

15

Notes

READING WITH UNDERSTANDING**OBJECTIVES**

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- understand short theme-based passages; and
- answer questions on those passages.

15.1 SECTION I

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

An important solid waste which is noteworthy is biomedical waste. This waste includes anatomical waste, syringes, gauze, absorbents, glass, etc. The huge dumps of biomedical wastes disposed of by hospitals and clinics cause serious health problems. It is not uncommon that in some places, these biochemical wastes rot either in front of clinics or in street corners. Rag-pickers, mostly children, pick up these wastes by hand and are vulnerable to attack by the hepatitis virus (jaundice-causing virus) and other dangerous viruses. Ordinances have been promulgated not to dump the waste and for safe transportation in special containers, and subsequent incineration in Australia and other countries.

Why are solid wastes cause for such serious concern? The dumping of solid wastes, spoils the beauty of cities and towns and causes health problems.

The garbage mountains become breeding grounds for disease-carrying vectors such as flies, mosquitoes, rats and cockroaches. Reports indicate that about 8,00,000 flies can be produced in one cubic metre of garbage. The flies, which carry pathogenic organisms, cause diseases such as dysentery, diarrhoea, etc. Rats, which are carriers of insects and other bio-organisms are responsible for



Notes

causing plague as was recently witnessed in Surat in 1994. It is reported that about 25 human diseases are associated with the solid wastes. Accumulation of litter refuse and junk poses fire hazards and may lead to accidents too.

The accumulation of solid waste is a mounting problem with no easy solution in sight. Unlike other types of pollution, preventive measures cannot be adopted in this case. Several solutions to the disposal problem have been proposed. The present mode of management is to collect the refuse from various parts of the city, transport it to a remote place, where it is incinerated or composted or simply dumped again. The most easy solution is to recycle or reuse the waste. This solves the disposal of wastes and also yields revenue besides compensating for the expenditure incurred on its collection and transportation.

**INTEXT QUESTIONS 15.1**

1. Tick True (T) or False (F) against the following statements
 - a) Nearly 25 human diseases are caused by accumulating garbage.
 - b) Preventive steps can be taken to reduce accumulating garbage.
 - c) Recycling and reusing of garbage can bring revenue.
 - d) Flies are carriers of bio-organisms which cause plague.
2. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences using the information given in the passage:
 - a) Heaps of garbage can cause the breeding of _____.
 - b) One cubic metre of garbage can have _____ flies.
 - c) Diseases like _____ are caused by pathogenic organisms.
 - d) Fire hazard leading to accidents can be due to _____.
3.
 - a) What does bio-medical waste consist of?
 - b) Who is more likely to be affected by the bio-medical waste?
 - c) A suitable title for the passage can be:
 - 1) Garbage
 - 2) Garbage mountains-a nuisance.
 - 3) Protection from medical waste.
 - 4) Pathogenic organisms.

4. There is a serious concern about solid wastes because: (Tick all the correct answers)
- They cause a lot of expenditure.
 - They spoil the beauty of the city.
 - They are a threat to health.
 - They bring revenue.



Notes

15.2 SECTION II

Read the following views on the television and answer the questions that follow:

Television Doing More Harm than Good

No one remembers what life was like before the T.V. came. Today people do not read books, they do not visit friends, they don't listen to music or have hobbies. Everyone rushes home and quickly eats his meals to be ready for the T.V. programmes. The children are the worst sufferers. They forget their food, leave their homework undone, and even miss their sleep. They watch violence on the screen and are deeply affected by it. T.V. makes us lazy and cuts us off from the world of reality. We become idiots and lose our ability to think. I strongly recommend that the T.V. should be banned in India.

Television Is Doing More Good than Harm

T.V. is one of the wonders of the modern world. It is not an idiot box. It is a magic carpet. It takes us to all corners of the world. Many interesting educational films are telecast. It unites the people of the world. How many of you can travel to Paris or New York or London every day? Of course some programmes are bad. But nobody forces you to watch them. Why don't you switch off your T.V. sets? I request you to watch the good programmes and educate yourselves. Everyone must have a T.V. It brings the whole world together.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 15.2

- Write True or False.
 - Today people do not read books because they like to watch Television more.
 - People visit friends to watch Television.



Notes

- c) The worst sufferers are children.
 d) We can see many parts of the world while sitting at home.
2. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words from the passage.
- a) T.V. can make us _____ and take us away from reality.
 b) _____ are the worst sufferers.
 c) T.V. is called an idiot box because it takes away our _____ to _____.
 d) _____ brings the world together

**CHECK YOUR ANSWERS****Intext Questions 15.1**

1. a - True, b - False, c - True, d - False.
2. a ____ disease carrying vectors.
 b ____ 8,00,000
 c ____ dysentery, diarrhoea
 d ____ accumulation of litter, refuse and junk.
3. a) anatomical waste, syringes, gauze, absorbents, glass.
 b) Rag pickers.
 c) Garbage mountains – a nuisance.
 d) b, c

Intext Questions 15.2

1. a) True b) False c) True d) True.
2. a) lazy b) children c) ability, think d) T.V.