

Text A Acid rain

Acid rain was the great horror of the 1980s. We saw the sick and dying trees on the TV news. It was told that acid rain was killing our forests. Looking at publications from the 1980s we will see that they did not spare their readers . Acid rain was the “invisible plague” which was creating an “ecological Hiroshima”. The UN Brundtland report stated that “in Europe, acid precipitation kills forests”. Several present-day ecology books repeat the charge. A popular book published in 1989 with the title *Acid Rain: Threats to life* told us:

“An acid plague is sweeping the Earth. The rain, snow, fog, and mist have become acid because of pollution from factories and cars all over the world, and it has been converted to acid rain.

Acid rain destroys our buildings and statues but it is also threatens the natural environment.

One third of the German forests have been attacked, so the trees are either dead or dying.

4000 Swedish lakes are dead and 14,000 are in the process of dying...

In cities all over the Earth, people are being suffocated – or - dying - because the smoke cannot escape...

Acid rain has become one of the most serious threats to life here on Earth”.

Today we know that acid rain wasn't so dangerous .“Acid rain” has typically been used as a collective term for damage to forests, lakes and buildings believed to be caused by emissions of NO or sulfur dioxide. In fact all rain, even before industrialization, has been naturally acidic. The expression acid rain is associated with the extra acid that arises when NO or sulfur dioxide reacted with water create sulfuric or nitric acid.

VOCABULARY:

To spare	Беречь, жалеть	To suffocate	Задыхаться
Plague	Чума, бедствие напасть	A bit shrill	Немного резкий
To flat out	Изощряться	To make out	Различить, жить
Precipitation	Выпадение осадков	Nitric acid	Азотная кислота
To repeat the charge	Повторить обвинение	Fog	Туман, дымка, мгла, завеса
To sweep	Уничтожать	Mist	
To convert	Преобразовывать	Sulfuric acid	Серная кислота

EXERCISE 1

Соответствуют ли следующие высказывания содержанию текста:

- Acid rain was the great horror of the 1990s.
- Acid rain was killing our animals.
- An acid plague is sweeping the Moon.
- People are enjoying because the smoke can't escape.
- NO or sulfur dioxide reacted with the water to create sulfuric or nitric acid.

EXERCISE 2

Закончите предложения:

1. "Acid rain" has typically been used as a collective term	for damage to forests.
	for fertilization.
	for pollution.

2. "Acid rain" has typically been believed to be caused by emissions	of NO or sulfur dioxide.
	of lead.
	of oil and gas.

3. The extra acid could arise when NO or sulfur dioxide reacted	with water	to create sulfuric or nitric acid.
	with oxygen	
	with lead	

4. The expression acid rain has been associated	with the extra acid.
	with moderate acid.
	with average acid.

5.	The rain, snow, fog, and mist	have become acid because of pollution from factories and cars all over the world.
	The building and statues	
	The factories and the plants	