



Points of view and comprehension



Plastics: Precious or Problematic?

There are plastics all around us and we use them every day, but there are also problems caused by plastic pollution. Are plastics good or bad?

Read the two statements from different speakers below, and then complete the tasks at the bottom of the page.

1 Plastics are really helpful materials. They are cheap to make and can last a very long time. We use plastics for many things like your lunch boxes, toys, and even in cars and planes because they are strong and light. This means they don't use much fuel to move around, which is good for our planet. Plastics are also important in hospitals for things like Band-Aids and tools that doctors use to help people stay healthy.

2 Plastics can cause big problems for nature. Plastics don't break down easily and can last for hundreds of years. This can make our environment dirty because tiny plastic pieces get into the soil and water and can hurt animals who think they are food. Plastics can also let out harmful chemicals which are bad for animals and people. It's important for us to use less plastic and recycle more to save our planet from plastics.

1. Can you find words in each statement that show if the person thinks plastics are good or bad? Circle those words.

2. What are some of the positive ways that plastics are used, according to statement one?

3. Why is the person who made statement two concerned about plastics?



Creating compound sentences

A clause is a unit of grammar that often has a subject (usually a noun) and a verb that are a pair. Like:

the ice moved



or



the penguin waddled

In the clauses below, circle the nouns and underline the verbs.

my window rattled

the wind blew fiercely

rain pelted down

our yard flooded quickly

the sun came out

the spiky grass grew wildly



2. Some of the clauses above will join together to form a compound sentence that makes sense, but you'll need a comma to join them.

We've done the first one for you. Can you do the others?

The ice moved , and the penguin waddled.

_____ , and _____

_____ , and _____

_____ , and _____