In the article, the steps I found easiest to understand was how they put the seven evergreen shrubs in different environments to see how growth was affected. They used optimal water in one experiment and under drought on potted plants on another experiment. They also experimented with planting the plants next to a four-laned road, under the same conditions as using optimal water with some and under drought with others. Also, how CO2 alongside with the evergreen shrubs under conditions of optimal water and drought affected metal deposition from the plants.

What I found difficult to follow was at what point of time were these plants put out in the environment. Different times in seasons can more greatly impact a plant too. Even if you have optimal water towards a plant; if it is too cold, then the water may freeze or even the plant may be in shock. If it is too hot then even with lots of water, the water may evaporate too fast for the plants to absorb and benefit from it. Even though stated “seasonal leaf depositions” in the article, nowhere was it stated at what given point these “metal depositions” were observed. Although there are scientific names used in the article for the types of shrubs used in the experiment, a quick google search can clarify what they are in layman’s terms.

I believe the main topic of the article is to show what plants can be used in what curtain environments. Trying to get that “curb appeal” for the roadsides can be difficult as some plants can have a difficult time growing in a higher polluted area. With the experiments done with the shrubs, it shows the types of shrubs that can be used in the higher polluted areas such as in urban areas. In conclusion, the article is showing a plan for use of shrubs in urban areas of southern Europe for roadside greening.