

Part 2: Unit 7b page 108 A letter (to the editor) expressing an opinion

D. Read the writing task below and discuss the questions that follow in pairs or groups. Then complete the mind map.

You read this article in a local newspaper. Write a letter to the editor expressing your views on the issue.



According to a survey that was carried out among the residents of our city last month, litter is the number one problem our city faces. It is a fact that streets are overflowing with rubbish and it is even impossible to enjoy our parks and beaches because of the problem. At a protest demonstration held outside the city hall yesterday, one angry protester asked our reporter, 'Whose responsibility is it to keep this city clean? Isn't it time the mayor did something about it?' That is a good question, but aren't we all responsible for keeping our cities clean?

1. Why do you think there is so much litter around?

overflowing | aren't enough | irresponsibly | pedestrians | responsible | dustmen

I think that we are all partly _____ for the problem of litter. Both drivers and _____ litter without even thinking about it. The fact that there _____ rubbish bins available obviously makes things worse. It leads to people acting _____ and makes them careless in how they get rid of their rubbish. The problem is made worse by the fact that there aren't enough _____ to collect it. As a result, streets, parks and beaches are _____ with rubbish.

2. What kind of problems does it create?

smell | health | ugly | difficult

The fact that our parks and beaches are overflowing with rubbish makes it _____ for us to enjoy them. These places, as well as the streets in some areas, _____ bad and are _____ to look at. Most importantly however, they are a threat to the _____ of the locals and animals that live there.

3. What do you think can be done about it?

recycling | awareness | reduce | solutions | energy | impose | increase

There are various _____ to this problem. Environmental _____ education can play a very important role by informing both children and adults about the importance of looking after the environment in which they live. In this way, more people may be encouraged to take part in _____ programmes, which help _____ the amount of rubbish we produce and help us save _____ and materials. Another way to discourage people from littering is to _____ strict fines. Besides this, we can _____ the amount of rubbish bins available. In this way, people will be less likely to litter.

Complete the mind map.

