

Study the online advertisement (**Text 1**) and the social media post (**Text 2**) and answer Questions 1 – 4.

Text 1 is taken from an online advertisement for a campaign to raise awareness of plastic pollution.

The greed for convenience has fuelled the demand for single-use plastics.

It is time for a revolution to stop plastic pollution.

The campaign aims to provide information about the sustainability of plastic products and the impacts of plastic pollution.



Text 2 is taken from a social media post on the campaign to raise awareness of plastic pollution.

While single-use plastics have revolutionised the way we store and consume food, every corner of the world is now polluted with plastics! Many of these products, such as plastic bags and food wrappers, have a lifespan of mere minutes to hours, yet they may persist in the environment for centuries. Do you really need to use disposable plastic products in your daily life? It is not an uphill task to decline the use of single-use plastics. It might well be the single best decision you can make to save our Earth! #loveforourplanet



Refer to the online advertisement (**Text 1**) and the social media post (**Text 2**) for Questions 1 – 4.



1. Look at Text 1. Tick (✓) the most effective title for the image in this advertisement.

Unveiling a plastic-free Earth

Plastics offer a world of convenience

Our Earth is covered with your plastic waste

[1]

2. The advertisement states ‘The greed for convenience has fuelled the demand for single-use plastics’.

What does the word ‘fuelled’ suggest?

[1]

3. Identify the phrase in Text 2 which reflects the action needed for the ‘revolution’ stated in Text 1.

[1]

4. Look at Texts 1 and 2 and statements (a) and (b) below.

Decide whether the statements refer to Text 1, Text 2, both texts, or neither text.

Circle the answer you have chosen for each statement.

(a) The problem of plastic pollution is attributed to human nature.

Text 1 / Text 2 / Both / Neither

(b) The text calls upon readers to reflect on their own actions.

Text 1 / Text 2 / Both / Neither

[2]



The text below describes a fight which took place on a train and the events which followed. Read it carefully and answer Questions 1 – 9.

- 1 Fifteen minutes out of Paddington Station, passing through the rolling lavender fields of Cotswolds, the morning train of Thames Express attained its maximum speed of fifty-eight miles an hour. Operating the bright yellow locomotive, the driver's deft fingers manipulated the knobs on the control panel, manoeuvring coming turns and steep inclines. At his feet, the engineer crouched, shovelling coal into the glowing furnaces of the engine in continuous uninterrupted motion. The driver could be seen standing upright, hollering orders above the noise of the chugging engine. It was an ordinary day and the train was expected to arrive at Charlbury Station at noon as usual. 5
- 2 As the train clattered along the track, the sliding door of the baggage car at the very end of the train opened suddenly, revealing a violent struggle inside. The contest was most unevenly matched – a lanky youth in ragged clothing, striking out against a burly railway guard. The youth's dagger was already stained with blood from the incised wound on the guard's arm. The guard charged with a mighty cry towards the youth but he managed to dodge to the side in one fluid move. They both knew that only one would walk away from this. One man's death would be inevitable. Finally, the youth landed one or two telling blows against his hulking opponent. Indeed, it was only by accident that the guard, having been knocked to his knees, should thrust forward in such a way that the youth was caught off guard and flung through the open door. 10 15
- 3 The guard, gasping for breath, looked back at the fast-receding figure of the fallen youth who tumbled and bounced like a rag doll upon the ground. The sliding door was promptly closed. A state of tranquility descended upon the land. The train sped on and soon went round a gentle curve. All that remained was the faint sound of the engine and the lingering smoke that slowly settled over the tracks and the body of the motionless youth. 20
- 4 A polished black horse-drawn carriage with rich crimson wheels came down the dirt road that ran parallel to the railway tracks. A gentleman emerged, stylishly dressed in a dark blue velvet trench coat and black bowler hat. The gentleman pressed his binoculars to his eyes and swept the length of the tracks. At once, his eyes fixated on the body of the doomed youth. However, the gentleman made no attempt to approach him or go to his aid. In a while, the youth stirred, writhing in agony. He raised himself up on one elbow and seemed about to rise to his feet. His efforts proved futile as he instantly collapsed back to the ground, gave a convulsive shudder and laid wholly still. The gentleman remained standing on the dirt road until he was certain the youth was dead. Only then did he climb into his waiting carriage and travel back in the direction he had come. 25 30 35
- 5 At the tavern, the gentleman sat, sipping his wine and scrutinising the glass. The meeting was impromptu but the gentleman was not surprised when Spencer appeared. "Has the villain been identified?" asked Spencer. "Oh, I shouldn't think so," the gentleman said. "He was thrown from the train at a goodly speed. The manner of his departure was such that his features were substantially disarrayed. The detectives have taken no great interest in this matter. The whole manner of the robbery speaks of utter amateurism. It could never have succeeded." 40



