

Resource: 8. A Turtle's Life

Appendix: 8.5 – Marine Litter Quiz questions - Yr6/ Younger Gifted Students

How to use the Quiz:

Each group is asked: **two** question from section A, **one** question from section B, **two** questions from section C. Then each group takes turns to choose **two** the question number from section D.

Total questions per small group: up 5 to 7.

The **BEST** answer for each question is the one shown in blue.

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### A. Direct and easy TRUE/FALSE questions

- 1) Marine litter mainly comes from activities at sea. TRUE/**FALSE**
- 2) I produce less waste when I buy a bamboo toothbrush instead of a plastic one.  
**TRUE**/FALSE
- 3) I produce less waste if I take a new plastic water bottle to school with me every day, instead of filling a reusable bottle. TRUE/**FALSE**
- 4) A metal straw (with its brush for thorough cleaning) is more environmentally friendly than disposable paper or plastic straws. **TRUE**/FALSE
- 5) I produce less solid waste if I use soap and shampoo bars instead of liquid ones.  
**TRUE**/FALSE
- 6) All recyclable items are sent for recycling. TRUE/**FALSE**
- 7) All balloons released during celebrations break down and become harmless to the environment. TRUE/FALSE
- 8) We produce less waste if we buy toothpaste tablets in our own containers, instead of buying toothpaste tubes. **TRUE**/FALSE  
(Always consult your dentist about their contents before buying and using.)
- 9) I am the Green Turtle and as I grow into an adult, I eat sea grasses only. A **sea of floating waste** blocks the light which is **important for my food to grow**.  
**TRUE**/FALSE
- 10) Plastic bottles decompose very fast and do not harm wildlife like turtles.  
**TRUE**/FALSE

## B. Turtle Facts.

- 11) I am the Loggerhead Turtle. Among my favourite food there is jellyfish. Which plastic waste do you have to avoid from entering the ocean so that I do not confuse it with **jellyfish**?
- a) Plastic bags and balloons
  - b) Plastic bottles and caps
  - c) Plastic straws and stirrers
- 12) I am a baby Loggerhead Turtle. What is the smallest amount of plastic that can be fatal for me?
- a) 1 kg of plastic caps
  - b) 10 g of plastic pieces
  - c) Half a gram of plastic pieces
- 13) We can BEST help a stranded turtle with a fishing line in her mouth by:
- a) Pulling the line out of its mouth and take the turtle back to the open sea.
  - b) Calling the Wildlife Rescue Team and wait with her until they arrive.
  - c) Cut the part of the line dangling out of its mouth and let it go back to the open sea.
- 14) Only one turtle makes it to maturity, when it can start laying its own eggs, out of:
- a) 10
  - b) 100
  - c) 1000
- 15) A turtle has backward facing spines in its mouth to trap food when it throws up the sea water it drinks along with the food. One reason why a turtle is at high risk of dying from eating plastic trash is that the plastic is trapped by these spines and it may suffocate. TRUE/FALSE

## C. Waste Facts

- 16) If we play with water balloons on the beach,
- a) We should leave them there to break down.
  - b) We should pick them up so as not to litter.
  - c) We should leave them on the beach for the beach cleaners to clean up after us.
- 17) Which of the following is not among the top ten litter items worldwide?
- a) Plastic and foam take-out/away containers
  - b) Pieces of wood
  - c) Plastic grocery bags
  - d) Food wrappers

- 18) Guess the topmost litter item found on beaches worldwide:
- Plastic bottles
  - Cigarette butts
  - Plastic caps
  - Straws
- 19) Which of the following takes only around 2 months to degrade completely?
- Glass bottles
  - Painted wood
  - Newspaper
  - Apple core
- 20) When I buy ice-cream, I generate the least amount of solid waste when I choose:
- an ice-cream in a cup
  - an ice-cream in a cone
  - a pre-packed ice-cream
- 21) I produce the least waste if I buy a soap bar:
- in cardboard and plastic wrapping
  - with no wrapping
  - in cardboard wrapping only
- 22) I produce the least plastic waste if I take lunch
- in a reusable plastic lunch box
  - packed daily in new cling film
  - in a reusable metal lunch box (light-weight) with a plastic lid.
- 23) We produce the least waste if we buy nuts:
- in glass jars we take with us when shopping
  - pre-packed in large packets
  - pre-packed in small packets
- 24) For a plastic piece to be classified as a **micro-plastic**, its size should be:
- equal to or smaller than the width of a 1 Euro coin
  - 5mm or smaller
  - so small that we cannot see it with our naked eyes
- 25) We produce the least waste if we buy biscuits:
- in a paper tray covered in a plastic wrapper.
  - in a plastic tray covered in a plastic wrapper.
  - in one wrapping layer.

