



Noise pollution



Track down the sources of noise pollution at four sites – a city park, a street with heavy traffic, a housing estate, and a public or residential building. Count the number of sources for a period of 10 minutes and determine their type. Evaluate the degree of noise pollution by classifying it as low, medium or high. Enter the results in the table below. Rate the overall level of noise pollution as low, medium or high.

Studied site	Noise sources		Noise pollution (low, medium, high)
	Type	Number	
City park			
Street with heavy traffic			
Housing estate (outdoor or common space)			
Public or residential building (classroom or living room)			

Compare the results obtained. Draw conclusions about the noise levels in your locality. Also, if necessary, demand that local authorities take action to reduce the level of noise.



Levels of noise

	Sensation of complete silence	0–20 dB
	Slight rustling of leaves	30 dB
	Calm urban areas in cities between 02:00 and 04:00 hours	40 dB
	Normal indoor conversation	50 dB
	Passenger car idling	50 dB
	Passenger car at 50 km/h	60–80 dB
	Truck at 50 km/h	78–92 dB
	Motorcycle at 50 km/h	75–100 dB
	Train at 100 km/h	100 dB
	Discotheque	85–103 dB
	Peak-level high-speed train at 300 km/h	110 dB
	Jet plane taking off	110 dB
	Military low-level flights	105–120 dB
	Level at which hearing damage is possible	120–140 dB