Refer to Text 1 to answer Questions 1 - 9.

1. At the beginning of this text, the train driver and the engineer are hard at work. Explain how the language used in Paragraph 1 indicates the dynamic nature of their jobs.

Support your ideas with **three** details from Paragraph 1.

2. (a) Why was the fight between the railway guard and the youth 'most unevenly matched' (lines 10 - 11)?

- (b) In Paragraph 2, we are told that both the railway guard and the youth knew that 'only one would walk away from this'. Explain **in your own words** what this means.

3. From Paragraph 2, give **two** ways in which the youth was expected to emerge the winner in the fight.

(i) _____

(ii) _____ [2]



4. 'A state of tranquility descended upon the land.' (line 21)
What is (i) unusual and (ii) effective about the phrase 'state of tranquility'?
- (i) It is unusual because _____
_____ [1]
- (ii) It is effective because _____
_____ [1]
5. From Paragraph 4, identify **two** pieces of evidence which indicate that the murder of the youth was a planned one.
- (i) _____
- (ii) _____ [2]
6. Which **two** phrases in Paragraph 4 suggest that the youth died a painful death?
- (i) _____
- (ii) _____ [2]
7. Which **one** word in Paragraph 5 tells us that the youth was unrecognisable at death?
_____ [1]
8. According to the gentleman, what crime had the youth committed and why had he not succeeded?

_____ [2]

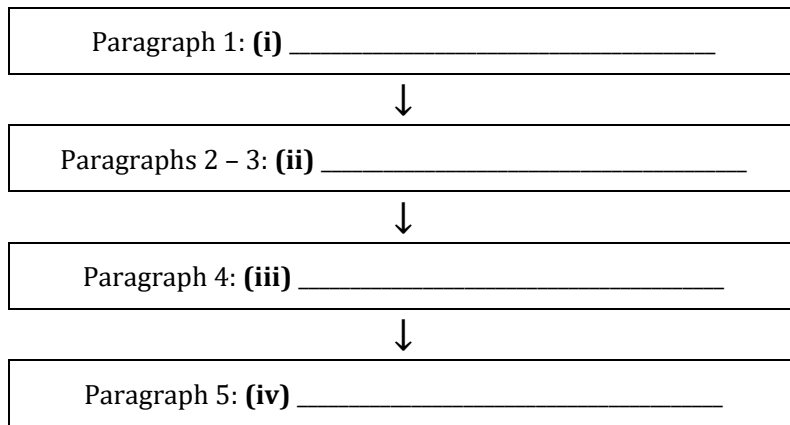


9. The structure of the text reflects the different stages of the narrative. Complete the flow chart by choosing one phrase from the box to summarise the events in each stage. There are some extra phrases in the box you do not need to use.

Stages of the narrative

the closure	the demise	the routine	the debate
the disorientation		the tussle	the invasion

Flow chart



[4]



The article below is about the wearing of face masks to prevent the spread of viruses. Read it carefully and answer Questions 1 – 6.

