

Comprehension

1 Circle the correct answers.

1 What kind of water do people need to live?

- a freshwater b saltwater c wastewater

2 Which is NOT a reason the author gives for the water crisis?

- a farming b fishing c pollution

3 How can governments help solve the water crisis?

- a They can stop people from using too much water. b They can get all their food from other countries. c They can ask people to use more groundwater.

4 What is desalination?

- a taking salt out of water b adding salt to water c cleaning the ocean

2 Match the words with the definitions.

1 drought

a a source of water from the ground

2 famine

b a shortage of food

3 glacier

c water that falls from the sky as rain or snow

4 spring

d a long time with no rain

5 precipitation

e a large body of ice

Fact and Opinion

The author of this text supports his points with facts and opinions. A fact is a statement that can be proved true or false.

An opinion states how someone thinks or feels.

Fact: "Portugal won the European Cup in 2016."

Opinion: "Taylor Swift is the best singer in the world."

3 Fact and Opinion Read the quotes from the text.

Write *F* (fact) or *O* (opinion).

1 "Seventy-one percent of Earth's surface is covered in water we can't drink!"

2 "Many lakes, rivers and aquifers are also getting smaller."

3 "We need to find a solution—and soon."

4 "Fixing leaks in pipelines that provide us with water is another solution."

5 "There are some pretty crazy ideas for solutions, too."

4 Circle the statements the author would agree with.

- a Fights over oil are more important than fights over water.
- b There is plenty of water on the planet for everyone.
- c Countries should work together to make sure everyone has water.
- d Solutions to the water crisis may be expensive, but they are necessary.
- e It is most important for farms to produce more food.

5 Identifying Reasons and Evidence Read the information about the solutions again. Answer the questions.

cleaning wastewater	fixing pipeline leaks	making glaciers
removing salt from saltwater	saving water	using filters for water

1 Which solution does the author think is **LEAST** likely to succeed?

.....

2 Which solution does the author think is **MOST** likely to succeed?

.....

✦ In the text, underline the reasons and evidence that support each answer.

6 Active Reading Think and discuss. What is the worst part of the water crisis? Explain why it is a problem.

7 Listen to the some of the consequences of the water crisis. Mark (✓) the consequences that are most likely to affect you. 

- diseases
- conflict or war
- famine
- food prices
- food availability

✦ Think and discuss. Give reasons for your answers.