



TABE 11 & 12 READING PRACTICE ITEMS

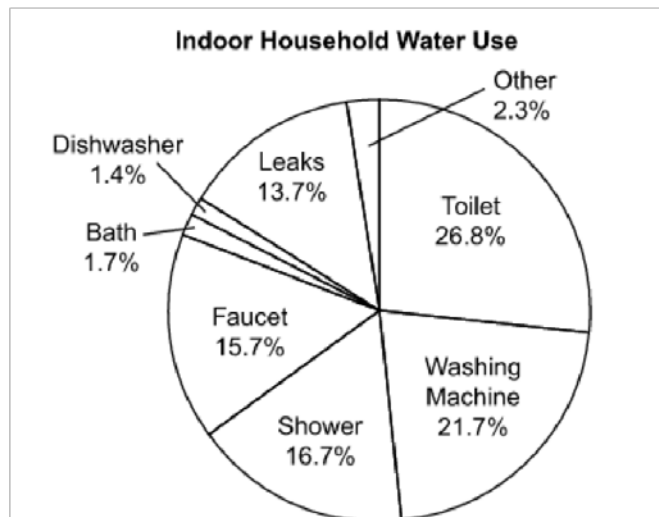
1. Which word has a short e vowel sound?

- A. bed
- B. dream
- C. near
- D. seed

Read the article. Then answer questions 2 through 5.

Saving Water

- 1 It has been said that water is the new oil. For many years, countries have fought to control rights to oil. Like oil, clean water is a natural resource. And while water is considered to be a renewable resource, it can be difficult to recycle for human consumption. People can live without oil, but they cannot survive without water.
- 2 Over the past fifty years, the population of the United States has doubled. During the same amount of time, water use has tripled. Today, at least 36 states are short on water. People must work to save water. If they don't, they will soon not have enough. The cost of water will rise. It will not be easy to buy. Countries will elbow each other for rights to the water that remains.
- 3 There is good news, however. People can make changes to save water. Think about simple tasks such as brushing teeth, shaving, or washing dishes. Leaving the water running while doing these tasks wastes a precious resource. Running dishwashers and washing machines that are not full also wastes thousands of gallons of water. Even shower length is important. Taking showers that are two minutes shorter can save hundreds of gallons a month.





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- 4 There are also ways to reuse water. Even water that seems dirty can be used again. For example, don't dump the water from a fish tank or a pet bowl. Instead, use it to water the plants. Fish water is full of nutrients. It will help the plants grow. Rainwater can be collected in a barrel or from gutters. Then it can be used to water plants and grass. People can wash the car or the dog on the lawn. This way, the grass gets watered at the same time. Also, think about replacing grass in some areas. Ground cover is a nice addition. Walkways or patios are helpful. And they add living space to homes.
 - 5 Saving water is important. Doing so also saves money. Little leaks in pipes, taps, or pools can be expensive. If the water bill suddenly goes up, there may be a new leak. Listen for dripping. It's also easy to check the toilet. Put a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Then let the toilet sit without flushing. See if the water in the bowl gets colored. This means there is a leak in the seal.
 - 6 Businesses and schools can also take steps to save water. They can replace equipment and change the way they do things. People can encourage these changes. Let businesses know that saving water saves money. In addition, the government may offer rebates for such changes.
 - 7 People should try to save water whenever possible. Otherwise, the supply will soon run low. Be thoughtful about water use. It can make a big difference, both now and for the future.
2. According to the article, which of these explains what will happen if people do not save water?
- A. The population will decrease.
 - B. Other countries will sell water.
 - C. The price of water will increase.
 - D. People will be able to use dishwashers.



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3.

Part A

What is the main idea of the article?

- A. Water is as important as oil, so it should be used wisely.
- B. When people make changes to save water, they also save money.
- C. There are many ways to save water, an important natural resource.
- D. If people waste water today, the supply of water will run low in the future.

Part B

Which two sentences support the answer to Part A?

- A. "For many years, countries have fought to control rights to oil."
- B. "If they don't, they will soon not have enough."
- C. "The cost of water will rise."
- D. "Taking showers that are two minutes shorter can save hundreds of gallons month."
- E. "Rainwater can be collected in a barrel or from gutters."
- F. "Little leaks in pipes, taps, or pools can be expensive."

4. Look at the pie chart in the article.

Which section of the pie chart most clearly supports the information in Paragraph 5 of the article?

- A. the section of the pie chart labeled "Leaks"
- B. the section of the pie chart labeled "Toilet"
- C. the section of the pie chart labeled "Shower"
- D. the section of the pie chart labeled "Faucet"



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5. Which of these best states the author's opinion about water conservation?
- A. Fixing leaks will raise water costs.
 - B. People should always wash their cars on the lawn.
 - C. There are only a few simple tasks required to save water.
 - D. Reducing water use now is important for future generations.



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ANSWER KEY:

1. A
2. C
3. Part A—C
Part B—D, E
4. A
5. D