**Tiny Plastic, Big problem**

**Text-Dependent Questions**

1. What is the purpose of paragraph 1?
   1. To make readers curious about the “hidden” pollution
   2. To introduce the topic of pollution on the ground and in trees
   3. To argue that pollution on land is a more serious problem than pollution in the ocean
   4. To claim that pollution is becoming harder to see because people are ignoring it
2. What happens to most plastic waste over time?
   1. It gets recycled and reused.
   2. It eventually breaks downs into soil.
   3. It becomes rock or other harmless materials.
   4. It gets torn into little pieces that spread.
3. Where can most fragments of plastic be found?
   1. Parks, beaches and zoos.
   2. Waste sites, underground sewer systems and plumbing systems.
   3. Seas, oceans and remote islands.
4. How does plastic used on land get into the water?
   1. Streams and rivers carry the plastic waste to the waterways of the sea.
   2. Birds drop them into the sea.
   3. It is dumped from things thrown off of ships.
5. The plastic in the ocean…
   1. Is broken down completely by the salt water.
   2. Can easily be picked up and removed.
   3. Is hard to track because it moves and some sinks.
6. What did Cozar’s study find?
   1. The smaller pieces of plastic were missing.
   2. The ocean has ways to naturally recycle the plastic.
   3. Most plastic has wasted ashore and can be collected.
   4. There is not that much plastic in the ocean.
7. When animals eat plastic…
   1. They do not eat the foods they need to reproduce or survive.
   2. They clean up the ocean making for a healthier ecosystem.
   3. They can easily get rid of plastic, so it has no effect.
   4. They begin to rely on plastic as a food source.
8. How do pollutants add to the problem of plastic in the ocean?
   1. Pollutants stop predators from eating prey that have consumed plastics, unbalancing the food chain.
   2. Pollutants are drawn to plastics and harm the animals that have eaten them.
   3. Pollutants are repelled by plastics and are drawn to ocean life instead.
   4. Pollutants are released from plastics and further contaminate the ocean water.
9. What is the best way to limit the harmful effects of plastics?
   1. Use and throw away less plastic
   2. Clean up oceans from plastic
   3. Invent a gadget that can find small plastic
   4. Find a way to recycle Styrofoam.
10. The word ‘pesticide’ in paragraph 32 means:
    1. Vitamin
    2. Mineral
    3. Chemical
    4. Nutrient
11. The word ‘organic’ in paragraph 20 means:
    1. Unhealthy
    2. natural
    3. fresh
    4. artifical

True/ False

1. Plastiglomerate is a new material made of a mixture of rocks and plastic. True
2. In 2010, 8.8 million short tons of plastic were produced worldwide. False
3. 80% of plastic ocean trash enters the water directly. False
4. Plastic is very useful. True