

Unit 8

The Clean Water

Synonyms

Paragraph 1

Fundamental: Essential, basic, core

Constitutes: Makes up, forms, composes

Crucial: Vital, decisive, pivotal

Role: Function, part, responsibility

Maintaining: Preserving, upholding, sustaining

Various: Diverse, several, numerous

Roughly: Approximately, about, nearly

Readily: Easily, quickly, without difficulty

Rely: Depend, count on, trust

Survive: Endure, live, persist

Threatening: Alarming, menacing, dangerous, intimidating

Precipitates: Condenses, falls, rains

Mistreat: Abuse, misuse, harm

Small fraction: Tiny portion, small amount, meagre quantity

Human patterns: Human behaviour, human activities

Drastically: Severely, intensely, profoundly

Specifically: Precisely, exactly, particularly

Vital: Essential, crucial, indispensable

Sanitation: Hygiene, cleanliness, public health

Hygiene: Cleanliness, sanitation, purity

Cornerstone: Foundation, basis, bedrock

Environmental sustainability: Ecological balance, environmental preservation

Unfortunately: Sadly, regrettably, unluckily

Critical importance: Crucial significance, paramount importance

Despite: In spite of, regardless of, notwithstanding

Scarcity: Shortage, lack, deficiency

Contamination: Pollution, impurity, taint

Foster: Encourage, promote, cultivate

Appreciation: Gratitude, recognition, understanding

Precious: Valuable, cherished, treasured

Resource: Asset, supply, source

Inspire efforts: Motivate actions, encourage work

Ensure: Guarantee, secure, confirm

Availability: Accessibility, presence, readiness

Paragraph 2

Direct impacts: Immediate effects, direct consequences

Contaminated: Polluted, impure, tainted

Harbour: Shelter, conceal, contain

Harmful: Damaging, dangerous, detrimental

Bacteria: Microbes, germs

Viruses: Germs, pathogens

Parasites: Organisms, symbio

Waterborne: Water-related, water-carried

Consequences: Effects, outcomes, results

Particularly: Especially, notably,
specifically

Vulnerable: Susceptible, defenceless,
exposed

Access to: Availability of, entry to, use of

Significantly: Notably, considerably,
greatly

Reduces: Decreases, lessens, lowers

Incidence: Occurrence, frequency, rate

Contributes: Helps, donates, supports,
assists

Healthier: Fitter, stronger, sturdy

Paragraph 3

In addition to: Also, as well as, besides

Essential: Necessary, vital, fundamental

Survival: Existence, endurance,
persistence

Necessary: Essential, required, needed

Personal hygiene: Personal cleanliness,
self-care

Worldwide: Globally, internationally,
universally

Access: Entry, approach, availability

Safely managed: Securely maintained,
properly handled

Lack: Shortage, deficiency, absence

Sanitation services: Waste management,
sewage services

Scarce: Limited, rare, in short supply

Less likely: Unlikely, improbable

Practice: Perform, carry out, engage in

Prevent: Stop, avert, avoid

Spread of: Expansion of, proliferation of

Infections: Diseases, ailments

Improve: Enhance, better, advance

Paragraph 4

Availability: Accessibility, presence,
readiness

Significant: Important, notable major,
noteworthy

Implications: Consequences, effects,
repercussions

Crucial: Critical, vital, essential

Maintaining: Preserving, sustaining,
upholding

Ecosystem: Biome, environment, habitat

Wetlands: Swamps, marshes, bogs

Depend: Rely on, need, count on

Diverse: Varied, different, assorted

Wildlife: Fauna, wild animals

Species: Type, kind, variety

Pollution: Contamination, dirt, foulness

Agriculture runoff: Agricultural discharge,
farm waste

Improper: Incorrect, inappropriate,
unsuitable

Waste disposal: Garbage management,
waste elimination

Degrade: Worsen, decline, deteriorate

Harm: Damage, injure, hurt

Aquatic: Water-based, marine

Disrupt: Interrupt, disturb, interfere with

Delicate: Fragile, sensitive, intricate

Decline: Decrease, drop, reduction

Habitat: Home, environment, dwelling
Inadequate: Insufficient, deficient, lacking
Complicates: Worsens, confuses, makes more difficult
Pollutants: Contaminants, toxins, waste
Pesticides: Insecticides, herbicides, chemical sprays
Accumulate: Gather, collect, amass
Pose: Present, create, constitute
Risk: Threat, danger, hazard

Paragraph 5

Vital: essential, crucial, important
Production: Creation, output, manufacture
Inadequate: Insufficient, deficient, lacking
Access: Availability, readiness, use
Hinder: Impede, obstruct, delay
Productivity: Output, efficiency, yield
Rely: Depend, count on, need
Irrigation: Watering, sprinkling, channelling
Livestock: Farm animals, domestic animals
Watering: Sprinkling, moistening

Paragraph 6

Struggle: Fight, effort, battle
To grow: Produce, raise, cultivate, develop
Raise: Grow, lift, elevate, bring up
Economic: Financial, monetary, commercial
Shortage: Lack, deficiency, scarcity, dearth
Hardships: Difficulties, troubles, privations
Increased: Enhanced, expanded, risen

