

Summary Writing- 8

The impact of tourism

Travelling is one of the favourite activities of people around the world, especially us millennials, but sometimes it can have a harmful effect on the environment.

We are already familiar with the positive impact of travel on our own mental well-being and personal development. Tourism may also positively impact on the host country or city in terms of economic advantages. It brings welcome employment opportunities, foreign exchange earnings and growth in the service sector. However, it may also put pressure on the environment, especially when there's a huge number of visitors in regions where the resources are already inadequate.

In fact, unrestrained traditional tourism brings possible threats for a lot of natural resources across the globe. It can lead to a lot of major problems that can harm the environment, such as natural habitat loss, increased pollution, soil erosion and more. Increasing tourists' awareness of the natural habitat around their resorts and hotels can do wonders in motivating locals to undertake conservation projects. But it will never be a great idea to exceed limits when it comes to tourism, particularly if the natural resources are at stake. Early this year, Thailand's government closed three popular islands off the coast of Phuket because of the negative impact of tourists on the islands. This decision was only weeks after Koh Tachai, one of Thailand's National Parks, had been closed because of coral bleaching and damages to the marine ecosystem. The regional chief of Thailand's Department of Marine and Coastal Resources said that coral bleaching occurs naturally but is accelerated by climate change and by human activity, especially the increasing number of tourists in boats that anchor on the corals; people walking on corals while playing in the water; feeding marine animals; and catching them to take photos with them.

It is not just the ocean and the islands that tourism is slowly killing.

The air pollution coming from tourist transportation is one of the major negative effects of tourism. Travelling by rail, air and road results in air pollution that damages the environment. Apparently, a large portion of air emissions is caused by the 60% of air travel that is from tourists going from one place to another.

Additionally, transport emissions can result in photochemical pollution, acid rain and global warming.

Campervans and car rentals are popular travel transportation in countries like Australia and New Zealand where visitors relish the opportunity to make their own itinerary and get right off the beaten track. Some campervan hire companies in these countries are going for environmentally safe vehicles, so if you are planning a road adventure, you can try a nature-friendly and affordable campervan for hire in Tasmania, Brisbane and other cities in the region. With this, you can be sure that you are helping out in protecting the environment in your own little way.

Land resources consist of forests, wildlife, minerals, fertile soil, wetland and fossil fuels, all of which are under pressure, leading to land degradation because of the changes that are happening everywhere. The expanded construction of recreational facilities for tourists adds more pressure on both stunning landscapes and natural resources. More so, forests regularly endure the destructive effect of tourism as deforestation is created by land clearing as well as by wood being required for construction and fuel.

One of the most essential natural resources is water. It is important that we all conserve water, both in our own homes and when we are on holiday, as water scarcity is now a major issue in some parts of the world. It is very evident that the tourism industry uses water resources for the development of golf courses, swimming pools and hotels, which results in the degradation of water supplies and water shortages in the local area.

The impact of tourism on the environment is often attributed to thoughtless visitors who blatantly ignore environmental rules, but tourism's infrastructure is also responsible for considerable damage. Closing down islands is a first step in ensuring that the world's environment is not damaged beyond repair. With climate change still posing a great threat to natural resources around the world, proactive approaches like Thailand's, despite its huge blow to their tourism and economy, might be the best way to protect the Earth.

(a) Summarize the impacts of tourism in 150 words.

(b) Interviewer's Question: The sole culprit behind the degradation of our environment are these oblivious tourists who treat other countries as if it's a separate place entirely, and don't care that we share the same Mother Earth. To what extent do you agree with this statement?

-ii-Imagine you are a marine biologist, Chandler Bing, a popular in their field.

Interviewer's Question: Tourism brings in a lot of foreign currency which helps increase the resources of the country, aiding in more opportunities for research regarding marine animals.

Do you think tourism should be further increased in order to help this cause?

Bing's Answer: