

University of El Oued
Faculty of Exact Sciences
Department of Computer Science
Duration: 1 Hour and half
Solution of the First Term Examination in English

Text

Polymeric materials, while not directly altering the composition and the physico-chemical characteristics of air, water, and ground, pose a significant environmental challenge due to their resistance to degradation. Approximately 20 million tons of plastic waste are discarded annually, accumulating in the environment. The issue extends beyond environmental concerns, encompassing economic factors as well. For instance, the cost of landfill usage, currently at 7000DA per ton, is expected to double soon. With the decreasing number of landfill sites, there is a loss of both materials and energy. Recent research has focused on enhancing the biodegradability of polymers and recovering materials and energy from post-consumer plastics. Strategies include recycling, material recovery, energy recovery, biodegradability enhancement, and using plastic wastes to modify asphalts and bitumen.

Part One: Comprehension

1. Suggest a suitable title for the text. (1 pt)

Environmental and Economic Challenges of Plastic Pollution

2. Evaluate the following statements as true or false, and correct the false ones. (3 pts)

- a. Plastic wastes persist in the environment due to their resistance to environmental degradation.
True
- b. Plastic wastes do not contribute to environmental pollution.
False. Plastic wastes contribute significantly to environmental pollution.
- c. The vast quantity of plastic goods in the environment necessitates strong elimination efforts.
True

3. Based on the text, what approaches have been considered for environmental preservation? (1 pt)

Approaches include recycling, material recovery, energy recovery, biodegradability enhancement, and using plastic wastes to modify asphalts and bitumen.

4. Identify synonyms from the text for: (1 pt)

- a. Remain: Accumulate
- b. Scatter: Discard

5. Find antonyms in the text for: (1 pt)

- a. Durable: Biodegradable
- b. Diminish: Accumulate

Part Two: Mastery of Language

1. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. (3 pts)

- a. Tom (*move*) moved to his hometown in 1994.
- b. Look! Lina (*go*) is going to the movies.
- c. I (*wash*) have washed the car. It looks lovely.

2. Convert the following sentences from direct to reported speech. (4 pts)

- a. Dominic: "She understands Japanese."
Dominic said that she understood Japanese.
- b. James and David: "We have to go now."
James and David said that they had to go then.
- c. Harmer: "I went to the cinema yesterday."
Harmer said that he had gone to the cinema the day before.
- d. Sarah: "It is very cold."
Sarah says that it is very cold.

3. Assess these sentences as true or false and correct the false ones. (2 pts)

- a. The letter combination *gh* is silent in the word "eight."
True
- b. "Can" is used to express permission in both the present and the past.
False. "Can" is used for present permission, while "could" is used for past permission.

Part Three: Vocabulary Application

Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the list: *in, human-made, of, variety, that, polymeric*. (Note: Two words from the list will not be used.) (4 pts)

Synthetic polymers, ranging from common plastics to nylon in jackets or the surface of non-stick frying pans, are a form of **human-made** material. These materials pose a significant threat to ecosystems, described by the U.S. National Institute of Health as "a rapidly increasing, long-term threat." Understanding how these **polymeric** substances impact ecosystems is crucial for addressing this form of pollution.