

Answers

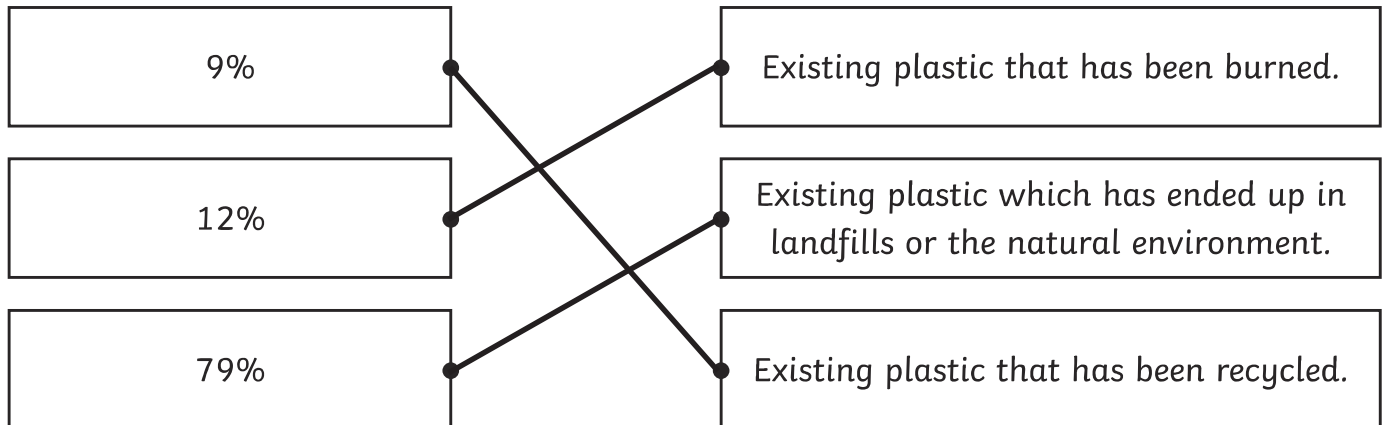
- Which of these is not a way that plastic enters the environment? Tick one.
 - by being blown out of bins
 - by being abandoned by humans
 - by being dug up from the ground**
 - by being washed down drains
- Number the sub-headings to show the order they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.
 - 3** The Problem with Plastic
 - 1** Plastic Waste Facts
 - 4** Threats to Wildlife
 - 2** Plastic and the Environment
 - 5** How We Can Help
- List **two** everyday items mentioned in the text which can be made from plastic.
Accept any two of the following: food wrappers; toys; gadgets; pipes.
- How many plastic bags are used around the world each second?
160,000 plastic bags are used around the world each second.
- Find and copy one adjective from the first paragraph which is used to describe plastic.
popular
- Fully explain why the chemicals within plastic endanger wildlife.
Pupils' own responses, such as: The chemicals within plastic endanger wildlife because they are poisonous. When animals accidentally eat bits of plastic, the poison can hurt or kill both them and anything which eats them in their food chain.
- Discuss one of the largest threats to wildlife from plastic waste in the environment.
Pupils' own responses, such as: One of the largest threats to wildlife from plastic waste in the environment is that animals can become tangled in plastic waste, resulting in their injury or death.
- Comment on one change you could make to help to reduce plastic pollution.
Pupils' own responses, such as: To help to reduce plastic pollution, I could stop using plastic bags when I go to the shop and take a canvas bag with me instead.

Answers

1. Which of these is not a way that plastic enters the environment? Tick one.

- by being blown out of bins
- by being abandoned by humans
- by being dug up from the ground**
- by being washed down drains

2. Using the infographic to help you, match the percentages to the correct fact.



3. Find and copy **two** examples of items that the text implies will break down over time.
Accept any two of the following: paper; fruit peels; fabric.

4. **...and could be endangering the existence of some of our much-loved creatures.**

Which word or phrase could the author have used instead of the word **endangering** in this sentence?

Accept any appropriate synonym, such as: risking; compromising; jeopardising; damaging; putting in danger.

5. Find and copy one adjective from the section entitled **The Problem with Plastic** that describes the chemicals found in microplastics.

toxic

6. Summarise the section entitled **Threats to Wildlife** in 30 words or less.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Plastic pollution can harm wildlife because creatures may become tangled in waste, eat the plastic by mistake and become poisoned by the chemicals in the plastic.

7. Which fact from the text did you find most shocking? Give **two** reasons for your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I found it most shocking that 160,000 plastic bags are used every second because this is a very large number and I did not realise that plastic bags were used on this scale. It also shocks me because it shows how few people use reusable bags.

8. Fully explain the dangers of microplastics.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Microplastics are dangerous because they can be mistakenly eaten by wildlife that think that it is food. When the wildlife eat the microplastic, they can become poisoned or killed by the dangerous chemicals it contains.

