2.3 Reading and Vocabulary

A trip to the countryside

1 **Choose the correct option.**

1 There are many *environmental* / *waste* organisations around the world which aim to protect natural habitats.
2 It's important to *leave* / *respect* the countryside and take your rubbish with you when you go home.
3 The Lake District is *a national* / *an international* park in the north of England.
4 Can you clean up your *mess* / *wildlife*, please?
5 When you visit the countryside, it's important to leave no *shape* / *trace*.
6 We try to recycle as much rubbish as we can, to stop it going to a waste *place* / *dump*.

2 **Read the article. How did the writer spend most of their time on holiday? Choose the correct answer.**

a going hiking
b eating in cafés
c collecting rubbish



The clean-up trip

Last summer I went on holiday with my family to our friends' summer house in the countryside, near a national park. We used to go there every year when we were little, but we hadn't been back for years. I had really fond memories of the place as a young child, sailing on the lake and walking through the fields nearby. When we were little, our parents had always taught us to respect the countryside and wildlife and leave no trace, and that's what we always did.

On the first morning after we arrived, we decided to go hiking around the lake. But instead of the beautiful area I remembered, it was just a mess. It looked like people had camped near the lake and just left all their stuff there. I had read about this before: it's called 'fly-camping'. Instead of staying at campsites, people who fly-camp want to travel light, so they only buy basic camping equipment, then just leave all their stuff there in the wild, like disposable items, so they don't have to take it home with them.

We picked up what rubbish we could and took it into the local village to throw it away properly. While we were there, we decided to have lunch at a café and spoke to the owner. We told her about how we had visited here when we were younger and how it hadn't been a problem then. 'It's got really bad over the last few years. It's almost like people think it's a waste dump,' she said. 'The other day, I was walking my dog over there and he came running back to me. He had found some food containers, and one of them had stuck to his face and he couldn't get it off. Poor thing.' She also said she'd reported it to an environmental organisation, but they hadn't been able to do anything yet.

After that, we decided to spend another day picking up the rubbish we found. We used some big bags we had brought from the village and filled them up every day. I hope the situation gets better in the future.

3 **Read the article again and choose the correct answer.**

1 What does the writer say about their friends' house?
  a They visit it every summer.
  b They remember visiting it as a child.
  c They went sailing there last year.
2 What did the writer's parents teach them?
  a not to leave anything in the countryside
  b to show them respect
  c how to walk in the countryside
3 What is fly-camping?
  a camping in different places
  b taking all your stuff home with you when you go camping
  c buying basic camping equipment to dispose of rather than carry home
4 Why did they go into the village?
  a to buy food
  b to dispose of the rubbish
  c to have lunch
5 What did the café owner tell them?
  a The situation had improved recently.
  b The situation had worsened recently.
  c The situation had always been bad.

I can understand a story about the environment.

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