

Name Date

The Problem with Plastics

 April 13, 2018

Use this week's cover story to answer the questions. For each question, circle the letter next to the best answer.

Read for Detail (RI.5.1; RI.6.1)

1. According to the article, how many countries signed a United Nations pledge to eliminate plastic pollution in the oceans?

- A. 193
- B. 13
- C. 32
- D. 143

Identify Central Idea (RI.5.2; RI.6.2)

2. What could be another title for the article?

- A. "Tackling Plastic Pollution"
- B. "Cleaning Up the Oceans"
- C. "Edible Plastic"
- D. "Saying No to Plastic Straws"

Define Words and Phrases (RI.5.4; RI.6.4)

3. Read this sentence from the article: "And since most plastic is not biodegradable, it will remain in the ocean forever." What is the definition of *biodegradable* as it is used in this sentence?

- A. capable of becoming harmful to the environment
- B. capable of breaking down into harmless parts
- C. consists of a small number of artificial chemicals
- D. capable of protecting food or liquid

Analyze Text Features (RI.5.7; RI.6.7)

4. What additional information is presented in the sidebar "Chew on This"?

- A. Edible products contribute to plastic pollution.
- B. The Anacosta River, in Washington, D.C., is filled with plastic trash.
- C. Much plastic trash finds its way into oceans.
- D. Plastic waste can be reduced by making edible products.

Read for Detail (RI.5.1; RI.6.1)

5. According to the article, all of the following examples are described as solutions for plastic pollution, *except*

- A. encouraging companies to use recyclable plastics.
- B. making certain plastic products illegal.
- C. giving medicine to marine animals that eat plastic particles.
- D. cutting out plastic straws.

Make Connections (RI.5.3; RI.6.3)

6. The section titled "The Last Straw" relates to the section titled "Plastic Pollution" by

- A. explaining how trash winds up in the oceans.
- B. describing how people are trying to save marine life by removing up plastic trash from the oceans.
- C. describing steps people are taking to decrease plastic waste that could harm marine life.
- D. explaining that plastic is littering beaches and harming marine life.

