

Quick Check

What Happens When You Flush?

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. What would happen if sewage reached our drinking water?
 - Ⓐ It would make our water too salty.
 - Ⓑ It would make our water taste better.
 - Ⓒ It would make our water unsafe.
 - Ⓓ It would make our water turn purple.
2. What is the first step of the sewage treatment process?
 - Ⓐ Solids inside a digester are broken down by bacteria.
 - Ⓑ A big screen removes large items such as rocks and sticks.
 - Ⓒ Bacteria are grown in the sludge to help it break down.
 - Ⓓ Filtered water is sent to a stream, lake, or the sea.
3. Which of the following is a fact about septic tanks?
 - Ⓐ They send liquid into pipes that run to the sea.
 - Ⓑ They never have to be emptied or cleaned.
 - Ⓒ They are used in big cities to remove sewage.
 - Ⓓ They are buried underground in a yard near a home.
4. Which of the following sentences is an example of the author expressing her gratitude for sewage removal systems?
 - Ⓐ *Lucky for us, the sewer pipes in our homes don't just empty into our drinking water.*
 - Ⓑ *Sewage treatment experts are working hard to solve this problem, but it is a huge task.*
 - Ⓒ *Small sewer pipes join up to form bigger and bigger pipes.*
 - Ⓓ *Not all sewage treatment systems are alike.*

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5. What is a **sewer**?
 - Ⓐ human waste that is carried from buildings and homes
 - Ⓑ one or more pipes that carry water and sewage
 - Ⓒ an underground container in which sewage is collected
 - Ⓓ a large tank in a sewage treatment plant
6. What is the main idea of the section "Sewage Through the Ages"?
 - Ⓐ The first sewage systems in ancient Rome and Greece sent sewage into nearby water, making people sick.
 - Ⓑ In the 1800s, many people did not have a toilet in their home, so they just used a hole in the ground.
 - Ⓒ Sewage systems have improved since they were first built thousands of years ago.
 - Ⓓ Today in the United States, waste disappears down toilets and sinks as if by magic.
7. According to a 2016 survey in the United States, which of these generates the majority of sewage?
 - Ⓐ toilet
 - Ⓑ shower
 - Ⓒ dishwasher
 - Ⓓ faucet
8. What can you infer about the author's point of view from this book?
 - Ⓐ The author believes that septic tanks are a more effective way to remove sewage than sewage treatment plants.
 - Ⓑ The author believes that sewage removal is not a problem for anyone in our world today.
 - Ⓒ The author believes that the United States should help other countries improve their sewage removal systems.
 - Ⓓ The author believes that modern sewage removal systems are effective and should be appreciated.

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9. Which of the following could you do in your life to produce less sewage?

- Ⓐ Run the dishwasher every night before you go to bed.
- Ⓑ Turn off the faucet when you're brushing your teeth.
- Ⓒ Use the clothes washer only when it is half full.
- Ⓓ Flush the toilet two times each time you use it.

10. Which of the following means *an underground container in which sewage is collected*?

- Ⓐ sewerage systems
- Ⓑ digester
- Ⓒ septic tank
- Ⓓ sewage treatment plant

11. **Extended Response:** List the steps of one of the common sewage removal and treatment systems that were explained in the book. Why is this system an effective way to remove and treat sewage?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

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Main Comprehension Skill: Author's Point of View

1. Ⓒ *Cause and Effect*
2. Ⓑ *Sequence Events*
3. Ⓓ *Fact or Opinion*
4. Ⓐ *Author's Point of View*
5. Ⓑ *Vocabulary*
6. Ⓒ *Main Idea and Details*
7. Ⓐ *Main Idea and Details*
8. Ⓓ *Author's Point of View*
9. Ⓑ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
10. Ⓒ *Vocabulary*
11. Answers will vary but should include a summary of the steps listed in the book for sewage removal and treatment as well as the student's views on why this system is effective.