

NAME: _____

Test Prep

Know the News: How Plastic Is Trashing the Planet



PDF is available at
junior.scholastic.com.

Read the article on pp. 6-11, then answer the questions.

1. Which is a central idea of the article?
Ⓐ Microplastics become coated with algae.
Ⓑ Alaska Airlines recently stopped giving out plastic drink stirrers on flights.
Ⓒ Plastic is in the incubators that help keep premature babies alive.
Ⓓ An estimated 9 million tons of plastic end up in our oceans each year, threatening the lives of sea creatures that live there.
2. Which statement best supports that central idea?
Ⓐ "Take reusable shopping bags with you."
Ⓑ "Some animals get trapped in plastic six-pack drink holders. Others . . . suffocate inside plastic grocery bags."
Ⓒ "We need to develop waste-collection systems around the world that are capable of managing the waste that is being generated."
Ⓓ "By 2050, it's estimated that we'll have created 13 billion tons of plastic waste."
3. Which of the following is a key detail that should be included in a summary of the article?
Ⓐ There's a worldwide effort underway by individuals, companies, and even entire countries to reduce our plastic usage.
Ⓑ Indonesia was responsible for 1.42 tons of plastic that ended up in the ocean in 2010.
Ⓒ A 1955 *Life* magazine article celebrated how many plastic items can be thrown away.
Ⓓ Natural materials were in short supply during World War II.
4. Which of these statements is an opinion?
Ⓐ Plastic is in many items we use every day.
Ⓑ Only a small amount of plastic is ever recycled.
Ⓒ All U.S. cities should ban plastic grocery bags.
Ⓓ Plastic can be dangerous to the environment.
5. Plastic production began to soar during which war?
Ⓐ Korean War Ⓒ World War I
Ⓑ Vietnam War Ⓓ World War II
6. How does the sidebar about Shelby O'Neil on p. 9 contribute to the article?
Ⓐ It depicts what it's like to volunteer at the Monterey Bay Aquarium.
Ⓑ It shows how a single individual is helping reduce the world's plastic waste.
Ⓒ It illustrates how to write effective emails.
Ⓓ It offers tips for using fewer plastic straws.
7. Which of the following is the main purpose of the section "Asia's Trash Problem"?
Ⓐ to state that 40 percent of all plastic produced is meant to be used just once, then thrown away
Ⓑ to explain why plastic waste in some countries ends up in the ocean
Ⓒ to describe how plastic waste recently killed a pilot whale
Ⓓ to encourage readers to reduce their use of plastic beverage bottles, grocery bags, and straws
8. Based on context clues, what does *durable* mean in the following statement? "Unlike natural materials such as wood and glass, plastic is lightweight. It's also cheap and durable."
Ⓐ weak Ⓒ strong
Ⓑ rare Ⓓ plentiful
9. Which word best describes the tone of the article's last few paragraphs?
Ⓐ dramatic Ⓒ encouraging
Ⓑ angry Ⓓ joyful
10. According to the article, which of the following was an effect of Shelby O'Neil learning that many sea creatures eat plastic waste?
Ⓐ She started emailing businesses that use a lot of plastic and urged them to cut back.
Ⓑ She joined the Girl Scouts.
Ⓒ She began volunteering at an aquarium.
Ⓓ She stopped flying on Alaska Airlines.