

3 In pairs, guess the correct answers.

- Oceans cover *sixty-one percent* / *seventy-one percent* of the earth's surface.
- The deepest point of the Pacific Ocean is *7 km* / *11 km* below the surface.
- Sea levels have risen *10–25 cm* / *5–10 cm* over the last 100 years.
- Plastic waste *remains* / *disappears* in the oceans.
- Plastic pollution kills at least 1 million *seabirds* / *marine mammals* every year.

4 Read the article and check your answers. What solution to plastic pollution does Boyan Slat propose?

5 Answer the questions. Then check your answers in the article.

- Apart from plastic, what other things pollute the oceans?
- What is a 'gyre', how many are there and where is the biggest one?
- Why is plastic pollution a problem for marine wildlife?
- How is Slat's device different from other 'clean-up' devices?
- What two claims does Slat make about the effectiveness of his device?

6 In pairs, discuss the questions.

- How much plastic does your family throw away in a typical week?
- Do you know what happens to your plastic waste? Where does it go?
- What could you do to cut down on your use of plastic?

A SOLUTION

- 25 At the age of nineteen, Boyan Slat invented a device that he claims could clean up to 20 billion tonnes of plastic waste from the world's oceans. Unlike conventional methods of cleaning up plastic using ships and nets, Boyan Slat's 'Ocean Clean-up' concept is based on a simple idea: with its waves, **tides** and currents, the ocean
- 30 never stops moving, so instead of going after the plastics, as most traditional methods do, you could simply wait for the plastic to come to you. A floating barrier 100 kilometres in length, would catch the debris, enabling a platform to extract it afterwards. The ocean current would pass underneath the barriers taking all sea
- 35 life with it. Boyan Slat believes that his innovation could clean up half of the Pacific Garbage Patch over a period of ten years, and would make up to 500 million dollars a year from recycling the waste collected.

Boyan Slat's floating barrier

WORD STORE 8A

- 7 **CD-3.17 MP3-114** Complete WORD STORE 8A with the base form of the words in red in the article. Then listen, check and repeat.

8 Complete the sentences with words from WORD STORE 8A.

- Most of all living _____ live in the ocean.
- Coastal regions usually have a high _____ twice a day.
- Jellyfish are typical _____ for seabirds.
- Plastic doesn't contain any _____ to help wildlife live.
- The movement of rubbish in the gyres is dependent on strong _____.
- Gyres are like huge _____ of plastic rubbish.

WORD STORE 8B

- 9 **CD-3.18 MP3-115** Complete WORD STORE 8B with words from the article. Use these definitions to help you. What is the mystery word? Listen, check and repeat.

- rain that contains a high concentration of pollutants
- a general word for human waste
- places where unwanted rubbish is dumped
- material you get rid of when it has been through the factory process
- a general word for substances that pollute or poison
- things that can be dangerous or cause damage

- 10 What do you think are the most worrying hazards and pollutants in the ocean? Why?

WORD STORE 8C

- 11 **CD-3.19 MP3-116** Complete the compound nouns in WORD STORE 8C with the underlined words in the article. Then listen, check and repeat. Add a translation.

12 In pairs, complete the list of environmental problems with compound nouns from WORD STORE 8C.

- melting _____ ☐
- rising _____ ☐
- chemicals and toxins in the _____ ☐
- more non-biodegradable waste and so more _____ ☐
- onshore and offshore _____ ☐

- 13 In pairs, discuss how dangerous (1 = not very dangerous, 5 = extremely dangerous) you think the problems in Exercise 12 are for our planet.

WORD STORE 8D

- 14 **CD-3.20 MP3-117** Complete WORD STORE 8D with more compound nouns. Then listen, check and repeat. Write example sentences.