26) Among all the marine litter items found in European seas, plastic items consistently make up:

- a) Half of the litter / 50%
- b) One-fourth of the litter / 25%
- c) One-tenth of the litter / 10%
- d) Up to 3 to 4 fifths of the litter / 60 to 80 %

27) **Nurdles** are lentil sized pieces of raw material from which plastic objects are made. We can help avoid their increase in oceans, in several ways. Which one of these actions has nothing to do with avoiding this increase in the number of nurdles in the oceans?

- a) Collecting nurdles in beach nurdle hunts.
- b) Buying toys which are made of wood instead of plastic toys.
- c) By writing to supermarkets to stop selling food in plastic containers.
- d) By buying recycled paper instead of paper made from fresh wood.

(“a” is a direct action and straightforward to understand; from “b”, “c” and “d”, only “d” is an action that does not have an impact on the plastic objects demands in the market)

28) When I buy popcorn, I generate the least amount of solid waste when I choose:

- a) popcorn which I can buy in my own reusable containers.
- b) popcorn in pre-packed bags for cooking in a pan.
- c) a pack with sachets of popcorn inside for cooking in a microwave.
- d) pre-cooked popcorn in a packet.

29) Among the waste discovered in “plastic seas” an infinite number of plastic spoons, forks, and plates are found. How can we BEST help prevent the formation of such patches of plastic waste when we go for picnics, BBQs and buy take-away food?

- a) We take reusable cutlery, cups, and plates with us.
- b) We utilise single-use plastic cutlery, cups and plates.
- c) We utilise single-use bamboo cutlery, and paper cups and plates.

30) Glitter does not contribute to micro-plastics in the sea. TRUE/FALSE

**D. Additional questions – mixed levels & mixed themes, including questions that present new information, tricky questions and guess-work.**

31) Waste items travel long journeys across the oceans MOSTLY because of

- a) wind that blows them around.
- b) strong ocean currents.
- c) rivers that carry it to the sea.

- 32) We generate the least amount of plastic waste when we choose pasta in:
- small plastic packs.
  - cardboard packaging with a transparent plastic window.
  - cardboard packaging only.
  - large plastic packets.
- 33) Gibraltar, a small country within the Mediterranean region, used to release thousands of red and white (helium-filled) balloons to celebrate its National Day. The release of balloons is now totally banned to safeguard wildlife, including turtles. What would you suggest as the BEST alternative for such a celebration?
- Release biodegradable balloons
  - Fire party poppers and organise a fireworks show
  - Release sky lanterns
  - Release pigeons
- 34) In 2019, a pregnant Sperm Whale was beached dead off the Northern coast of a Mediterranean island due to large amounts of ingested plastic. Which country was it?
- Crete
  - Malta
  - Sardinia
  - Cyprus
- 35) Estimated average lifetimes of litter items, especially for plastic objects, vary when you search this information online. This is mostly because:
- Very often surveys are not run seriously.
  - Degradation is slower if the object ends up on the seabed in the Antarctic sea instead on a beach in the scorching sun of the Mediterranean.
  - Scientists do not consult each other.
- 36) A lot of plastic ends up in the sea and keeps breaking down into smaller pieces, for hundreds of years. Which of the following is true?
- It does so until it vanishes completely from the environment.
  - It stays forever in the environment as visible pieces floating on the surface of the sea.
  - It stays forever in the environment eventually becoming microscopic and mingles with plankton, ending up in our like shellfish.
- 37) In 2018, a dead Sperm Whale that washed ashore off the Indonesian coast in Wakatobi national park. It had in its stomach, among other plastic waste:
- 115 plastic cups
  - 115 plastic bags
  - 115 balloons
  - 115 plastic straws

- 38) Ropes of different colours and thickness float in our oceans and pose a risk to wildlife which can get entangled in them. Most are:
- ropes from fishing gear discarded at sea.
  - skipping ropes discarded on land.
  - left-over ropes discarded from factories.
- 39) When I buy chocolates and sweets, for the environment it is best to buy those which are
- in the nicest packaging.
  - in the least packaging possible.
  - the cheapest.
- 40) Which one of the following is a source of micro-plastics?
- Cotton clothes
  - Woollen clothes
  - Synthetic fabrics clothes
- 41) Some scrubbing detergents and body washing liquids contain tiny plastic spheres called microbeads. Microbeads contribute to the amount of micro-plastics in the sea. TRUE/FALSE
- 42) Jablo is a plastic which breaks into small floating spheres and is therefore
- not harmful at all because animals do not ingest it.
  - harmful because a lot of it can accumulate on the surface and block sunlight.
- 43) How many major garbage patches have formed in the world's oceans?
- 2
  - 4
  - 5
  - 6
- 44) Which of the following is true?
- Waste can travel across the oceans according to ocean currents.
  - Waste always stays in the ocean/sea in which it first ends up.