

Skills Worksheet

Directed Reading A

Section: Environmental Problems

1. What happened in the late 1700s that caused more harmful substances to enter the air, water, and soil?

POLLUTION

2. An unwanted change in the environment caused by harmful substances, gases, wastes, radiation, or noise is

- a. overpopulation.
- b. biodiversity.
- c. pollution.
- d. landfill.

3. Something that causes pollution is called a

- a. resource.
- b. pollutant.
- c. change.
- d. substance.

4. Pollutants can be natural, or they can be

- a. unusual.
- b. renewable.
- c. harmful.
- d. human-made.

5. What does the average American throw away more of than the average person in any other nation?

- a. plants
- b. trash
- c. animals
- d. oil

6. Wastes that can catch fire, wear through metal, explode, or make people sick are called

- a. harmful wastes.
- b. dangerous wastes.
- c. hazardous wastes.
- d. critical wastes.

7. Which of these are hazardous wastes?

- a. leftovers
- b. lawn clippings
- c. medical wastes
- d. newspapers

8. What are some ways that chemicals are useful to people?

Directed Reading A continued

9. Describe two groups of harmful chemicals and their effects.

10. Nuclear power plants produce _____, which give off dangerous radiation.

11. What in the atmosphere has increased since the Industrial Revolution?

12. What do many scientists believe has happened as the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has increased?

13. What effect could the rise in global temperatures have on the world's oceans?

14. How is noise pollution harmful?

RESOURCE DEPLETION

Match the correct description with the correct term. Write the letter in the space provided.

15. A resource that can be used over and over, or that can be replaced is a(n)

- a. renewable resource.
- b. nonrenewable resource.
- c. mineral or fossil fuel.
- d. exhaustible resource.

16. A resource that cannot be replaced, or is replaced over thousands or millions of years is a

- a. renewable resource.
- b. nonrenewable resource.
- c. wind energy resource.
- d. timber resource.