

Highlight English

Just for you

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3.04 Reading: An ocean of garbage

- Reading “An ocean of garbage”



Complete the sentences. Use plural forms (-s) when necessary

1. Lead and mercury are examples of dangerous _____ .
2. This water bottle is made from _____, not glass.
3. I work in a _____ that makes cars.
4. Planes fly in the air, and boats _____ on water.
5. Don't just throw away old newspapers. You can _____ them.
6. Some kinds of garbage can _____ and disappear after many years.
7. Most things we buy nowadays use _____ to protect them.
8. Empty plastic bottles are _____. People usually throw them away

Match the words on the left with the meanings on the right

1. factory

2. disposable

3. wrapping

4. float (v.)

5. plastic

6. break down (v.)

7. Chemicals

8. recycle

- A. to stay on or near the surface of water
- a cover that people use to protect things
- to fall apart into small pieces
- to change something so that it can be used again
- building(s) where people make things
- a material used to make bottles, bags, toys, etc.
- materials, some of which are dangerous to health
- able to be thrown away after using a short time



1. Lead and mercury are examples of dangerous _____ .



2. This water bottle is made from _____, not glass.



3. I work in a _____ that makes cars.



4. Planes fly in the air, and boats _____ on water.



5. Don't just throw away old newspapers. You can _____ them.



6. Some kinds of garbage can _____ and disappear after many years.



7. Most things we buy nowadays use _____ to protect them.



8. Empty plastic bottles are _____. People usually throw them away.

Listen to the audio and complete the text.

With so many _____ that make _____ toothbrushes, pens, cans, bottles and _____, garbage is a very big problem in our world today. You may think that garbage is everywhere. Well, you're right. It is everywhere! A good (and scary) example of this is the 'Great Pacific Garbage Patch'. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch was first discovered by scientists in the 1980s. It is an area of _____ garbage in the Pacific Ocean that is about the same size as Texas. There are many kinds of garbage in the Garbage Patch, but plastic bottles and bags, and other things made of plastic cause the biggest problem. 'What's the problem?' you may ask. First, plastic bottles and bags may take hundreds or maybe even thousands of years to break down. Second, _____ is made from chemicals. As the plastics _____ over time, _____ enter the water – and enter the fish that live in the water. These chemicals can make the fish sick, and they can also make the people who eat the fish sick. So ... what can we do? There are many things we can do! We can clean up our oceans, we can stop making so many things from plastic, and we can _____ more. The important thing is to do something!3

Write 'T' (True) or 'F' (False) next to each statement.

- _____ 1. Factories are a big problem.**
- _____ 2. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is near Texas.**
- _____ 3. Garbage made from plastic is a serious problem.**
- _____ 4. Scientists discovered the Great Pacific Garbage Patch hundreds of years ago.**
- _____ 5. Chemicals can make both fish and people sick.**
- _____ 6. There are many things we can do to fix this problem.**

Discuss the following questions, send an audio to your teacher answering one of the questions

- 1. How does this article make you feel? Why?*
- 2. Do you ever recycle things? Why? / Why not?*
- 3. How can people live without things made from plastic? Is it possible?*

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