



145. Endangered seas

Sarah: Wentworth, have you noticed how expensive fish is?

W: Yes indeed. Anything that becomes scarce also becomes expensive...that's the law of the market unfortunately.

Sarah: how come the fish has become so scarce?

W: well before, the seas of the world used to teem with fish. Today the fishermen's drift nets wreak havoc on fish stocks. As a result, the fish stocks are not renewing properly.

Sarah: I guess the scientists' pleas to introduce fish quotas were ignored for too long.

W: Yes. Overfishing is concerned but humans are also smearing the oceans with millions of tons of hard trash.

Sarah: I know. The sea is as well the victim of pollution flowing from the land and air, as it is burdened with oil dumped by millions of motorised vessels and super tankers which empty their tanks and cause oil spills.

W: Unfortunately yes. But we should all care. The future of humankind is absolutely dependent on the state of the ocean.

Sarah: well apparently all the polluters haven't realised it yet...

GLOSSARY:

Endangered seas: les océans en danger	Fish quotas : des quotas de pêche
To notice: remarquer	Overfishing : la surpêche
To become : devenir	Humans : les hommes, les humains
To teem : regorger, grouiller	Millions of tons : des millions de tonnes
To wreak havoc : semer le chaos	Hard trash: des déchets solides
To renew: se renouveler	The victim: la victime
To introduce: introduire	The pollution: la pollution
To ignore: ignorer	From the land and air: terrestre et aérien/ne
To smear: souiller	Oil: du pétrole
To flow: s'écouler	Motorised vessels: des navires à moteur
To burden: charger, ronger	Super tankers: des pétroliers géants
To dump: déverser	The tanks: les réservoirs
To empty one's tank: dégazer	Oil spill: une marée noire
To cause: causer, provoquer	Humankind: l'humanité
To care: se sentir concerné	The state of the ocean: l'état de l'océan
To realise: réaliser	The polluters: les pollueurs
Fish: le poisson	Scarce: rare
The law of the market: la loi du marché	Expensive: cher
The seas of the world: les mers du monde	Unfortunately: malheureusement
The fishermen: les pêcheurs	How come: comment se fait-il
Drift nets: les filets dérivants	As a result : du fait, en raison de, par suite
Fish stocks : les réserves de poisson, le cheptel piscicole	Properly : correctement, convenablement
The scientists : les scientifiques	Too long : trop longtemps
The pleas : les appels, les padoyers	Dependent : dépendent