Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks) |

Covering more than 70 percent of our planet, oceans are among the earth’s most |

valuable natural resources. Unfortunately, plastics accumulating in our oceans and on our |

beaches has (51) ' a global crisis. About 8 million tonnes of plastics end up  
in the oceans every year and at this (52) , we face a future with more plastics

in tne oceans than fish by 2050,

Plastic items (53) bags, bottle caps and fibres from synthetic clothes  
are washed out into the oceans from urban rivers, sewers and waste deposits. Larger plastics

are broken down into smaller fragments that can persist (54) hundreds or  
even thousands of years. These (55) of all sizes are swallowed by animals

and enter the food web, disrupting ecosystems.

Last year, a small male pilot whale was found struggling, (56) \_\_ toswim |

or breathe, in a Thal canal near the Malaysian border. Rescuers fought to save the animal |

by deploying buoys to keep it (57) as Veterinarians tended to it and they also |

propped (58) red umbrellas to protect its exposed skin from the sun's rays.  
The whale vomited five plastic bags during the rescue attempt. it died on Friday, five

Gays (59) the rescue attempt had begun.

A report revealed that more than 17 pounds of plastics had clogged up the whale’s |

stomacn, Making it (60) for it to ingest nutritional food. This waste was in |

the form of 80 shopping bags and ether plastic debris.

Experts concluded that the whale most likely (61) the plastic bags  
for food. Accumulation of trash in its stomach could have tricked the animal into thinking that

i was (62) , Teducing its instinct to feed. Malnourished, the whale then  
pecame sick and lost (63) ability to hunt.

Plastic pollution is a consistent (64) in the world’s oceans. In fact, it  
is threatening the marine ecosystem worldwide. We can do our part to help by

(05) down the use of plastic bags and bottles, straws, and avoiding items |

with plastic packaging. By polluting our oceans, we are also polluting the fish we eat and as |

@ result ingesting the plastics we put into the oceans!  
Adapted from hitps://news, nationalgeographic.com/201: 8/0 G/whale-dead-plastic-bags-thailand-animats/

A result ingesting the plastics we put into the oceans!