

## Carbon footprint of global tourism is huge

10th May, 2018



Climate scientists from the University of Sydney in Australia say tourism causes over 8 per cent of greenhouse gasses. They also say that this figure will continue to increase because the tourism

industry is growing. Their study looked at the carbon footprint of many different areas of tourism. It studied the CO2 emissions from transport, events, hotels, restaurants and shopping. It even researched the carbon emissions from producing souvenirs. The researchers spent 18 months conducting the research. They included the tourist activities of 189 countries. Researcher Dr Arunima Malik said her team analyzed the impact on the environment of over one million businesses involved in tourism.

The researchers said domestic travel was a bigger cause of CO2 emissions than international or business travel. Air travel was the largest part of tourism's footprint. The researchers said flying would continue to increase global emissions as more people in the world become richer. The countries causing the most harm were the biggest and richest nations. The USA, China, India and Germany had the largest tourism carbon footprints. Their carbon emissions will continue to increase as more of their citizens travel. The researchers encouraged holiday-makers and travelers to try and reduce their carbon footprint when on vacation so their travel causes less harm to the planet.

Sources:  
[independent.co.uk](http://independent.co.uk) / [sciencemag.org](http://sciencemag.org) / [sciencedaily.com](http://sciencedaily.com)

## Writing

We should stay at home more and travel less to reduce our global footprint. Discuss.

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

climate / scientists / greenhouse gas / tourism / industry / emissions / shopping / domestic / travel / international / harm / carbon footprint / holiday-makers / planet

## True / False

- a) Scientists said Australia's tourism carbon footprint is very big. T / F
- b) Scientists said the size of tourism's carbon footprint would get smaller. T / F
- c) The research took one-and-a-half years. T / F
- d) The researchers looked at 500,000 businesses related to tourism. T / F
- e) International travel causes more CO2 emissions than domestic travel. T / F
- f) Air travel was the biggest part of tourism's carbon footprint. T / F
- g) Germany was one of the countries with the biggest carbon footprint. T / F
- h) Researchers suggested tourists reduce their carbon footprint. T / F

## Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. <b>causes</b>     | a. source     |
| 2. <b>figure</b>     | b. making     |
| 3. <b>growing</b>    | c. lower      |
| 4. <b>producing</b>  | d. number     |
| 5. <b>analyzed</b>   | e. carry on   |
| 6. <b>cause</b>      | f. increasing |
| 7. <b>continue</b>   | g. damage     |
| 8. <b>encouraged</b> | h. creates    |
| 9. <b>reduce</b>     | i. urged      |
| 10. <b>harm</b>      | j. examined   |

## Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about greenhouse gasses?
- b) What is your country's carbon footprint like?
- c) What are the good things about tourism?
- d) Which areas of tourism create the most emissions?
- e) How bad is tourism for the environment?
- f) What can we do to reduce CO2 emissions?
- g) What do you know about eco-tourism?
- h) How worried are you about your carbon footprint?

# Breaking News English - The Mini Lesson

## Phrase Match

1. climate
  2. tourism causes over 8 per cent
  3. this figure will continue
  4. CO2
  5. over one million businesses
  6. domestic
  7. air travel was the largest
  8. holiday-
  9. when on
  10. causes less harm
- a. to the planet
  - b. emissions
  - c. involved in tourism
  - d. vacation
  - e. of greenhouse gasses
  - f. makers
  - g. scientists
  - h. part
  - i. travel
  - j. to increase

## Discussion – Student B

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) Do you prefer domestic or international travel?
- c) What are the bad things about tourism?
- d) Should we try and limit the number of flights?
- e) What area of tourism most harms the planet?
- f) Should we go camping more to help the planet?
- g) Should people travel less?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

## Spelling

1. Climate iestntiscs
2. the tourism ysiuintrd
3. CO2 nssoiisem
4. producing vrnsouise
5. tourist eiiscaitvt
6. nidloevv in tourism
7. isbuenss travel
8. haessrrrcee said flying would continue
9. the biggest and richest ntnaosi
10. continue to aencrise
11. holiday-makers and sarvlreet
12. when on vcantoai

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. h	2. d	3. f	4. b	5. j
6. a	7. e	8. i	9. c	10. g

## Role Play

### Role A – Relaxing

You think relaxing is the best thing about tourism. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least enjoyable of these (and why): taking photos, seeing the world or eating nice food.

### Role B – Taking Photos

You think taking photos is the best thing about tourism. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least enjoyable of these (and why): relaxing, seeing the world or eating nice food.

### Role C – Seeing the World

You think seeing the world is the best thing about tourism. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least enjoyable of these (and why): taking photos, relaxing or eating nice food.

### Role D – Eating Nice Food

You think eating nice food is the best thing about tourism. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least enjoyable of these (and why): taking photos, seeing the world or relaxing.

## Speaking – Tourism

Rank these with your partner. Put the best things about tourism at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- meet nice people
- sit on a beach
- get away from home
- see the world
- you can relax
- learn about culture
- take photos
- eat delicious food

### Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	F	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.