

Part One: Reading Comprehension

(Score:12/20)

Read the following text in which the writer explains the environmental problem of water pollution. When you are through, answer the questions that follow.

A Precious Natural Resource

1 If we put our environment into perspective¹, we will definitely find problems to consider and even more messages about what we should do to protect our world. Many environmentalists believe that humans are poisoning the Earth with pollution. A growing number of scientists have argued that one day Earth will face the total destruction of its precious natural resources.

2 Nowadays, the increase in pollution affects humans in many ways. Air pollution fills our lungs with deadly gases, water pollution rapidly reduces the little amount of fresh water we still have, and land pollution causes fertile lands to become almost like deserts.

3 However, of the many environmental problems that concern us, perhaps none is as harmful and dangerous as water pollution. When water is polluted, it becomes a threat to our health, to the survival of fish, and to the wildlife.

4 The first threat to our water is the discharge of chemicals from industrial activities. When factories pour their chemicals directly into streams and rivers, water becomes poisonous and deadly to many aquatic² organisms. Another serious threat is household sewage which, in most countries, runs from houses to different bodies of water. The danger occurs when the sewage pipes break and the wastewater contaminates the drinking water with bacteria. A further threat is the discharge from power plants which produce electricity and use water to cool their machines. The discharged heated water changes the temperature of water in the region, killing aquatic animals and plants.

5 In spite of the above bad news, there are some encouraging pollution-control solutions. In some areas, people have cleaned up lakes to restore plant and fish life. Certain companies have adopted better ways to get rid of wastes, and many others have tried new methods without using fertilizers or chemicals.

6 In fact, preventing water pollution is a priority. People should become more involved in saving nature and realize that protecting the environment is a moral act of citizenship. Everyone should share the responsibility of passing on to the next generation a world with a healthy natural system.

¹*perspective*: a sensible way of judging and comparing situations

²*aquatic*: living or growing in water

Questions

A. Answer the following questions in complete sentences of your own. (Score: 03)

1. According to the writer, who is responsible for all kinds of pollution on Earth? (Score:0.5)
2. Which paragraph in the text expresses some hope? (Score: 0.5)
3. How might sewage threaten human health? (Score: 01)
4. Based on the text, what are the three causes of water pollution? (Score: 01)

B. Refer to the information in the text to complete the following sentences. (Score: 02)

1. Polluted water threatens not only our health and fish but also.....
2. Many aquatic animals die due to the following two reasons:

C. Each of the following sentences is removed from the end of a paragraph in the text. Refer to the text to match each sentence with the correct paragraph number. (Score: 01)

- a- No matter what type of pollution we face, it definitely puts life on Earth at risk.
- b- Raising awareness towards reducing water pollution is every person's duty.

D. Pick out from paragraphs 1, 2, and 4 one word that most nearly has the same meaning as each of the following words or phrases. (Score: 02)

1. damage
2. to make something less in amount
3. to make impure/to pollute
4. ejected/released

E. Identify the ONE grammatical error in each of the following sentences, and then correct it. (Score: 02)

1. Finding new methods to reduce pollution are necessary to save our world.
2. For a long time, water has been using to produce electricity.
3. People don't know how do they protect their environment.
4. Let's find a solution which it is helpful to humanity.

F. Rewrite the following sentences as indicated without changing the meaning. (Score: 02)

1. Some companies adopted better ways to get rid of wastes.
Better ways...
2. Factories poured their chemicals directly into streams and rivers, so water became poisonous.
If ...

Part Two: Writing (Score:08)

Choose one environmental problem other than water pollution. Fill in the table with suitable information, and then develop your ideas in a well-organized composition of 150-200 words.

Title	
Problem	
Causes	
Effects	
Solutions/Suggestions	

[Score: 02 for **table**, 03 for **ideas**, and 03 for **language**]

Part of the Q	Answer Key	Mark
	Competencies: Utilize text-related clues to comprehend discourse Develop interpretive understanding of printed discourse Expand writing skills through guided and semi-guided activities	
Part One	Reading Comprehension	
I.A.1	According to the writer, humans are responsible for all kinds of pollution on Earth.	0.5
I.A.2	Paragraph 5 expresses some hope.	0.5
I.A.3	Sewage threatens human health when the sewage pipes get broken and the wastewater contaminates the drinking water with bacteria.	01
I.A.4	Three causes of water pollution are: the discharge of chemicals from industrial activities, sewage coming from households, and the discharge from power plants.	01
I.B.1	Polluted water threatens not only our health and fish but also the wildlife.	01
I.B.2	Many aquatic animals die due to the following two reasons: the discharge of chemicals from industrial activities and the discharged heated water from power plants.	01
I.C.a	a:Paragraph 2	0.5
I.C.b	b:Paragraph 6	0.5
I.D1	Destruction	0.5
I.D.2	Reduce	0.5
I.D.3	Contaminate	0.5
I.D.4	Discharged	0.5
I.E.1	Finding new methods to reduce pollution is necessary to save our world.	0.5
I.E.2	For a long time, water has been used to produce electricity.	0.5
I.E.3	People don't know how they protect their environment.	0.5
I.E.4	Let's find a solution which is helpful to humanity.	0.5
I.F.1	Better ways were adopted to get rid of wastes.	01
I.F.2	If factories hadn't poured their chemical directly into streams and rivers, water wouldn't have become poisonous.	01
Part Two	Writing	
II.A	Graphic Organizer and Title	2
II.B	Ideas	3
II.C	Language	3