

Clearing the air: atmospheric pollution and fake news

Learning objectives

- 1 Identify atmospheric pollutants and how they are produced.
- 2 Describe the impact that these pollutants have on society and the environment.
- 3 Create a news article to summarise your findings.
- 4 Evaluate sources for reliability.

Introduction

Atmospheric pollution is when chemical compounds in the atmosphere, usually made by human activity, have a negative impact on us and our environment. Often, they are produced when fossil fuels are burned and contribute to climate change, acid rain and smog.

Instructions

- Use the infographic poster and fact sheet to learn more about atmospheric pollutants, how they are formed and their impact on society and the environment.
- Use the internet to research atmospheric pollutants. Ensure that the sources of information you find are reliable and are not sources of misinformation. Record the full URL for the source of any information you find so that your reader can check for reliability.
- Create a news article summarising your findings on atmospheric pollutants. You can use one of the templates provided or make up your own format to suit your article and audience. Include the following:
 - What are the names and formulas of the pollutants?
 - How are they formed?
 - What impact do they have on society?
 - What impact do they have on the environment?
 - Can you describe these impacts using your chemical knowledge?
 - What can be done to minimise these impacts?

Use this template to write your news story.

Chemistry  Daily News				
<Your Headline Here>	<Main image here>			
			By <name of author>	
<First column of text here> _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	<Image caption here>			
	<Subheading here>			
	<Second image here>	<Second column of text here> _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	<Third column of text here> _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	

Use this template to write your news story.

Chemistry  Daily News		
<Your Headline Here>		<Main image here>
By <name of author>		
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<Second image here>		<Third column of text here> _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

Article planning checklist

Use the following questions to help you research and plan what you are going to include in your article. Put a tick in the final column once you have added the content to your article.

What are the names and formulas of the pollutants?	✓
How are they formed?	✓
What impact do they have on society?	✓
What impact do they have on the environment?	✓
Can you describe these impacts using your chemical knowledge?	✓
What can be done to minimise these impacts?	✓