9. Conduct some research on the Internet. What are the UK Government currently doing to reduce the effects of plastic pollution in the UK?

Pupils' own responses, such as: The UK Government have joined the Commonwealth Clean Oceans Alliance and have promised funds to help improve waste management to stop plastics entering the waters.

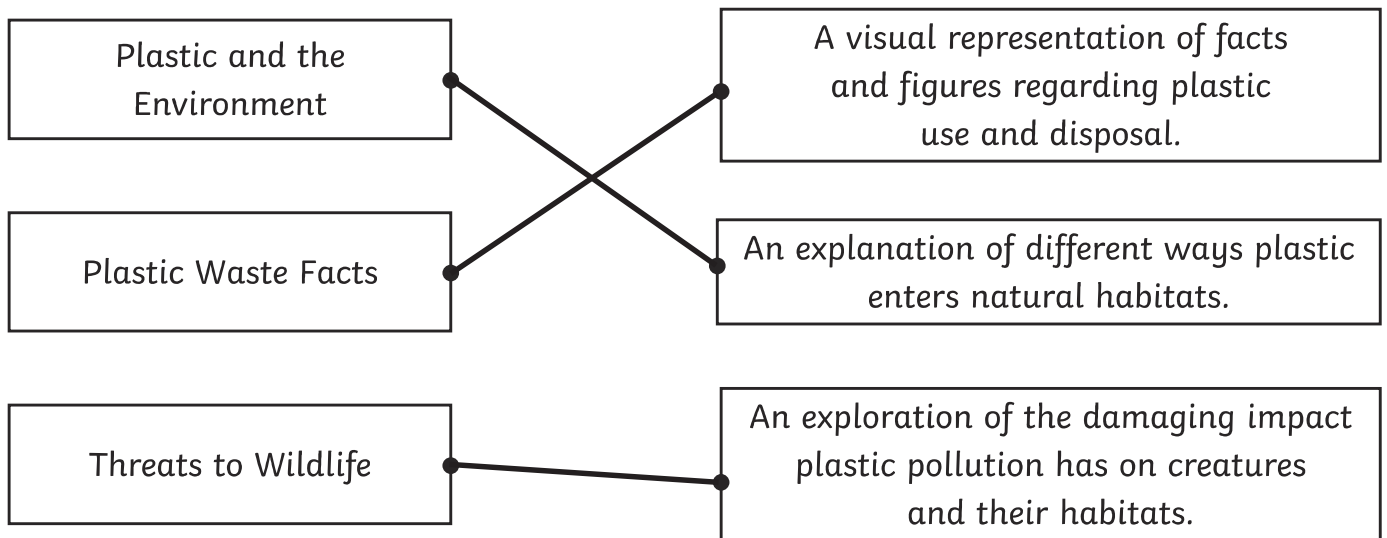
Answers

1. **...they will simply remain indefinitely until removed by humans...**

Which of these is the most accurate definition for the word indefinitely? Tick one.

- globally problematic
- for the foreseeable future**
- restricted from view
- negatively impactful

2. Match the sub-heading to the best summary of its contents.



3. **...and could be endangering the existence of some of our much-loved species.**

Define the word **endangering** based on its use in this sentence.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Endangering means putting something at risk or in danger.

4. What percentage of plastic produced over the last 70 years has been thrown away?
79% of plastic produced over the last 70 years has been thrown away.

5. Which creature may birds mistake plastic bags for?
Birds may mistake plastic bags for fish.

6. Fully explain how plastic pollution endangers Britain's wildlife.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Plastic pollution can harm wildlife because creatures may become tangled in waste, eat the plastic by mistake and become poisoned by the chemicals in the plastic.

7. Plastic pollution is a global problem. Propose three steps which could be taken globally to reduce plastic pollution.

Pupils' own responses, such as: All single-use plastic items, such as straws and cutlery, could be banned globally. They could remove the use of plastic items and bottles from all international flights. Also, world leaders could meet to discuss measures to reduce plastic production and promote recycling.

8. Summarise what is meant by microplastics in 15 words or less.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Microplastics are tiny pieces of plastic that have been broken down from larger pieces.

9. Comment on one change you have already made and one change you will make in the future in order to reduce plastic pollution.

Pupils' own responses, such as: One change I have already made is that I have started refilling a water bottle instead of buying more bottled water. One change I will make in the future is that I will take my own bag to the supermarket instead of buying more plastic carrier bags.

10. Summarise the purpose of this text and its intended audience.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that this text is intended for a young audience, especially children who are interested in wildlife and the environment. Its purpose is to inform them of the hazards of plastic pollution and to help them to make changes for the better to help the environment.