1. Choose the correctly spelled word in each sentence.

Emma always hurrys when she dries her hair.

Have you ever tryd playing chess against yourself?

Henry studies flowers that he has dryed and preserved.

Community Gardens

In 1977, in New York City, people noticed something surprising. It was there in a vacant lot. It wasn’t the heaps of garbage. It was the tomato plants that were growing wild. “If vegetable plants can grow there,” some of the people thought, “why can’t we plant vegetables ourselves?” So, the people cleared away the garbage. They began growing vegetables, fruits, herbs, and even flowers. The Clinton Community Garden was started.

Community gardens are found in cities all around the country. People start community gardens in vacant lots and on apartment balconies. As unbelievable as it sounds, they even tend gardens on rooftops.

What exactly is a community garden? It’s a garden that different people in a neighborhood plant and tend. It does not belong to any one person. Community gardeners eat and sometimes share the food they grow. Some community gardeners donate their food to local food banks. They give it to people who cannot afford to buy food.

Some community gardens are one large plot of land. Everyone shares in the work. They all plant seeds, weed, water, and share in the rewards. In other community gardens, the larger piece of land is divided up. People tend their own plots.

Community gardens offer many benefits. For one thing, they bring people together. Community gardeners get to know each other. Older people work alongside kids. Another benefit is the low-cost food, of course. The vegetables and fruits are also fresher and more healthful. And people tending a garden are getting fresh air and exercise.

In fact, a community garden benefits the whole community. It makes the neighborhood more beautiful. There can be no disagreement about that. A community garden creates a green space among concrete streets and sidewalks. This helps reduce heat in the summer. The plants soak up sunlight. Concrete reflects the sun’s heat back into the air. Community gardens indirectly help save fuel resources, too. Trucks don’t have to deliver as much food from long distances to grocery stores. People don’t have to drive as much to grocery stores, so less gas is used.

More community gardens should be started. With all the benefits they bring us, who could argue with that?



1. Which sentence from “Community Gardens” supports the main idea that community gardens benefit the community in many ways? Select two answers.

* A. “A community garden creates a green space among concrete streets and sidewalks.”
* B. “Another benefit is the low-cost food, of course.”
* C. “’If vegetable plants can grow there,” some of the people thought, “why can’t we plant vegetables ourselves?’”
* D. “In 1977, in New York City, people noticed something surprising.”

1. Reread the sentence from the article.

There can be no disagreement about that.

What does the word disagreement **most likely** suggest?

* A. taking action
* B. getting along
* C. not taking action
* D. not getting along

Dear Editor:

Take a look around our city. You will see fine buildings, lovely parks, and busy streets. You will also see papers, cans, plastic bags, and other sorts of trash. Litter blows about in the breeze. It collects in gutters. It gets snared by branches and bushes. This is what happens when trash is improperly thrown away. Our city has a litter problem. We must fix it.

We need to start a city program to clean up the litter. People have joined together in other places to pick up litter. One group called the Trash Masters picks up trash along its island’s roads. In many areas people work as cleanup volunteers. They regularly pick up litter along sections of highways. These programs have been successful elsewhere. One can be successful in our city as well.

Litter is ugly, which is enough to make it unacceptable. But it has far worse effects. Litter can dirty our water and harm wildlife and the places where animals live. It can cause health problems. It also costs time and money to clean up.

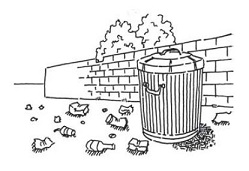
That is why we should not just clean up litter. We should also keep people from littering in the first place. It can start with each of us. We can set an example by throwing our trash away properly. The city must provide enough trash cans along streets and in parks.

The next step is to teach people not to litter. Cities around the country have “Don’t Litter” programs. In Austin, Texas, it is called “Let’s Can It.” In Philadelphia, they say “UnLitter Us.” Posters around these cities tell people not to litter. Our city can start a “Don’t Litter” program, too. It can teach people not to litter, and it can also be fun.

We must begin today. Stopping litter is not an unreachable goal. If we are unsuccessful in stopping litter, our city will no longer be a great place to live. It will no longer be a beautiful place for people to visit.

A concerned citizen,

Devin Jones



1. This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

**Part A**

Reread the sentence from the letter.

If we are unsuccessful in stopping litter, our city will no longer be a great place to live.

What does the word *unsuccessful* most likely mean?

* A. Something has failed.
* B. Something has ended.
* C. Something has spread.
* D. Something has started.

**Part B**

Which word has the **same** suffix as the word *unsuccessful*?

* A. accessed
* B. careful
* C. recesses
* D. unsure

1. Which text evidence supports the author's view that picking up litter is only one solution to litter? Pick **two** choices.

* A. "People have joined together in other places to pick up litter."
* B. "Litter can dirty our water and harm wildlife and the places where animals live."
* C. "We should also keep people from littering in the first place."
* D. "The next step is to teach people not to litter."
* E. "Stopping litter is not an unreachable goal."
* F. "It will no longer be a beautiful place for people to visit."

1. Drag the author's point of view about littering and the supporting details into the correct boxes. Use all of the sentences.

* **People can start a program to stop littering.**
* **City posters tell people not to litter.**
* **The city should provide more trash cans on streets.**
* **Caring for our environment is important.**
* **author's point of view**
* **supporting details**

1. Sort the following details by whether they belong to “Community Gardens” or “Let’s Lose the Litter.”

* **We need to stop people from doing it in the first place.**
* **They help people eat who might not be able to afford food.**
* **There are programs already in place to stop littering.**
* **They help people eat healthier.**
* **"Community Gardens"**
* **"Let’s Lose the Litter"**

1. Use the drop-down menus to select the correct vocabulary word.

We   down the path, even though it was overgrown.

She   the children with her scary costume.

He   a solution that everyone could understand.