Water

International Baccalaureate · IB Diploma · Environmental Systems and Societies · SL · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
hydrological cycle	The **hydrological cycle** moves water between land, sea and air.
infiltration	**Infiltration** lets rain soak into the soil.
percolation	**Percolation** moves water down through soil and rock.
evaporation /ɪˌvæpəˈreɪʃn/	**Evaporation** dries wet clothes.
transpiration /trænspəˈreɪʃn/	**Transpiration** is the loss of water from leaves.
condensation /kɒndenˈseɪʃn/	**Condensation** forms water droplets as moist air cools.
evapotranspiration	**Evapotranspiration** is water lost from the ground and from plants.
residence time	Water has a long **residence time** in deep groundwater: it stays for years.
aquifer	An **aquifer** stores groundwater in rock.
water security /ˈwɔːtə sɪˈkjʊərɪti/	Safe water for everyone means good **water security**.
physical water scarcity	A desert may face **physical water scarcity** because little rain falls.
economic water scarcity	**Economic water scarcity** means there is water, but no money for pipes.

exercises.lol exercises.com.cn

Word	Example
desalination /dɪˌsælɪˈneɪʃn/	**Desalination** removes salt from seawater.
greywater	Treated **greywater** from washing can be used to flush toilets.
common resource /ˈkɒmən rɪˈzɔːs/	Ocean fish are a **common resource**: anyone can catch them.
tragedy of the commons /ˈtrædʒədi ɒvðə ˈkɒmənz/	Overfishing is an example of the **tragedy of the commons**.
bycatch /ˈbaɪkætʃ/	A turtle caught by accident in a fishing net is **bycatch**.
quota /ˈkwəʊtə/	A fishing **quota** limits how much fish can be caught.
marine protected area	A **marine protected area** can give fish stocks space to recover.
aquaculture /ˈækwəkʌltʃə/	Raising fish in ponds is **aquaculture**.
point source /pɔɪnt sɔːs/	A small lamp acts as a **point source** of light.
non-point source	Runoff from many farms is a **non-point source** of pollution.
thermal pollution /ˈθɜːml pəˈluːʃn/	Hot wastewater causes **thermal pollution** in a river.
biochemical oxygen demand	High **biochemical oxygen demand** means bacteria are using a lot of the oxygen in the water.
eutrophication /juːtrəfɪˈkeɪʃn/	**Eutrophication** happens when fertiliser runs into a lake.

Word	Example
red tide	A **red tide** is a huge growth of algae that can be poisonous.
dead zone	Few animals can live in a **dead zone**, where there is almost no oxygen.
Lake Tai	Too much algae has polluted **Lake Tai**.
buffer strip	A strip of grass, called a **buffer strip**, catches runoff before it reaches the stream.

exercises.lol exercises.com.cn