Local: Regional, domestic, native, home-grown
Global: International, worldwide, universal
Furthermore: Additionally, moreover, besides
Burden: Load, weighted, responsibility
Waterborne: Transmitted through water, floating
Substantial: Considerable, significant, important
Affecting : Influencing, impacting, altering
Burden: Weight, load, strain
Waterborne: Water-related, water-carried
Communities: Societies, populations, groups
Infrastructure: Foundation, base, framework
Fosters: Encourages, promotes, cultivates
Stability: Steadiness, security, consistency
Growth: Development, increase, expansion

Paragraph 7

Despite: In spite of, regardless of, notwithstanding
Importance: Significance, value, weight
Universal: Equal, similar, same
Regions: Areas, zones, territories
Particularly: Especially, notable, specifically
Scarcity: Shortage, lack, deficiency
Contamination: Pollution, impurity, taint
Factors: Elements, aspects, causes
Exacerbate: Worsen, aggravate, intensify
Issues: Problems, Concerns, difficulties

Arid: Dry, parched, barren
Semi-arid: Dry, parched
Sources: Origins, supplies, resources
Limited: Restricted, scarce, finite
Alter: Change, modify, adjust
Precipitation: Rainfall, moisture
Patterns: Designs, trends, arrangements
Droughts: Dryness, water shortages, lack of rainfall
Reducing: Decreasing, lessening, lowering

Paragraph 8

Addressing: Tackling, dealing with, handling
Challenges: Obstacles, difficulties, problems
Requires: Needs, demands, calls for
Multifaceted: Complex, varied, diverse
Approach: Method, strategy, solution
Incorporates: Includes, contains, integrates
Sustainable: Long-term, eco-friendly, lasting
Solution: Answer, resolution, remedy
Engagement: Participation, involvement, commitment
Policymakers: Lawmakers, officials, administrators
Effective: Successful, powerful, efficient
Practices: Methods, procedures, habits
Promote: Encourage, advance, support
Initiatives: Projects, programs, plans
Harvesting: Gathering, collecting, reaping

Conservation: Preservation, protection, saving
Watershed: Drainage basin, catchment area
Crucial: Critical, vital, essential
Role: Function, part, responsibility
Investments: Contributions, expenditures, funding
Purification: Cleansing, filtering, refining
Innovative: Creative, original, inventive

Paragraph 9

Education: Teaching, schooling, instruction
Awareness: Consciousness, knowledge, realization
Key components: Essential elements, main parts
Quality: Standard, grade, calibre
Prevention: Avoidance, deterrence, stopping
Empower: Enable, authorize, permit
Profound: Deep, intense, great
Water Treatment facilities: Water purification plants
Impact: Effect, influence, consequence

Paragraph 10

Fundamental: Essential, basic, core
Resource: Asset, supply, source
Supports: Aids, helps, backs
Environmental sustainability: Ecological balance, environmental preservation
Economic development: Economic growth, prosperity
Inadequate: Insufficient, deficient, lacking

Accessibility: Availability, readiness, ease of use

Promoting: Encouraging, advancing, supporting

Sustainable practices: Eco-friendly methods, lasting habits

Raising: Increasing, elevating, boosting

Awareness: Consciousness, knowledge, realization

Future: Tomorrow, coming time

Essential: Necessary, vital, fundamental

Ensuring: Guaranteeing, securing, confirming

Matter of: Subject of, issue of

Critical: Crucial, vital, decisive

Prosperity: Success, wealth, affluence

Well-being: Welfare, health, happiness

Collaborative: Cooperative, joint, combined

Question Answers

1. Why is water considered essential for life? Can you name some daily activities that depend on clean water?

Ans. Water is essential for life because it constitutes about 60% of the human body and plays a crucial role in maintaining various bodily functions. Daily activities that depend on clean water include drinking, cooking, sanitation, and hygiene.

2. Do all people around the world have equal access to clean water? Why or why not?

Ans. No, not all people around the world have equal access to clean water. Many regions, particularly in developing countries, face challenges related to water scarcity and contamination. Factors like population growth, climate change, and pollution exacerbate these issues. The text mentions that 2.2 billion people worldwide do not have access to safely managed drinking water services.

3. Have you ever experienced a water shortage or disruption in clean water supply? How did it affect your daily routine?

Ans. Yes, I have experienced a water shortage a few times when the supply was disrupted for a day or two due to pipeline maintenance in my area. During that time, I had to store water in advance and use it very carefully for cooking, drinking, and washing. It disturbed my daily routine, as simple tasks like bathing and cleaning took much longer and required extra planning.

4. How do human activities impact the availability of clean water?

Ans. Human activities impact the availability of clean water through pollution from industrial activities, agricultural runoff, and improper waste disposal. These activities degrade and harm aquatic life, disrupt delicate ecosystems, and contaminate water sources, making them unsafe for consumption.

5. How does inadequate access to clean water affect agricultural productivity?

Ans. Without access to clean water, farmers may struggle to grow crops and raise livestock, leading to food shortages and economic hardships.

