

Unit 10: Vocabulary A



Work with a partner to complete the sentences with a number from the box. One number is used twice. Then check answers at the bottom of the page. Was any of the information surprising? Which statistic concerns you the most? Why?

1 5,000 50 1 2.5 70

Did you know?

1. Though oceans cover almost _____ % of the Earth, only about _____ % of the water on our planet is potable (drinkable), and about two-thirds of that is water frozen in glaciers. The result: Less than _____ % of the planet's water is available to meet our needs, and supplies are dwindling.

2. Almost _____ billion people today don't have access to clean drinking water. In parts of Africa, water is so scarce that people must walk several miles every day to get it.

3. Experts predict that almost _____ % of the world will soon be facing water shortages of some kind. Our challenge, they say, is to restore our freshwater reserves and to conserve the water so that we all have adequate supplies now and in the future.

4. Almost _____ people become ill every day from toxic substances that accumulate in rivers and streams and contaminate the water. Luckily, there are a number of ways to purify water so it's safe.