- 1 The plague was once the most feared disease in the world, capable of wiping out hundreds of millions of people and afflicting its victims with gruesome symptoms. The physicians who tended to plague victims wore protective costumes which did not exactly inspire a sense of calm. A costume consisted of leather gloves, a head-to-toe overcoat and a mask with glass eye openings and a beak-shaped nose. The most forbidding part of the ensemble was the long-beaked mask which was stuffed with herbs to prevent the doctor from breathing in germs. Though ineffective, the plague doctor's face gear marks an important moment in the history of the medical mask. 5
- 2 In the 18th century, the plagues of yesteryear faded away, as did the use of masks. In 1906, the British doctor Berkeley Moynihan published one of the first books to advocate for the use of face masks during operations. He asserted that unless the surgeon and anyone else nearby were absolutely silent, they should definitely have masks on to prevent saliva from landing on a patient's wound because saliva could contain disease-causing bacteria. He threw shade at doctors who practised without face masks, writing "it is the custom among the unenlightened to scoff at the necessary precautions taken by those who practise aseptic surgery". It would take a few more years for medical personnel to routinely use face masks to protect themselves and their patients. 10 15
- 3 We have little to lose from the widespread adoption of face masks during a pandemic, but the gains could be significant. By increasing the chance of eliminating viruses, we prevent triggering lockdowns which are economically disruptive. To understand the effectiveness of face masks, it is important to look at how viruses spread. When a sick person coughs or sneezes, showers of tiny droplets filled with the virus are sent into the air. There are also fears that viruses can be spread simply through speaking. One study showed that we spray thousands of droplets invisible to the naked eye into the air just by uttering the words 'stay healthy'. Once out, many of the larger droplets will quickly settle onto nearby surfaces while smaller ones remain suspended in the air where they can be breathed in. Under right conditions, the virus can linger in the air for several hours and still infect people if breathed in. 20 25
- 4 Face masks can act as a simple barrier to prevent respiratory droplets from landing on one's mouth and nose. In addition, if everyone, including those who are infected, wears a mask, the amount of virus which gets into the environment will be greatly reduced, thereby limiting transmission in the community. This is a form of source control. Wearing face masks is so important because it is difficult to trace who an infected person has been in prolonged contact with, in places such as movie theatres and on public transport. Furthermore, some carriers may not develop symptoms and can spread the virus to a lot of people unknowingly. 30 35
- 5 There are different types of masks. During a pandemic, medical supplies are likely to be in shortage worldwide. Hence, the public is encouraged to wear cloth masks, which serve as a basic protection and can be washed and reused. Surgical masks should be reserved for healthcare workers. Studies have shown that even wearing moderately effective masks could reduce the transmission rate. The greater the number of people who adopt the use of face masks and the earlier they do so in an outbreak, the better the outcome of curbing the spread of viruses. 40



Refer to Text 11 to answer Questions 1 - 6.

1. In Paragraph 1, the writer says ‘... protective costumes which did not exactly inspire a sense of calm’.
- (a) Which word in the same paragraph reinforces the same sentiment towards the protective costumes worn by the plague doctors?
_____ [1]
- (b) Which feature of the costume was believed to be able to protect the plague doctors from getting infected?
_____ [1]
2. (a) What does ‘scoff at’ (line 15) tell us about the attitude of doctors towards the use of face masks during operations?
_____ [1]
- (b) Which word in Paragraph 2 tells us Berkeley Moynihan’s impression of doctors who performed operations without face masks?
_____ [1]
3. With reference to Paragraph 3, explain why the widespread adoption of face masks during a pandemic can bring about ‘significant’ gains.
_____ [1]
4. (a) With reference to Paragraph 5, explain why the public should opt to wear cloth masks instead of surgical masks during a pandemic.
_____ [1]
- (b) What is the advantage of using cloth masks?
_____ [1]



5. Here is part of a conversation between two students, Peter and Lynn, who have read the article.

In the fight against the spread of viruses, wearing a moderately effective mask is better than not wearing a mask at all.



Peter

The success depends on other factors as well.



Lynn

(a) How would Peter explain his view with reference to Paragraph 5?

_____ [1]

(b) Give **two** examples from Paragraph 5 that Lynn can give to support her view.

(i) _____

(ii) _____ [2]

6. **Using your own words as far as possible**, summarise how viruses spread and the effectiveness of face masks in limiting the spread of viruses.

Use information only from Paragraphs 3 and 4.

Your summary must be in continuous writing (not note form). It must not be longer than 80 words, not counting the words given to help you begin.

