

## Text D OZONE

Ozone forms a vital layer in the stratosphere, which protects us against ultraviolet rays from the sun. However close to the earth ozone is harmful to humans and affects plant growth. Ozone irritates the respiratory organs, causes rubber to disintegrate and negatively affects plant growth. Ozone is a secondary pollutant, because it is primarily created in a complex interplay between  $\text{NO}_x$  and hydrocarbons. Ozone and the  $\text{NO}_x$  are the major players in the formation of brown (photochemical) smog of the kind familiar in Los Angeles. This brown smog is seen today in many cities in the developing world.

Ozone is not believed to have any actual life-threatening effect. The UK experts on Air Quality Standards “found no evidence that exposure to the levels of ozone are likely to lead to long term damage to the respiratory system.” On the other hand, it has a substantial impact on agriculture and horticulture. It is believed that the most significant economic damage from pollution is experienced by these industries. Ozone can, however, also reduce the risk and effect of fungal attacks.

Ozone pollution is generally measured in peak concentrations the most dangerous for health and vegetation effects. In the US, maximal ozone concentrations have declined since 1977 by almost 30 percent. Ozone levels have not been consistently monitored at the national level in the UK. In the 1997 UK ozone review, it was concluded that there was clear evidence of a reduction in peak concentrations.

For agriculture, it is estimated that all 15 countries in the EU will experience a decrease in crop ozone exposure. On average, the exposure level will have decreased from 1990 to 2010 by about 25 percent.

### VOCABULARY:

$\text{SO}_2$ sulfur dioxide	Двуокись серы	Evidence	Доказательство
Vital Layer	Жизненный Слой	Exposure	Выставление на солнце
Ultraviolet Ray	Ультрафиолетовый Луч		
Hole	Дыра	Fungal attack	Грибковое поражение
To irritate	Раздражать	Horticulture	Садоводство, огородничество
Rubber	Резина	To monitor	Советовать, рекомендовать
To disintegrate	Расщеплять		
Interplay	Взаимодействие	To encounter	Столкнуться

## EXERCISE 1

Найдите в тексте ответы на следующие вопросы: 1. Назовите отрасли экономики, испытывающие негативное влияние озонового загрязнения? 2. Может ли озон оказывать какое-либо воздействие на организм человека? 3. Назовите основные отрицательные последствия от влияния озона на окружающую среду? 4. Что представляет собой озоновый слой? 5. Наряду с двуокисью азота в образовании какого вида загрязнения городов принимает участие озон?

## EXERCISE 2

Найдите эквиваленты: значительный ущерб, очевидное доказательство, данные о максимальной концентрации, комплексное взаимодействие, долгосрочное нарушение деятельности, действительно угрожающее жизни воздействие, уменьшение воздействия озона на урожай.

## EXERCISE 3

Составьте фразы, соответствующие содержанию текста:

	ultraviolet rays.	
1. Ozone protects against	X-rays.	
	violet rays.	

	will have decreased	from 1990 to 2010 by about 25 percent.
2. On average the ozone exposure level	will have increased	
	will have been constant	

	registered.
3. Ozone levels have been consistently	monitored.
	written.

	agriculture.
4. Ozone has a substantial impact on	textile.
	utility market.

	harmful	
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5.Ozone is	good	to humans.
	useful	