

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

*Lewis has written the following paper to persuade readers to stop using plastic bags. Read Lewis's paper and look for any corrections he should make. Then answer the questions that follow.*

## Ban the Bag!

(1) Standing in line at the grocery store last week, I watched the woman in front of me buy a tube of toothpaste. (2) As the clerk placed her purchase in a plastic bag, I couldn't hardly help wondering how long it would take for that bag to end up in the trash. (3) Then I noticed the big purse the woman was carrying and wondered why she had needed a plastic bag at all. (4) Of course, this is an extreme example. (5) Most people need plastic bags to carry larger loads. (6) But are there better ways to carry our loads? (7) Should we be using plastic bags at all?

(8) People have come to rely on plastic bags as everything from totes for groceries to trash-can liners to lunch bags. (9) Around the world more than 500 billion of them are used each year. (10) Although plastic bags can be recycled, only about one percent of those used in the United States are. (11) Instead, after helping people transport items from one place to another, most are thrown away. (12) But what does "away" mean? (13) It means that they end up in landfills, where it can take a plastic bag up to a thousand years to decompose. (14) Some bags end up elsewhere in the environment, clinging to trees and fences, clogging rivers and oceans, or wafting along city sidewalks.



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(15) Plastic bags harm the environment in several ways. (16) First, they break down into particles that pollute our soil and water. (17) And because most plastic bags are made of polyethylene, a product derived from crude oil or natural gas. (18) They waste nonrenewable resources. (19) Plastic bags can also harm animals. (20) Scientists estimate that more than one million sea animals, including whales, seabirds, and turtles, die each year from ingesting or becoming entangled in plastic. (21) And in both 1988 and 1998, plastic bags that were blocking sewers, and drains in Bangladesh contributed to devastating flooding.

(22) People all over the world are starting to recognize the problems associated with plastic bags. (23) Countries such as China, South Africa, Switzerland, and Uganda are taking action and banning the bags. (24) Other nations, including Italy and Ireland, have been trying to curtail the use of plastic bags by taxing them. (25) In the United States more and more communities are ridding themselves of plastic bags. (26) In 2012, Los Angeles became the largest U.S. city to institute a plastic-bag ban, while Hawaii became the first state to do so. (27) And several cities and towns in Texas, such as Austin and Brownsville, have banned the bag.

(28) Some people can't imagine life without plastic bags. (29) But these bags didn't come into widespread use until around 1980, and before that time people got along just fine without it. (30) Now more and more people are purchasing inexpensive, reusable fabric bags and using them when they shop. (31) If we all take this simple step, we can be a part of a "green" revolution. (32) Pay attention to the disastrous toll plastic bags are taking on our environment and stop using them today!

12 What change should be made in sentence 2?

- F Change *placed* to *places*
- G Change the comma to a period
- H Delete *hardly*
- J No change should be made in sentence 2.

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13 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 8?

- A Change *come* to *came*
- B Change *groceries* to *grocery's*
- C Change *linners* to *liners*
- D Make no change

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14 What is the correct way to write sentences 17 and 18?

- F And because most plastic bags are made of polyethylene, a product derived from crude oil or natural gas, they waste nonrenewable resources.
- G And most plastic bags are made of polyethylene, a product derived from crude oil or natural gas, they waste nonrenewable resources.
- H And most plastic bags, which are made of polyethylene derived from crude oil or natural gas, wasting nonrenewable resources.
- J The sentences are written correctly in the paper.

15 What change needs to be made in sentence 21?

- A Change *were blocking* to *was blocking*
- B Delete the comma after *sewers*
- C Change *devastating* to *devestating*
- D No change needs to be made in this sentence.

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16 What change should be made in sentence 29?

- F Change *come* to *came*
- G Change *use* to *using*
- H Delete *and*
- J Change *it* to *them*