

K-12

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Topic: 1

Paragraph (1)

Questions 1-13 refer to the following article:

Global warming and the depletion of natural resources are constant threats to the future of our planet. All people have a responsibility to be proactive participants in the fight to save Earth by working now to conserve resources for later. Participation begins with our everyday choices. From what you buy to what you do to how much you use, your decisions affect the planet and everyone around you. Now is the time to take action.

When choosing what to buy, look for sustainable products made from renewable or recycled resources. The packaging of the products you buy is just as important as the products themselves. Is the item minimally packaged in a recycled container? How did the product reach the store? Locally grown food and other products manufactured within your community are the best choices. The fewer miles a product traveled to reach you, the fewer resources it required.

You can continue to make a difference for the planet in how you use what you bought and the resources you have available. Remember the locally grown food you purchased? Don't pile it on your plate at dinner. Food that remains on your plate is a wasted resource, and you can always go back for seconds. You should try to be aware of your consumption of water and energy. Turn off the water when you brush your teeth, and limit your showers to five minutes. Turn off the lights, and don't leave appliances or chargers plugged in when not in use.

Together, we can use less, waste less, recycle more, and make the right choices. It may be the only chance we have.

Question: 1

What is the author's primary purpose in writing this article?

- A. The author's purpose is to scare people.
- B. The author's purpose is to warn people.
- C. The author's purpose is to inspire people.
- D. The author's purpose is to inform people.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Various parts of the article are intended to scare (choice A), warn (choice B), and inspire (choice C) people, but the primary purpose of the article is to offer practical advice about what products people should buy and how to use their available resources to make responsible decisions for the future of our planet.

Question: 2

What is the author's tone?

- A. The author's tone is optimistic.
- B. The author's tone is pessimistic.
- C. The author's tone is matter-of-fact.
- D. The author's tone is angry.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The author does not make predictions of a radically rejuvenated planet (choice A) or the complete annihilation of life as we know it (choice B). The author is also not accusatory in his descriptions (choice D). Instead, the author states what he believes to be the current state of the planet's environment, and makes practical suggestions for making better use of its resources in the future.

Question: 3

How does the author make a connection between the second and third paragraphs?

- A. The author indicates he will now make suggestions for how to use what you bought
- B. The author indicates he will continue to give more examples of what you should buy.
- C. The author indicates he will make suggestions for how to keep from buying more items.
- D. The author indicates he will make suggestions for how to tell other people what to buy.

Answer: A

Explanation:

The author begins the third paragraph with, "You can continue to make a difference for the planet in how you use what you bought and the resources you have available." This sentence makes the connection between the second paragraph which deals with what people should buy and the third paragraph which makes suggestions for how to use what they have.

Question: 4

What is the main idea of this article?

- A. People should use less water and energy.
- B. People should make responsible choices in what they purchase and how they use their available resources.
- C. People are quickly destroying the earth, and there is no way to stop the destruction.
- D. People should organize everyone they know to join the fight to save the environment.

Answer: B

Explanation:

The author does suggest that people should use less water and energy (choice A), but these are only two suggestions among many and not the main idea of the article. The article does not say that people are destroying the earth (choice C) or make a suggestion that people organize their acquaintances (choice D).

Question: 5

Which organizational pattern did the author use?

- A. Comparison and contrast
- B. Chronological order
- C. Cause and effect
- D. Problem/solution

Answer: D

Explanation:

The author presents the problems of global warming and the rapid depletion of the planet's natural resources and offers several practical suggestions for how to stop global warming and use remaining resources judiciously.

Question: 6

Why does the author say it is important to buy locally grown food?

- A. Buying locally grown food supports people in your community.
- B. Locally grown food travels the least distance to reach you, and therefore uses fewer resources.
- C. Locally grown food uses less packaging.
- D. Locally grown food is healthier for you because it has been exposed to fewer pesticides.

Answer: B

Explanation:

As the passage states: "Locally grown food and other products manufactured within your community are the best choices. The fewer miles a product traveled to reach you, the fewer resources it required."

Question: 7

Which of the following suggestions does the author give for conserving resources?

- A. Turn off the water when you brush your teeth.
- B. Use a ceiling fan instead of an air conditioner.

- C. Drive an electric car instead of a gas-powered car.
- D. Use energy-saving appliances.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Although the other answer choices do represent ways to conserve resources, choice A is the only suggestion the author makes within this article.

Question: 8

What does the author say is the place to begin saving our planet?

- A. The place to begin is with getting rid of products that are not earth friendly.
- B. The place to begin is with using less water when we take a shower.
- C. The place to begin is with the choices we make every day.
- D. The place to begin is with buying locally-grown food.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The author makes suggestions to use less water (choice B) and buy locally grown food (choice D), but they are not suggested as the place to begin saving the planet. The author does not suggest getting rid of products that are not earth friendly (choice A). The author states: "Participation begins with our everyday choices."

Question: 9

What does the author imply will happen if people do not follow his suggestions?

- A. The author implies we will run out of resources in the next 10 years.
- B. The author implies water and energy prices will rise sharply in the near future.
- C. The author implies global warming and the depletion of natural resources will continue.
- D. The author implies local farmers will lose their farms.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The author does not mention running out of resources in a specific time period (choice A), the cost of water and energy (choice B), or the possibility of hardship for local farmers (choice D).

Question: 10

You are working with a group to compile further research on what people can do to help the environment. Your teacher has asked your group to present a broad overview of the topic. Which of the following would be the best choice for dividing the topic among the individuals in your group?

- A. Products that can be recycled, products that cannot be recycled, and products that should not be recycled.
- B. Products that can be recycled, products that consume less energy, and products that use recycled packaging.
- C. Products that can be recycled, hybrid cars, and water conservation.
- D. Products that can be recycled, products that consume less energy, and accomplishing everyday tasks using environmentally friendly practices.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Choice D gives the broadest interpretation of the topic. Choice A focuses solely on recycling; choice B focuses on the choice of products to be purchased; and choice C focuses on recycling, one type of energy-saving product (hybrid cars), and ways to conserve one resource (water).

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