

## Weekday Vegetarian by Graham Hill – TED Talks

[https://www.ted.com/talks/graham\\_hill\\_why\\_i\\_m\\_a\\_weekday\\_vegetarian?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/graham_hill_why_i_m_a_weekday_vegetarian?language=en)

### **A. Pre-listening discussion**

- Are you a vegetarian? Why or why not?
- Do you think being a vegetarian is a good or a bad thing? Why or why not?
- What do you know about the effect of eating meat on the world?

### **B. Vocabulary – match the vocabulary with the definition given:**

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|--------------------|---|
| 1. Tree hugger     | a. A system of rearing livestock using highly intensive methods, by which poultry, pigs, or cattle are confined indoors under strictly controlled conditions.                       |
| 2. Factory farming | b. Nerve endings on the tongue and in the lining of the mouth which provide the sense of taste.   |
| 3. Side treat      | c. To bring an idea to someone with the hope that they will use it.   |
| 4. To tuck into    | d. An environmental campaigner used to refer to the practice of hugging a tree to prevent it from being cut down.   |
| 5. To stall        | e. To eat something with a very keen enjoyment.   |
| 6. To pitch        | f. The impact of human activities measured in terms of the area of biologically productive land and water required to produce goods consumed and to assimilate the waste generated. |
| 7. Taste buds      | g. Special food that is secondary to the main meal that is generally on a separate plate.   |
| 8. Footprint       | h. To put off making a decision to do something.  |

### **C. Listening**

#### **a. Comprehension – listen to the track and answer the questions:**

1. What is the effect of eating a hamburger a day?
2. How many emissions does meat production produce?
3. How much more does beef production use water for than growing vegetables?
4. How much more meat as a society are we eating than before?
5. How long has he been trying to only eat meat at weekends?
6. By cutting out meat during the week, how much has he reduced his intake of meat?

7. What 7 things have happened to him?

b. Infill – Listen to the track again and complete the missing spaces:

1. I grew up with \_\_\_\_\_ parents in a log cabin.
2. I knew that the \_\_\_\_\_ we raise each year for meat are raised in factory farm conditions.
3. I realized that what I was being pitched was a \_\_\_\_\_ solution.
4. Nothing with a \_\_\_\_\_ Monday through Friday. On the weekend, your choice.
5. ...remember, the major culprits in terms of environmental damage and health are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ meats.
6. It's \_\_\_\_\_, so it ends up being simple to remember.
7. ...for your \_\_\_\_\_, for your \_\_\_\_\_, for the \_\_\_\_\_, for the \_\_\_\_\_: What's stopping you from giving weekday veg a shot?

D. Post-listening discussion:

- What new vocabulary have you learnt?
- What new ideas have you heard?
- What do you think of his idea?
- Is it something you would try? Why or why not?