

**CRITERIOS ESPECÍFICOS DE CORRECCIÓN**

**OPTION B: SEA SALT AROUND THE WORLD IS CONTAMINATED BY PLASTIC KEY**

- 1 Recent studies have shown that tiny plastic particles have been found in sea salt in the UK, France and Spain, as well as  
2 China and the US. In August 2017, Spanish scientists tested 21 types of table salt and found plastic in all of them. They concluded  
3 that "sea products are hopelessly contaminated by microplastics" and that there is "a background presence of microplastics in the  
4 environment."  
5 Researchers from other countries have confirmed these findings. They believe the majority of the contamination comes from  
6 microfibrils and single-use plastics such as water bottles. "Plastics are in the air, in the water, in the seafood we eat, in the beer  
7 we drink, and the salt we use —plastics are just everywhere," said Sherri Mason, a professor at the University of New York.  
8 The health impact of ingesting plastic is unknown. Scientists are having difficulties to research the impact of plastic on the  
9 human body because they haven't managed to find a control group of humans who have not been exposed. Some researchers  
10 believe sea salt could be more vulnerable to plastic contamination because of how it is made, through a process of dehydration of  
11 sea water.  
12 The solution is not an easy one. "I hope what comes from this is not that consumers just switch brands and try to find something  
13 that is not sea salt —like mined salt," Mason said. "I'm afraid people just want to go to fast food restaurants and get their disposable  
14 cups. We have to focus on the flow of plastic and the widespread overuse of plastics in our society and find other materials instead."

**I \* COMPREHENSION (4 points)**

CHOOSE AND WRITE THE CORRECT OPTION (A, B, C or D). (0.5 points each)

**1. It is difficult to research the effects of plastics because...**

- (a) most people have ingested plastics. (b) the sea is too polluted.  
(c) people just want to disconnect and do not cooperate. (d) plastics are hard to research.

**2. Sea salt is produced by...**

- (a) using a specific type of microfibrils. (b) separating the plastics from the water.  
(c) removing water. (d) focusing on the flow of plastic.

ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH THE PRECISE WORDS OR PHRASES FROM THE TEXT, OR USE YOUR OWN WORDS. (0.5 points each)

**3. The effects of plastic in the human body have already been described by scientists. FALSE (line 8) "The health impact of ingesting plastic is unknown."**

**4. Sea salt can become easily contaminated by plastic. TRUE (lines 9-10) "(Some researchers believe) sea salt could be more vulnerable to plastic contamination (because of how it is made)."**

**5. Using mined salt instead of sea salt is the solution to the problem. FALSE (lines 12-13) "I hope what comes from this is not that consumers just switch brands and try to find something that is not sea salt —like mined salt."**

**6. We need to stop using so many disposable plastic items. TRUE (lines 5-6) They believe the majority of the contamination comes from microfibrils and single-use plastics such as water bottles." / (lines 14-15) "We have to focus on the flow of plastic and the widespread overuse of plastics in our society and find other materials instead."**

**7. FIND IN THE TEXT: (0.5 points)**

- 7.1. ONE SYNONYM FOR "pollute" (verb). contaminate(d) (line 3) 7.2. ONE SYNONYM FOR "change" (verb). switch (line 12)

**8. FIND IN THE TEXT: (0.5 points)**

- 8.1. ONE WORD MEANING "to arrive at an opinion by reasoning." conclude(d) (line 2)  
8.2. ONE WORD MEANING "existing or happening in many places or among many people." widespread (line 14)

**II \* USE OF ENGLISH (3 points; 0.5 points each)**

**9. FILL IN THE GAPS WITH A CORRECT FORM OF THE VERB IN BRACKETS:**

- 9.1. "After she had discussed sea contamination, she... (deal) with air pollution." dealt  
9.2. "I now regret... (eat) so much salt." having eaten / eating

**10. FILL IN THE GAPS WITH THE CORRECT WORD:**

- 10.1. "Some companies are investing... (preposition) biodegradable materials." in  
10.2. "You need to get rid... (preposition) your rubbish in the appropriate places." of

**11. THERE ARE TWO MISTAKES IN THIS SENTENCE. FIND THE MISTAKES AND REWRITE THE SENTENCE CORRECTLY.**

"Young people is usually louder than old people." Young people are usually louder than old people.

**12. COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING (CONDITIONAL) SENTENCE: "If people stopped using disposable plastic containers,..."**

Subject + could / might / would...

**13. TURN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE INTO THE ACTIVE VOICE: "Plastic particles have just been found in sea salt."**

They / researchers have just found plastic particles in sea salt.

**14. GIVE A QUESTION FOR THE UNDERLINED WORDS: "Up to 12.7m tonnes of plastic enter the world's oceans every year."**

How much plastic enters the world's oceans every year? / How many tonnes of plastic enter the world's oceans every year?

**III \* WRITING (3 points)**

**15. WRITE A COMPOSITION OF APPROXIMATELY 120 WORDS ABOUT THE TOPIC PROPOSED AND FOCUS STRICTLY ON IT:**

**What do you think could be done to reduce environmental pollution?**