

Empowering Change: A Young Activist's Journey

COMPREHENSION • VOCABULARY • DISCUSSION

INTERACTIVE ONLINE TEST

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Reading Passage

Read the passage carefully. Each paragraph is labelled with a letter for easy reference.

A At just sixteen, Mia Thompson has already made a significant impact in her community through her unwavering dedication to environmental activism. Growing up in Greenfield, a small town surrounded by lush forests and flowing rivers, Mia developed a profound appreciation for nature from an early age. After witnessing the detrimental effects of pollution in her town, she felt compelled to take action. Mia organized numerous clean-up events, where volunteers gathered to pick up litter, plant trees, and restore the natural beauty of their surroundings. Her efforts not only beautified the local parks but also raised awareness about the critical importance of keeping the environment clean and healthy for future generations. Mia's passion for the environment inspired many of her peers, and soon, her small initiative blossomed into a larger movement that engaged the entire community.

B Mia firmly believes that meaningful change begins with education. To further this belief, she started a club at her school called "Eco Warriors," where students learn about sustainability and pressing environmental issues. Each month, they host engaging workshops and invite local experts to speak about vital topics like recycling, conservation, and the impact of climate change. Mia's determination and hard work have caught the attention of local media, and she was recently featured in the Greenfield Gazette, which highlighted her inspiring journey. Through her activism, Mia has learned that even small actions can lead to significant change in the world. Her story encourages other young people to find their voice and make a difference, proving that age is not a barrier to activism and that everyone can contribute to a healthier planet.

Vocabulary Glossary

Key words and phrases from the passage. Study them before attempting the exercise below.

WORD / PHRASE	DEFINITION	EXAMPLE SENTENCE
unwavering	not changing or weakening; very strong	<i>Her unwavering belief in justice kept her going.</i>
profound	very deep or strong	<i>He felt a profound sense of loss after moving away.</i>
detrimental	causing harm or damage	<i>Smoking is detrimental to your health.</i>
compelled	felt forced or driven to do something	<i>She felt compelled to tell the truth.</i>
initiative	a plan or action to solve a problem	<i>The new recycling initiative was a big success.</i>
sustainability	using natural resources in a way that they can continue for a long time	<i>Sustainability is important to protect our planet.</i>
conservation	protecting and saving nature and its resources	<i>Conservation efforts have helped save many endangered animals.</i>
featured	presented or highlighted in a special way	<i>The artist's new work was featured in the gallery.</i>

Vocabulary Exercise — Fill in the Blank

Use one word or phrase from the glossary above to complete each sentence. Each item is used only once. Answers are on the final page.

1. Her _____ dedication to her studies impressed everyone.
2. He had a _____ understanding of the subject after years of study.
3. The new law had a _____ effect on small businesses.
4. After seeing the problem, he felt _____ to help.
5. The community started an _____ to clean up the local park.
6. We learned about _____ and how to protect the environment in class.

Comprehension Questions

These questions are different from the online practice test. Choose the best answer (A, B, C, or D). Answers and explanations are on the final page.

Question 1

Why did Mia start the 'Eco Warriors' club?

- A. To educate students about environmental issues
- B. To raise money for local parks
- C. To compete with other schools
- D. To help students with their homework

Question 2

What impact did Mia's clean-up events have on her community?

- A. They decreased pollution significantly.
- B. They raised awareness about environmental care.
- C. They caused more litter in parks.
- D. They led to new laws being passed.

Question 3

What does Mia believe is essential for meaningful change?

- A. Government intervention
- B. Education
- C. International support
- D. Advanced technology

Question 4

What did Mia's story in the Greenfield Gazette highlight?

- A. Her journey and impact as a young activist
- B. The financial costs of her events
- C. The opposition she faced
- D. Her academic achievements

Question 5

What is the main message Mia's story conveys?

- A. Only large actions can make a difference.
- B. Age is not a barrier to making a difference.
- C. Activism is only for adults.
- D. Community support is unnecessary.

Discussion & Writing Prompts

Each prompt references a specific detail from the passage above. Use for classroom discussion or a short written response (150–200 words).

1. Paragraph A describes the detrimental effects of pollution in Greenfield. How does pollution affect your community, and what steps can be taken to improve the situation?

2. According to Paragraph B, Mia's club invites local experts to speak. How important is expert input in educational settings, and what are the benefits and challenges of bringing experts into schools?

3. The passage mentions that Mia was featured in the Greenfield Gazette. How can media coverage influence a local movement, and what are some potential positive and negative outcomes of such publicity?

Answer Key

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Q1 A

Q2 B

Q3 B

Q4 A

Q5 B

VOCABULARY EXERCISE

FIB1 unwavering

FIB2 profound

FIB3 detrimental

FIB4 compelled

FIB5 initiative

FIB6 sustainability

Comprehension Question Explanations

Why the correct answer is right — and why each wrong option is incorrect.

1. Why did Mia start the 'Eco Warriors' club?

✓ A — To educate students about environmental issues

Mia started the club to educate students about sustainability and environmental issues.

✗ B — To raise money for local parks

The passage does not mention raising money as a goal of the club.

✗ C — To compete with other schools

The passage does not indicate that competition was a reason for the club.

✗ D — To help students with their homework

The passage does not mention helping with homework as a club activity.

2. What impact did Mia's clean-up events have on her community?

✓ B — They raised awareness about environmental care.

Mia's events raised awareness about the importance of keeping the environment clean.

✗ A — They decreased pollution significantly.

The passage does not specify a significant decrease in pollution.

✗ C — They caused more litter in parks.

The events helped reduce litter, not increase it.

✗ D — They led to new laws being passed.

The passage does not mention any new laws being passed.

3. What does Mia believe is essential for meaningful change?

✓ B — Education

The passage states that Mia believes meaningful change begins with education.

✗ A — Government intervention

The passage does not mention government intervention as essential according to Mia.

✗ C — International support

International support is not mentioned in the passage.

✗ D — Advanced technology

Advanced technology is not discussed as a requirement for change.

4. What did Mia's story in the Greenfield Gazette highlight?

✓ A — Her journey and impact as a young activist

The Greenfield Gazette highlighted Mia's inspiring journey as an activist.

✗ B — The financial costs of her events

The passage does not mention the financial costs of her events.

✗ C — The opposition she faced

The passage does not mention any opposition Mia faced.

✗ D — Her academic achievements

The passage does not discuss her academic achievements.

5. What is the main message Mia's story conveys?

✓ **B — Age is not a barrier to making a difference.**

Mia's story shows that young people can make a difference, proving age is not a barrier.

✗ **A — Only large actions can make a difference.**

The passage emphasizes that even small actions can lead to change.

✗ **C — Activism is only for adults.**

The passage encourages young people to be activists.

✗ **D — Community support is unnecessary.**

The passage demonstrates how community support helped Mia's initiatives.

MORE B2 LEVEL READING PRACTICE

Letters Refugee Camp Family Story Hope — <https://www.esl-tests.com/reading/b2/letters-refugee-camp-family-story-hope>

Global Health Preparedness Lessons Recent Pandemics — <https://www.esl-tests.com/reading/b2/global-health-preparedness-lessons-recent-pandemics>

Climate Migration Communities Move — <https://www.esl-tests.com/reading/b2/climate-migration-communities-move>