This lesson:

**Speaking**: discussing positives and negatives and predicting answers to questions

**Reading**: scan reading and reading for detail

**Vocabulary**: create and use phrases

**Writing**: planning paragraphs and writing a formal letter
Mining:

- Is it good or bad for the world for the world?
- Is it good or bad for the people who live near the mine?

Discuss – think of as many good and bad points as you can.
1/ BHP Billiton is the world’s biggest mining company.
2/ The Cerro Matoso mine in Colombia exports ferronickel.
3/ Many health problems started 10 years after the mine began working.
4/ Among the health problems are: skin problems, cancer and miscarriages.
5/ BHP Billiton accepts responsibility for this.
6/ 49 people who have led environmental and human rights protests have been killed in the last 8 years.
Now scan this article quickly – 3 minutes? – to check your answers:

https://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/%E2%80%98This_mine_is_killing_us_slowly%E2%80%99
Vocabulary - match to create phrases
e.g. ‘melt nickel’, then use the phrases
to discuss mining in Colombia:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1/ melt</th>
<th>a) equipment</th>
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<td>2/ give a</td>
<td>b) forces</td>
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<td>3/ genetic</td>
<td>c) nickel</td>
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<td>4/ legal</td>
<td>d) power plants</td>
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<td>5/ coal-fired</td>
<td>e) police</td>
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<td>6/ riot</td>
<td>f) communities</td>
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<td>7/ necessary</td>
<td>g) concession</td>
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<td>8/ traditional</td>
<td>h) proceedings</td>
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<td>9/ indigenous</td>
<td>i) methods</td>
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<td>10/ armed</td>
<td>j) changes</td>
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Now read again to find the answers to these questions:

1/ Find 3 benefits from the Cerro Matoso mine.
2/ Find 5 negative effects from the mine.
3/ Find 2 ways the local people have tried to protest.
4/ Find 3 other non-mining problems that are mentioned.

https://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/%E2%80%98This_mine_is_killing_us_slowly%E2%80%99
Working in small groups, use your answers to these questions to plan a 6-paragraph, formal letter to the CEO of BHP Billiton:

1: We are writing in order to ....
2: We are aware of several benefits from the mine..
3: However, we have also seen ...
4: We know that some action has already ...
5: In addition, we have heard that ..
6: We would, thus, like you to ...

Now write the letter!
Read the original article – you will understand it now as you have read the Easier English version: https://newint.org/features/2016/11/01/we-are-slowly-being-killed-by-this-mine/

And other articles about Colombia and protesting etc:
https://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Issue_497