6. Why is it important for various groups, including governments and local communities, to collaborate on water challenges?

Ans. It is important for various groups to collaborate because addressing these challenges requires a multifaceted approach. A collaborative effort can lead to improved water infrastructure, sustainable practices, and increased awareness, all of which are essential to ensure everyone has access to this resource.

7. Why are education and awareness important for improving water access and quality?

Ans. Education and awareness are key components of improving water access and quality. Teaching communities about the importance of clean water, proper sanitation practices, and pollution prevention can empower individuals to take action and protect their water sources.

8. The author uses cause-effect frequently throughout the text. Choose one instance and explain how this pattern helps the reader understand the seriousness of water-related issues.

Ans. A clear instance of the cause-effect pattern is in paragraph 2 on page 96, which states: “Contaminated water can harbour harmful bacteria, viruses, parasites, and chemicals that can cause waterborne diseases such as cholera, typhoid, dysentery, and hepatitis.” This pattern is effective because it directly links a specific cause (contaminated water) to a range of severe and well-known effects (deadly diseases). By showing the direct consequences, the author highlights the immediate and critical danger of poor water quality, making the seriousness of the issue undeniable to the reader.

9. Identify a paragraph where the writer presents a problem-solution structure. Do you think the solution offered is realistic and achievable in the context of Pakistan? Justify your response.

Ans. Paragraph 8 on page 97 presents a problem-solution structure. The problem is the “multifaceted” challenge of accessing clean water. The solution is a “collaborative approach” involving governments, policymakers, international organizations, and local communities.

This solution is realistic and achievable in the context of Pakistan, though it would require substantial political will and a sustained effort. Pakistan faces significant water challenges, but the collaborative model is the most viable path forward. By involving all stakeholders—from government bodies responsible for large-scale infrastructure to local communities who can implement initiatives like rainwater harvesting—the solution tackles the problem from multiple angles. While implementation would be difficult due to factors like resource constraints and governance issues, the framework itself is a practical blueprint for progress.

10. How does the use of reasons and conclusions in the final paragraphs strengthen the writer’s argument? Refer to specific lines in your answer.

Ans. In the final paragraphs (9 and 10 on pages 97-98), the writer uses reasons and conclusions to provide a powerful summary and call to action. For example, paragraph 9 gives the reason that “education and awareness are key components for improving water access and quality” because it “empower individuals to take action.” The conclusion drawn from this is that such efforts can have a “profound impact on public health and quality of life.”

This structure strengthens the argument by moving from specific solutions (education, awareness, collaboration) to broader, more impactful conclusions (improving public health, fostering economic stability, contributing to global well-being), leaving the reader with a sense of urgency and the potential for positive change.

11. Can you find an example where the organisational pattern changes within the same paragraph? What effect does this shift have on the reader’s understanding?

Ans. Paragraph 4 on page 96 begins with a general statement about the “significant environmental and economic implications” of clean water. It then shifts to a cause-effect pattern by describing how “Pollution from industrial activities... degrade and harm aquatic life, and disrupt delicate ecosystems...”

This shift has the effect of moving from a broad generalization to a specific, detailed explanation. It helps the reader understand the “what” (the implications) and then the “how” (the specific causes and effects), making the information more concrete and easier to grasp.

12. Imagine this text were rewritten in a comparison-contrast format comparing countries with water abundance and water scarcity. What new insights might that structure offer?

Ans. A comparison-contrast structure would offer new insights by:

Highlighting specific differences: It would clearly and directly show the disparities in health outcomes, economic stability, and daily life between regions with and without clean water.

Showcasing best practices: It could present specific policies or technologies used in water-abundant nations that water-scarce nations could potentially adapt.

Creating a clearer call to action: By contrasting the “haves” and “have-nots,” it could build a more compelling case for international collaboration and resource sharing.

13. Why is it important to distinguish between fact and opinion, or between evidence and generalization, when reading informational texts like this one? How does it affect your understanding?

Ans. Distinguishing between fact and opinion, and evidence and generalization, is crucial for critical reading. Facts and evidence (e.g., “around 829,000 people die each year from diarrhoea”) provide a strong, verifiable basis for the author’s claims. Opinions and generalizations, while they can frame an argument, may not be universally true.

This distinction affects my understanding by allowing me to evaluate the strength of the author’s argument. I can accept well-supported claims as reliable information, while I can critically consider and question any unsupported statements. It empowers me to form my own conclusions rather than simply accepting the author’s viewpoint.

14. What are some community-based initiatives mentioned for improving access to clean drinking water?

Ans. Paragraph 8 on page 97 mentions several community-based initiatives, including:

- Rainwater harvesting
- Water conservation
- Watershed management

15. How can investing in clean water infrastructure contribute to global prosperity and well-being?

Ans. Investing in clean water infrastructure contributes to global prosperity and well-being in several ways, as mentioned in the text. It improves public health: reduces the incidence of waterborne diseases, leading to a healthier and more productive population.

Fosters economic stability: A healthy workforce is more productive, and reduced healthcare costs free up resources for other economic activities.

Supports growth: Provides the necessary resources for agriculture and industry to flourish, which are essential for a stable economy.