People can become infected with viruses by _____



ANSWER KEY

Visual Text 1

1. Our Earth is covered with your plastic waste
 2. The word 'fuelled' suggests that the demand for single-use plastics has increased significantly as a result of our 'greed for convenience'.
 3. 'decline the use of single-use plastics'
 4.
 - (a) Text 1
 - (b) Text 2
-



ANSWER KEY

Narrative Text 1

1. The writer makes good use of visual and auditory imagery to appeal to the reader's senses. The turning of the control knobs by the driver's 'deft fingers' to negotiate turns and inclines as well as the engineer's 'continuous uninterrupted motion' when feeding coal to the furnaces appeal to the reader's sense of sight and indicate the constant movements of both men. The phrase 'hollering orders above the noise' appeals to the reader's sense of hearing. These three details suggest the bustling work environment and the dynamic nature of their jobs.

2.
 - (a) There was a big difference between the physique of the youth and that of the railway guard, with the youth being lanky and the railway guard being burly.

 - (b) This means that there could only be one survivor and the loser of the fight would face death.

3.
 - (i) The railway guard's arm had already been injured and was bleeding.

 - (ii) The youth also delivered forceful blows to the railway guard.

4.
 - (i) It is unusual because the peace that ensued is a sharp contrast to the violent fight which occurred moments ago.

 - (ii) It is effective because it emphasises the abruptness of how the fight ended.

5.
 - (i) The gentleman arrived and searched the railway tracks from a distance for the body of the youth, indicating that he knew about the fight beforehand.

 - (ii) The gentleman saw the dying youth but did not offer any help. Instead, he waited until he was sure the youth was dead before leaving.

6.
 - (i) 'writhing in agony'

 - (ii) 'gave a convulsive shudder'

7. 'disarrayed'

8. The youth had committed a robbery and he had not succeeded because of a lack of experience and competency.

9.
 - (i) the routine
 - (ii) the tussle
 - (iii) the demise
 - (iv) the closure



Non-Narrative Text 11

1.
 - (a) 'forbidding'
 - (b) The long-beaked mask which was filled with herbs was believed to be able to prevent the plague doctors from inhaling germs.
2.
 - (a) It tells us that the doctors were sceptical and doubtful about the use of face masks during operations.
 - (b) 'unenlightened'
3. The widespread adoption of face masks raises the possibility of eradicating viruses, hence preventing lockdowns which can disrupt economies.
4.
 - (a) Surgical masks, which are likely to be insufficient across the world during a pandemic, should be set aside for healthcare workers.
 - (b) Cloth masks can be washed and used again and again.
5.
 - (a) The rate of transmission of viruses can be lowered even with the use of moderately effective masks.
 - (b)
 - (i) There is a higher chance of success of curbing the spread of viruses if more people use face masks.
 - (ii) The chance of success is also higher if people use face masks earlier in an outbreak.



6. Your summary must be in continuous writing and should include the following points:

From passage	In own words
When a sick person coughs or sneezes, showers of tiny droplets filled with the virus are sent into the air.	breathing in droplets expelled when an ill person coughs, sneezes or speaks
There are also fears that viruses can be spread simply through speaking.	
Once out, many of the larger droplets will quickly settle onto nearby surfaces while smaller ones remain suspended in the air where they can be breathed in.	bigger droplets will promptly land on surfaces while tiny ones stay in the air, capable of infecting people even after hours under appropriate conditions
Under right conditions, the virus can linger in the air for several hours and still infect people if breathed in.	
Face masks can act as a simple barrier to prevent respiratory droplets from landing on one's mouth and nose.	face masks block respiratory droplets from coming to rest on one's mouth and nose
In addition, if everyone, including those who are infected, wears a mask, the amount of virus which gets into the environment will be greatly reduced, thereby limiting transmission in the community. This is a form of source control.	keep infected people from releasing viruses freely, hence reducing community spread
Wearing face masks is so important because it is difficult to trace who an infected person has been in prolonged contact with, in places such as movie theatres and on public transport.	prevent one from catching viruses from strangers in public places and infected people who do not display symptoms
Furthermore, some carriers may not develop symptoms and can spread the virus to a lot of people unknowingly.	

