article: Because the Bush administration dropped out of Kyoto meaning it "withdrew".

However, not all short verbs followed by prepositions are phrasal. Sometimes the preposition is used to connect verb to the object, such as in the TIME article: "sold on a surging market". Sold where? On a surging market. If you can divide the object and preposition from the verb and each part still makes sense, it is not a phrasal verb.

There are four more real phrasal verbs in the TIME article. Can you find them.

**Clean up (their act) (para 2, col 2) end bad practice**

**Set up (para 1, col 3) - establish**

**Winds up (para 4, col 3) - ends its journey**

**Driving down (para 4, col 3) - reducing**

### Additional comprehension: "True Is It That We Have Seen Better Plays"

Time March 27 2006.

This second TIME article questions the reverential treatment given to William Shakespeare. It is filled with 'puns', word jokes which were one of Shakespeare's trademarks, such as substituting the similar sounding old word for poet, "bard", for Lord in the first line. First look at the following questions before reading the article.

1. How does the writer show the peculiarity of assuming that Shakespeare must be everyone's No1 writer? **With classical music, Beethoven, Moart and even Handel are all valid No1s.**
2. Which contemporary was a better writer before his sudden death? **Christopher Marlowe.**
3. What was written in the same year as King Lear? **Don Quixote.**
4. What is the contrast between Romeo and Juliet and A Midsummer Night's Dream? **One is tragedy, the other a comedy.**
5. What is the term for someone who can cross between these forms? **Switch-hitter.**
6. Why is Middleton arguably more accomplished than Shakespeare? **He wrote A Game of Chess, the box-office hit of the time, as well as masques, pageants and non-fiction.**
7. Shakespeare's champions remind the writer of which religious fundamentalism? **The Inquisition.**
8. What is interesting about the most used words of Shakespeare and Middleton? **Shakespeare, considered the definitive writer, habitually uses 'the' while Middleton prefers 'a'.**