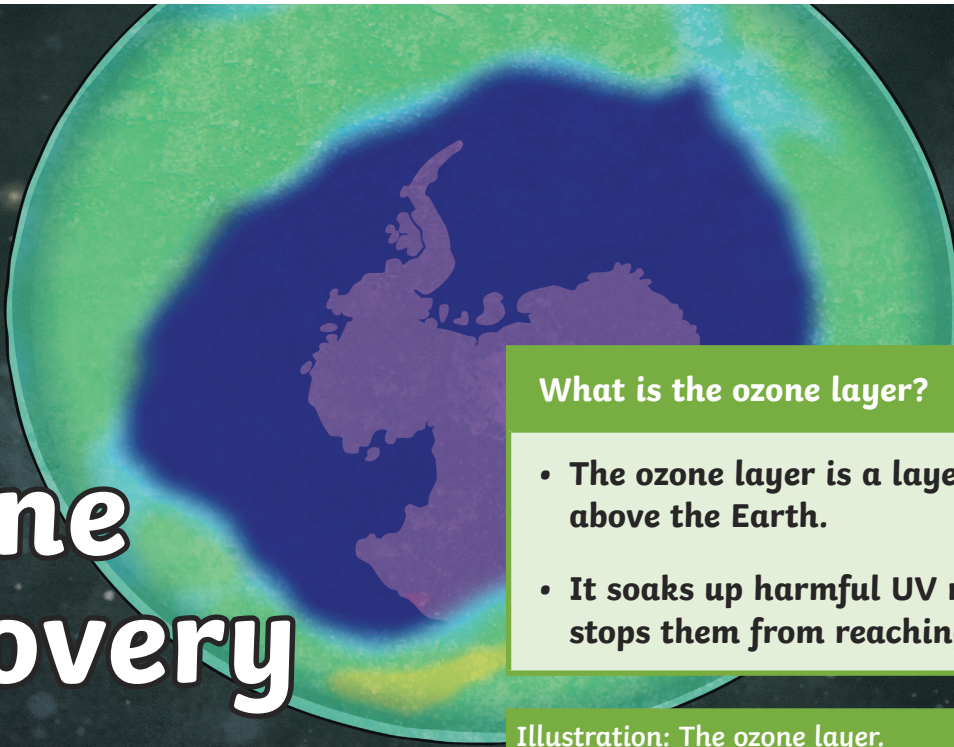




Ozone Recovery



What is the ozone layer?

- The ozone layer is a layer of gases above the Earth.
- It soaks up harmful UV rays and stops them from reaching the Earth.

Illustration: The ozone layer.

Scientists Say Ozone Is Healing

Scientists say the ozone layer is healing over Antarctica. They say it's down to an agreement made in 1987.

Back then, world leaders banned chemicals called **CFCs**. CFCs used to be in spray cans, fridges and even air conditioners.

In the 1970s, scientists first said CFCs harmed the ozone layer. In 1985, they then noticed a hole in the ozone layer above Antarctica.

Many countries took action! In 1987, they signed the Montreal **Protocol**. This agreement stopped **businesses** using CFCs. CFCs are now much rarer.

The ozone layer is very important. It's like a shield, protecting the Earth from harmful **UV rays**. Without it, life would be almost impossible.

The ozone layer is part of the Earth's atmosphere. The atmosphere is a layer of gases that surround us. It includes oxygen,

which we need in order to breathe, and another gas called nitrogen.

Dr Antara Banerjee wrote a report that explained how the Montreal Protocol is helping the ozone layer to heal.

She says that, while today's news is positive, people need to keep working hard. This will help the ozone layer to fully recover and improve the environment.

Glossary

CFCs	A mixture of the chemicals that harm the ozone layer.
protocol	A system of rules that people agree to follow.
businesses	Groups that make or sell things to make money.
UV rays	Ultraviolet light that comes from the sun.

Questions

1. 'Ozone Recovery'

The headline suggests that...

- the ozone layer is getting better.
- the ozone layer is getting worse
- the ozone layer is in the same state.
- the ozone layer is not changing.

2. Draw a line to match the date with the event. One has been done for you.

The 1970s	●	Montreal Protocol
1985	●	Scientists say ozone layer is healing.
1987	●	Scientists first say CFCs harm ozone layer.
2020	●	Hole in ozone layer spotted.

3. Why do you think the author says the ozone layer is like a shield?

4. Find and copy a verb in the introduction that means 'getting better'.

5. How do you think scientists will feel reading this story?

6. What do you think the most important information in this story is?

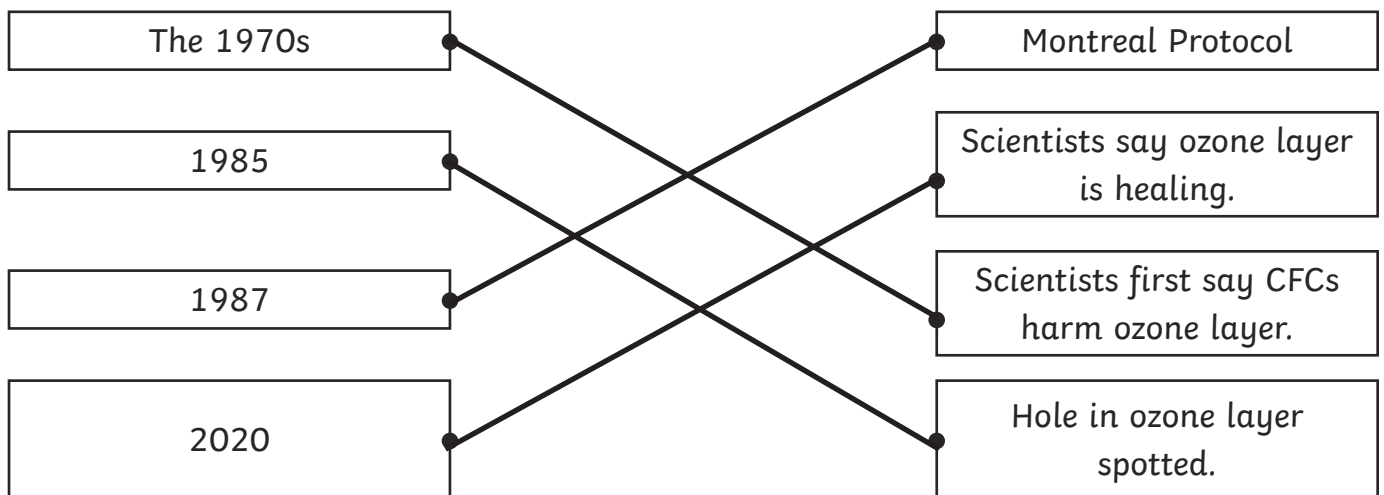
Answers

1. 'Ozone Recovery'

The headline suggests that...

- the ozone layer is getting better.**
- the ozone layer is getting worse.
- the ozone layer is in the same state.
- the ozone layer is not changing.

2. Draw a line to match the date with the event. One has been done for you.



3. Why do you think the author says the ozone layer is like a shield?

Accept any answer which refers to the story, e.g. I think the author says the ozone layer is like a shield because it protects like shields used to protect soldiers in the past.

4. Find and copy a verb in the introduction that means 'getting better'.

healing

5. How do you think scientists will feel reading this story?

Accept any answer that refers to the story, e.g. I think the scientists will feel happy because the ozone layer is getting better.

6. What do you think the most important information in this story is?

Accept any answer that refers to the story, e.g. I think the most important information in this story is that the ozone layer is healing because of the Montreal Protocol.