

Name:

Please read the following text and answer the questions below:

Help to keep the world clean

Michael Wise takes the problem of litter very seriously. He is an engineer who has the job of looking after 3,600 miles of highway in Texas.

For years he has been giving talks and showing films to teach people how to be responsible for their own rubbish. However, when he drove around his area, he had to admit to himself that things were not getting better. He knew that people would have to feel that they owned the environment around them before they would respect it and keep it clean. But how could he create that feeling?

One day, while Michael was having lunch with one of his colleagues, he started complaining about the problem. Suddenly his colleague came up with a bright idea – why not encourage local organisations to adopt and look after a sector of the highway? If they agreed to clean it four times a year the Highway Department would then put up a sign at the roadside with the organisation’s name on it. The organisation would become popular and everybody would feel much better in an improved environment.

Michael started off by writing to just a dozen schools and youth clubs, to see what reaction he would get to the idea. Within a year, over 300 groups had adopted more than 600 miles of highway. The idea spread very quickly to other states. Today, for example in North Carolina, even more than 700 groups take care of 15,000 miles of highway.

Now, hardly a day goes by without a phone call or a letter that tells Michael how successful the idea has been. What pleased him most was a sentence in a letter he received from a schoolboy saying, “Once you’ve picked up roadside litter you’ll think twice before you dump any there yourself.”

304 words

1. Understanding words from the context (underlined words) 8 x 1,5 = 12 points

Find the words and definitions that go together according to the text.

List 1: Words

Answer

List 2: Definitions

1. litter
2. highway
3. to own
4. environment
5. to complain
6. organisation
7. to adopt
8. successful
9. twice

1 → g
2 → a
3 → e
4 → b
5 → f
6 → h
7 → i
8 → d
9 → c

- a. a wide road, covering long distances
- b. the surroundings
- c. two times
- d. having the effect or result you intended
- e. belonging to you and no one else
- f. to say that you are unhappy about something
- g. things you normally throw away
- h. group of people with a common interest
- i. to start to use a particular method or plan

2. True or False

6 x 2 = 12 points

Are these sentences true or false according to the text? Put a cross (X) in the correct box.

	True	False
The idea was to encourage organisations.	X	
The cleaning up project gained a great deal of popularity in the USA.	X	
The idea encouraged young people to care for their environment.	X	
Michael Wise is responsible for highways all over America.		X
The idea of cleaning roadsides spread slowly to other states.		X
Michael Wise got the idea himself at lunch.		X
Only schools and youth clubs participated in the project.		X

3. Answer the following questions in complete sentences

4 x 3 = 12 points

1. What do people have to do if they adopt a sector of the highway?

→ clean it 4 times a year

2. How are organisations attracted to keep some miles of the highway clean?

→ get a sign

3. How did Michael Wise win the interest of the public for his idea?

→ wrote letters

4. Why was Michael Wise pleased with the schoolboy's letter?

→ you litter less when you clean up

4. Put the right words (opposites) in these spaces.

5 x 2 = 10 points

Example: The opposite of **worse** is better.

1. The opposite of **dirty** is clean_____
2. The opposite of **to increase** is decrease_____
3. The opposite of **to stop** is go, continue_____
4. The opposite of **agree** is disagree_____
5. The opposite of **put up** is put down_____

5. Replace the underlined words in bold type with a synonym.

6 x 2 = 12 points

(A synonym is a word or expression with the same or a similar meaning.)

1. Michael Wise takes the problem of litter very seriously.

Michael Wise takes the trouble, difficulty, concern of litter very seriously.

2. He is an engineer who has the job of looking after 3,600 miles of highway.

He is an engineer who has the work, duty, profession of looking after 3,600 miles of highway.

3. When he drove around his area, he had to admit that things were not getting better.

When he drove around his region, district, neighbourhood, he had to admit that things were not getting better.

4. How could he create that feeling?

How could he make, produce, generate that feeling?

5. The idea spread very quickly to other states.

The thought, plan, scheme spread very quickly to other states.

5. You'll think twice before you dump any litter there yourself.

You'll think twice before you throw away, unload, discard any litter there yourself.

5. Grammatical structures in a context

10 x 2 = 20 points

Fill in the correct form of the words in brackets or the correct alternative of the two words given.

People in North Carolina (to be) are very proud of (they / their) their success in fighting litter. (A / An) A large number of groups are taking part in this campaign.

(Any / Some) Some have developed the idea in their own way, for example, Laura Murrow, who (to run) runs a youth club in Durham.

She told us, "I (to like) liked the idea from the start and a lot of our club members, were willing to help. This year alone we (to collect) have collected 58 bags of litter, 22 old tyres and enough cans to fill your garage from our part of the highway. In order (to make) to make the work (much / more) more fun I decided to hide green tennis balls in the grass along the highway. A local petrol station has offered to pay our youth club a reward of \$ 10 for each ball that is (to find) found."

7. Testing ability to form sentences and to give one's opinion

22 points

Answer one of the following questions (A or B) in complete sentences.

Write between 60 and 80 words.

A. Should there be a cleaning up project in Germany similar to that in the USA?

Please answer on the back of this page.

B. Do you think that it is important to keep the environment clean?

Please answer on the back of this page.

Total 100 points