

Teacher Guide and Answers

Passage Reading Level: Lexile 780

1. What are coral reefs?

- A rocks
- B clownfish
- C ships
- D **living structures**

2. How does the author introduce the topic of coral reefs?

- A **by describing their importance to ocean plants and animals**
- B by warning that more than half of them may be destroyed by 2030
- C by quoting a scientist who explains why solving the coral reef problem is a challenge
- D by discussing the reasons that coral reefs are disappearing

3. Based on the passage, what would be best for clownfish?

- A **for the destruction of coral reefs to stop**
- B for coral reefs around the world to disappear
- C for fishers to get rid of sea horses
- D for coral reefs to look less like rocks

4. Read the following sentence from the passage: "Hundreds of clownfish dart in and out of the gaps in coral reefs."

In the sentence, what does the word "**dart**" most nearly mean?

- A fill up
- B **move quickly**
- C look at
- D are caught in

5. What is the passage "Reefs at Risk" mostly about?

- A why spending too much time around coral reefs is risky
- B **coral reefs, how they are damaged, and how to protect them**
- C the differences between coral reefs and other sea animals
- D a project to help make coral reefs grow on land

6. What are some animals that live in coral reefs?

Suggested answer: Some animals that live in coral reefs are fish, crabs, turtles, and sea horses.

7. Why might some people think that coral is not made up of living things?

Suggested answer: Some people may not realize that coral is made up of living things because it looks like rocks.

8. Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

Lots of animals live in coral reefs, _____ fish, crabs, turtles, and sea horses.

- A including
- B and
- C so
- D after

9. Answer the following questions based on the sentence below.

Scientists are working hard to protect coral reefs because many of them are being destroyed.

Who? scientists

What are scientists doing? **working hard to protect coral reefs**

Why? **because many of them are being destroyed**

To the Teacher: ReadWorks recommends that you teach this vocabulary word to the whole class out loud using the four steps listed below.

Vocabulary Word: **pollution** (pol · lu · tion): pollution is when dirty or poisonous substances make the air, water, or land somewhere dirtier or less healthy.

Step 1: Introduce the word

- a. Teacher writes the word on the board and divides it into syllables: (pol · lu · tion)
- b. Teacher says: "This word is pollution. What is the word?" [All students reply together out loud: "pollution."]

Step 2: Provide a child-friendly definition

- a. Teacher says: "Pollution is when dirty or poisonous substances make the air, water, or land somewhere dirtier or less healthy."
- b. Teacher says: "In the passage, it is explained that one of the threats to coral reefs is pollution."
- c. Teacher says: "What is the word?" [All students reply together out loud: "pollution."]

Step 3: Practice the word

Teacher provides examples and additional opportunities to repeat the word. Read the first sentence out loud to your students. Begin reading it again and when you come to the vocabulary word, prompt students to say the vocabulary word out loud. Then, finish reading the sentence out loud to your students.

Directions: Read the vocabulary word and definition below to complete questions 10a, 10b, and 11.

Vocabulary Word: **pollution** (pol · lu · tion): pollution is when dirty or poisonous substances make the air, water, or land somewhere dirtier or less healthy.

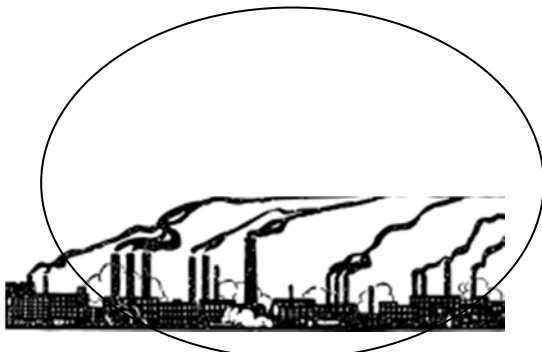
10a. Read the sentences below and underline all forms of the word **pollution**.

1. It was dangerous to drink the water because of all of the pollution in the water.
2. Politicians passed laws to lower the amount of pollution factories could produce.
3. Pollution is dangerous for people and for animals.
4. After the factory started polluting the coral reef, animals died there.
5. "Don't eat that fish – it comes from polluted water," she warned.

Step 4: Check for student understanding

To the Teacher: This step can be completed as a whole class activity or as an independent practice.

10b. Which image better illustrates pollution?



11. If chemicals from a factory enter a river stream, is that pollution? Why or why not?

Suggested answer: Probably yes, because these chemicals may be harmful to the plants and animals around and in the river.

Suggested Additional Vocabulary: structure, challenge