Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Skills Worksheet

Active Reading

Section: Water Use and Management

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

Industry accounts for 19 percent of water used in the world. Water is used to manufacture goods, to dispose of waste, and to generate power. The amount of water needed to manufacture everyday items can be astounding. For instance, nearly 1,000 L of water are needed to produce 1 kg of aluminum, and almost 500,000 L of water are needed to manufacture a car. Vast amounts of water are required to produce computer chips and semiconductors.

Most of the water that is used in industry is used to cool power plants. Power-plant cooling systems usually pump water from a surface water source such as a river or lake, carry the water through pipes in a cooling tower, and then pump the water back into the source. The water that is returned is usually warmer than the source, but it is generally clean and can be used again.

IDENTIFYING MAIN IDEAS

One reading skill is the ability to identify the main idea of a passage. The main idea is the main focus or key idea. Frequently, a main idea is accompanied by supporting information that offers detailed facts about main ideas.

In the space provided, write the letter of the term or phrase that best completes each statement or best answers each question.

_____ 1. How much water is needed to manufacture a car?
- a. 50,000 L
- b. 500,000 L
- c. 1,000 L
- d. 100,000 L

_____ 2. The amount of water used in the world for industry is
- a. 500,000 L.
- b. vast amounts.
- c. 19 percent.
- d. 1,000 L.

_____ 3. Water is used in industry mainly to
- a. cool power plants.
- b. keep machinery running.
- c. create steam, which is then used for energy.
- d. clean huge cooling towers.

_____ 4. Water that is returned to a river from a power plant cooling tower is
- a. cooler than the river and contaminated.
- b. warmer than the river and contaminated.
- c. cooler than the river but clean.
- d. warmer than the river but clean.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS