



New Internationalist

The people, the ideas, the action in the fight for global justice

Oil

Intermediate New Internationalist
Easier English ready lesson



This lesson:



Reading: articles about oil

Speaking: about problems and solutions

Writing: a formal persuasive letter



Quiz:

- 1. Where is Ogoni? (one of the most polluted places in the world):**
a) **Australia** b) **Nigeria** c) **Germany**
- 2. Why are people protesting in Ogoni?**
a) **They want more money** b) **They want more oil**
c) **They want less pollution**
- 3. How long have they had oil pollution in Ogoni?:**
a) **50 years** b) **10 years** c) **5 years**
- 4. How much money did Shell pay the Ogoni community in 1970 when the pollution was very bad?:**
a) **£168** b) **£1680** c) **£16,800**

5. Who was Ken Saro-Wiwa?:

- a) a Shell worker who suffered from pollution**
- b) a Nigerian murderer who didn't like Shell**
- c) a protester who the Nigerian government killed**

6. The levels of dangerous chemicals in the water in Ogoniland are:

- a) 9 times**
- b) 90 times**
- c) 900 times**

more than the maximum WHO (World Health Organisation) limit.

7. Life expectancy in the Niger Delta is:

- a) 45**
- b) 52**
- c) 59**

8. After the oil spills in 2008 and 2009 that destroyed the area, Shell offered to pay about:

- a) \$5 million**
- b) \$50 million**
- c) \$500 million**

Now read this to check your answers:

[http://ewiki.newint.org/index.php/The Spirit of Saro-Wiwa fights again in the Niger Delta](http://ewiki.newint.org/index.php/The_Spirit_of_Saro-Wiwa_fights_again_in_the_Niger_Delta)



Jigsaw reading:

Divide into groups of 4 (A, B, C and D). Each read one of these articles about oil (C & D are shorter articles), and find problems and solutions about oil:

- A) [http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Ending the Oil Age](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Ending_the_Oil_Age)
- B) [http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/I was watched by BP](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/I_was_watched_by_BP)
- C) [http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Universities take action on anti-fossil fuel](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Universities_take_action_on_anti-fossil_fuel)
- D) [http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Football must stop working with oil companies](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Football_must_stop_working_with_oil_companies)



In groups of A, B, C and D, discuss:

OIL: problems and solutions



Writing:

In pairs, write a letter to:

a) UEFA

b) your local football team or

c) your local university

Persuade them to stop investing in oil, and explain the reasons why this is important for the world.

