

UNIT 3 RENEWABLE ENERGY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT – Part 3



Check the meanings of the following words and phrases in your dictionary.

lease payments
manufacturing

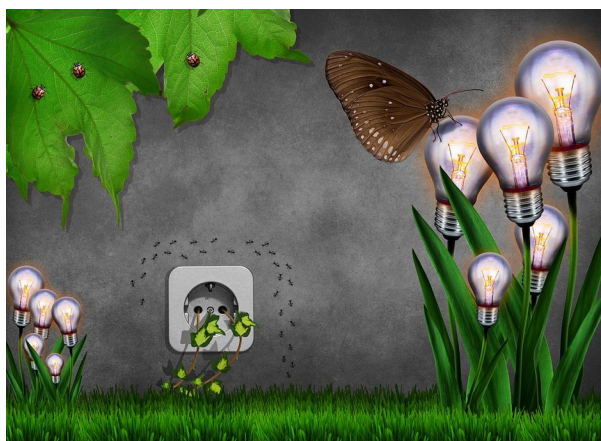
installation
maintenance

property tax
construction

income tax

Now, fill in the gaps with the most suitable words from the list. The chosen word should mean the same as the one in brackets.

1. This car ... (making) company sold over 200,000 cars last year. (manufacturing)
2. The local government spends a lot of money on road ... (building). (construction)
3. Both the price of a solar panel and the cost of its ... (putting in place and making it ready for use) are high. (installation)
4. Car ... (keeping in good condition) tasks in winter include installing your winter tires, checking your battery and buying a de-icer. (maintenance)
5. How much ... (part of your salary paid to the government) did you pay in 2014? (income tax)
6. Landowners have to pay a ... (part of the value of a building or land paid to the government) based on the value of their lands every year. (property tax)
7. Wind energy businesses pay high amounts of ... (money paid for using something without buying it) to farmers whose lands they use to operate their wind mills. (lease payments)



You have already read about the benefits of using renewable energy sources. From this text, you will learn what the *economic* benefits are.

Economic benefits of using renewable energy sources:

1. As it is labour-intensive, more jobs are created for each unit of electricity generated from renewable sources than from fossil fuels. For example, jobs in the wind energy industry include the following areas: manufacturing, project development, construction, installation, operations, maintenance, transportation, logistics, financial, legal and consulting services.
2. Renewable energy businesses use primarily local workers, so they support local development, which is particularly important in disadvantaged rural areas.
3. A rise in the number of jobs has a positive economic effect on households and businesses. In a community, even businesses unrelated to the renewable energy industry can benefit from the positive economic impact, since people with higher incomes spend more on other products and services.
4. Local governments get money from renewable energy businesses in different forms: property and income taxes, lease payments (e.g. from wind energy businesses for using the land).
5. Energy prices become more stable, as the price of locally generated energy is not influenced by dramatic changes in global demand. Furthermore, the cost of generating energy from renewable sources is declining steadily, so it will be cheaper and cheaper.

manufacturing – making, producing

construction – building

installation – putting in place and making ready for use

maintenance – keeping in good condition

property tax – tax on buildings or land

lease payments – money paid for using sth (without buying it)

Match the sentence halves.

1. Renewable energy generation is labour-intensive
so it creates more jobs.
2. Renewable energy businesses employ local people
so they contribute to the development of local communities.

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3. Renewable energy businesses pay
income taxes and property taxes to local authorities.
4. Wind farms and solar parks
lease payments to landowners.
5. The price of renewable energy is more stable
as it is not influenced by global demand changes.

These are the most important words and phrases for this topic. Read them through, and check the meanings of the unknown ones.

manufacturing
construction
installation
operation
maintenance
disadvantaged
rural area
to have a positive / negative effect / impact on sg
household
community
local government / local authorities
property tax
income tax
to lease sg
lease payments
stable prices
to decline
declining costs

Many people mix up 'economic' and 'economical'. But these words have different meanings. Look at these two sentences:

The country's **economic situation** is almost the same as last year.

LED lamps are more **economical** than neon lamps.

'economic' is always about something that is connected to the economy, while 'economical' means cheap, not wasting money or energy.

Some more examples:

- The new law may cause **economic disaster** in the country.
- The country's **economic growth** slowed down in 2013.
- The most **economical** way to see the Amazon River is by air.
- Hybrid cars are more **economical**.



Decide which one is correct.

Their heating system is more ... than ours.

- a) economic
b) economical yes

The majority of the population are already experiencing the results of the ... reforms.

- a) economic yes
b) economical

The bicycle is more ... and healthier than the car.

- a) economic
b) economical yes

Cars have become more ... in the past few years.

- a) economic
b) economical yes

There was a drop in the unemployment rate due to ... development.

- a) economic yes
b) economical

Try to be ... with the water. We only have 4 litres left.

- a) economic
b) economical yes

Most of the shops in our town closed down during the ... crisis.

- a) economic yes
b) economical

They want to buy a small, ... car.

- a) economic
b) economical yes

Match the words with their meanings.

revenue	all the money a company gets during a specific period
to pay off	to be advantageous, to have benefits
tax	money that you have to pay to the government or other authorities
cost	the money that is needed to pay for doing something

The following words are connected to jobs. Look at their meanings. If you don't know them in your language, look them up in your dictionary.

to employ – to give somebody a job

an employee – a worker

an employer – a company who gives jobs to people

unemployment – a situation when some people don't have jobs

labour – workforce, workers; work

wage – money that a person earns, usually according to how many hours or days they work each week

salary – money that a person earns each month or year

Now, fill in the gaps with the correct words in the sentences below. Don't forget to use them in the correct forms.

1. The biomass power plant ... 320 people. (employs)
2. All the workers got their ... at the end of the week. (wages)
3. As the company had a very successful year, the wind construction managers' ... was raised. (salaries)
4. SolarFuture, a solar energy ... expects to see a dramatic rise in the use of solar energy in the following ten years. (employer)
5. The rate of ... decreased after the wood pellet manufacturing plant was built. (unemployment)
6. People living in rural, agricultural areas are typically disadvantaged in the ... market. (labour)
7. At the moment, there are approximately 3000 ... working in the wind farm construction sector. (employees)



Forum topic:

Watch this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-2-phLM-ALA>

What is the story of Goldendale? Summarize it in 5 sentences.