

Smog



What is smog?

- A mixture of smoke and fog
- A type of air pollution created from a combination of vehicle emissions and industrial fumes that react in the atmosphere with sunlight, ultimately creating photochemical smog.
- Emit (v): to send forth or release (liquid, light, heat, sound, particles, etc.); discharge

Creation of the Word “Smog”

- Dr. Henry Antoine Des Voeux in his 1905 paper, “Fog and Smoke.”
- “it required no science to see that there was something produced in great cities which was not found in the country, and that was smoky fog, or what was known as 'smog.'”



Where?

- Anywhere where industries or cities release large amounts of air pollution
- Worse during periods of warm and sunny weather
- Cities with major smog problems: London, Atlanta, Las Vegas, New York, Los Angeles, Mexico City, Cairo, New Delhi, Milan, Athens, Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Seoul...

Video

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fe9l2xc2f6g>
- What are some of the chemicals that contribute to smog?
- What are some of the health effects of smog?

Smog Vocabulary

- Haze: dust, smoke, or mist that has filled the air so that you cannot see clearly
- Ozone: a form of oxygen that is found in a layer high in the earth's atmosphere

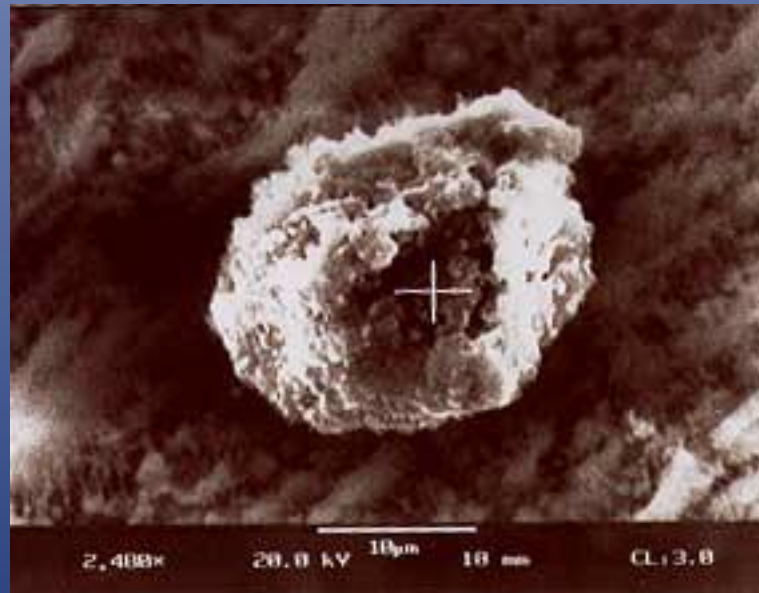


Smog Vocabulary

- Nitrogen Oxide (NO_x): the chemical produced from the reaction of nitrogen and oxygen gases in the air during combustion
- Combustion: a chemical reaction that occurs when oxygen combines with other substances to produce heat and usually light; burning

Smog Vocabulary

- Particulate matter: the mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets found in the air
- Aggravate: to make (an injury, problem, etc.) more serious or severe; to annoy or bother someone



Smog in Milan

- On October 9th, cars were banned from the city for 10 hours
- Cars are banned whenever pollution exceeds the city's limit (50 micrograms of particulates per cubic metre of air) for 12 consecutive days



A good idea or not?

- Local Green Party councillor Enrico Fedrighini told a newspaper, "One or two car-free Sundays each month won't do anything to tackle the smog crisis." He thinks public transportation should be improved to discourage people from using their cars.
- Do you agree or disagree? Explain your opinion. What other solutions can you think of to help control the smog?