

Words in Context

Find these words in the reading. What do you think they mean?

▶ biodegradable

▶ overuse

▶ disaster

▶ estimate

▶ ban

▶ garbage patches

▶ ignore

Read the text and choose the correct answer.

Plastic is not a natural product. It's made from oil, like gasoline. It's not *biodegradable*. Plastic has damaged habitats where animals live, and spread dangerous chemicals in water and soil. Our _____ of this material is causing an environmental _____. We need to stop using so much plastic.

Using evidence found around the world, scientists _____ that one million sea birds die from eating plastic because they think it's prey. In some parts of the world, some grocery stores have stopped using plastic bags, and other ask customers to pay for them. All supermarkets should _____ plastic bags.

There are two large _____ on opposite sides of the Pacific Ocean. Near the coasts, these two collections of plastic trash are hundreds of kilometers wide.

It is clear that pollution is a global problem and it is too serious to _____. We must all play our part in reducing the use of plastic. Everybody can help to protect our oceans, if we stop using disposable plastic today.