

# Oil

## Activity 1

Discuss the following questions with your partner.

1. How many different types of oil can you think of?
2. In what different ways do you use oil in your everyday life?
3. Does your country produce any oil? (e.g. petrol, olive oil, etc.)
4. How important is petrol for people in your country? Was it so important in the past? Why/not?
5. Does your country have any natural fuel oil reserves? If not, where does your fuel oil come from?
6. How optimistic are you that fuel based on vegetable oils will successfully replace petrol in the future?
7. What can be done to discourage people from relying so much on fossil fuels like petroleum?
8. How will energy production in the world be different in the future?
9. Do you think we will have to change our lifestyles and learn to live without petrol-based products?

## Activity 2

Complete the sentences with the following words or phrases in the correct form.

*to oil   oil tanker   oilskin   to drill   oil rig   greasy   to grease the palms   greased lightning  
to pour oil on troubled waters   to burn the midnight oil*

1. .... for oil is an expensive but highly profitable business.
2. A large ship which transports crude oil is called an .....
3. At the end of the lesson the students moved like ..... to get out of the classroom.
4. He has gone to the Middle East to help resolve the international dispute. Everyone is hoping that he will be able to .....
5. I can't eat these chips. They are too ..... They are swimming in oil.
6. My brother works on an ..... in the North Sea.
7. She looked very tired during the exams because she ..... every night, studying.
8. The fishermen wore their ..... clothing to protect them from the terrible weather.
9. The local government is corrupt. You will have to ..... of a lot of officials if you want them to give you permission to build here.
10. This door makes a noise when I open and close it. I think I should ..... the hinges.

## Activity 3

Use the following questions to begin a conversation with your partner.

1. Do you think the number of oil wells in the world should be reduced or increased? Why?
2. Do you think the petrol industry takes the necessary precautions to protect the environment when drilling for oil? Why/not?
3. Why do you think off-shore drilling is more risky than drilling for oil on land?
4. Do you think off-shore drilling should be banned? Why/not?
5. What are the consequences of a major oil spill at sea?
6. Which major oil disasters do you remember? Why do you remember those in particular?
7. Who, in the oil industry, should be responsible for preventing leaks occurring? The oil company, the drilling company or the authorities in the country where the rig/well is located?
8. Who should be responsible for the environmental clean-up operation after an oil leak or spill?
9. How long should the clean-up operation go on for?
10. Who should be able to claim compensation after an oil leak or spill? (Fishermen, tourists?)

**Activity 4**

Go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Homework' icon. Use the information you find there to answer the questions below.

1. What is the title of the TP Homework?  
a) Oil Spills b) Oil Disasters c) Oil Rigs
2. Which of the following forms of wildlife is mentioned in the TP Homework?  
a) Birds b) Fish c) Dolphins
3. What is the answer to the Quick Quiz?

**Activity 5**

**What is the best way to clean up a major oil spill at sea?**

If you would like to express your opinion on this subject go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Discussion' icon to take part in the forum discussion there.

**N.B. Netiquette! PLEASE CHANGE THE DEFAULT SUBJECT LINE TO INDICATE THE OPINIONS IN YOUR POST BECAUSE IN A BUSY THREAD IT HELPS PEOPLE DECIDE WHICH POSTS TO READ!**

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