

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Finding and Using Text Evidence

**Directions:** Read “What If This Was Your Water?” and “Little Miss Flint.” Then complete the activity below.

---

**1. Imagine that you are writing a paragraph explaining how lead is harmful.**

**A. Which of the following would be the BEST topic sentence for your paragraph?**

- Ⓐ Thousands of people have been affected by high lead levels in water.
- Ⓑ Lead is harmful because it can corrode pipes.
- Ⓒ Lead is harmful because it can cause lead poisoning, which can lead to serious health problems.

**B. Which information from the article BEST supports the sentence you chose in part A?**

- Ⓐ The water in Flint could have been treated with a chemical to prevent corrosion but wasn't. (p. 19)
- Ⓑ In 2015, high levels of lead were found in the water of one home in Flint. (p. 20)
- Ⓒ Lead poisoning can cause learning and emotional disorders and can even lead to death in some cases. (p. 20)

**C. Which of the following BEST explains why the text evidence you chose in part B is relevant?**

- Ⓐ It explains why government officials switched Flint's source of water.
- Ⓑ It shows how lead is harmful by providing examples of the health problems lead poisoning can cause.
- Ⓒ It describes how dangerous lead poisoning is.

**2. Choose the piece of text evidence from “What If This Was Your Water?” that BEST supports the statement below. Then complete the sentence to explain your choice.**

**Lead is harmful to humans.**

- Ⓐ “It’s been four difficult years since Flint’s water crisis began.” (p. 21)
- Ⓑ “Exposure to lead over time can result in lead poisoning, which can, in turn, cause serious and even lifelong health problems, especially among children.” (p. 20)
- Ⓒ “But the river water, it turned out, was polluted. It was full of contaminants that corroded the linings of Flint’s old lead pipes.” (pp. 19-20)

I chose \_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**3. A. Choose the TWO pieces of text evidence from “What If This Was Your Water?” that BEST support the statement below.**

**The water crisis in Flint was preventable.**

- Ⓐ “In January 2016, then-President Barack Obama declared a state of emergency in Flint.” (p. 21)
- Ⓑ “The people of Flint knew something was wrong with their water. Some reported breaking out in rashes after swimming and bathing.” (p. 20)
- Ⓒ “The water could have been treated with a chemical to prevent corrosion but wasn’t.” (p. 20)
- Ⓓ “Across the country, Americans were outraged by what was happening.” (p. 20)
- Ⓔ “In an effort to cut costs, the city changed its source of water from Lake Huron to the Flint River in April 2014. But the river water, it turned out, was polluted.” (p. 19)

**B. Select one piece of INCORRECT evidence from above and explain why it does NOT support the statement.**

Evidence \_\_\_\_ does not support the statement because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Choose the paragraph that correctly uses text evidence from “What If This Was Your Water?” in the form of a direct quotation.**

- Ⓐ The water crisis in Flint is ongoing. In the article “What If This Was Your Water?,” author Kristin Lewis explains that the city is still in the process of fixing the corroded pipes in Flint (21).
- Ⓑ The water crisis in Flint is ongoing. “The city has pledged to replace 18,000 pipes by 2020; at press time, about 6,200 had been replaced.” In other words, the city of Flint is still in the process of fixing the corroded pipes.
- Ⓒ The water crisis in Flint is ongoing. In the article “What If This Was Your Water?,” author Kristin Lewis writes, “The city has pledged to replace 18,000 pipes by 2020; at press time, about 6,200 had been replaced” (21). In other words, the city of Flint is still in the process of fixing the corroded pipes.

Explain why the two answers you did NOT choose are incorrect: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

**5. Choose the paragraph that correctly uses text evidence from “Little Miss Flint” in the form of a paraphrase.**

- Ⓐ The water crisis in Flint has made life more inconvenient for residents of the city. In the interview with Mari Copeny, “Little Miss Flint,” Mari explains that she and her family have to drive to distribution sites to pick up bottled water to drink and can shower for only a few minutes at a time using special filters (22). The examples Mari provides show that simple everyday activities, such as drinking water and showering, have become difficult for residents of Flint.
- Ⓑ The water crisis in Flint has made life more inconvenient for residents of the city. Mari explains that she and her family have to drive to distribution sites to pick up bottled water to drink and can shower for only a few minutes at a time using special filters.
- Ⓒ The water crisis in Flint has made life more inconvenient for residents of the city. In the interview with Mari Copeny, “Little Miss Flint,” Mari says, “We drive to a distribution site to pick up water, and we have a water cooler that uses 5-gallon jugs” (22). The examples Mari provides show that simple everyday activities, such as getting drinking water, have become difficult for residents of Flint.

Explain why the two answers you did NOT choose are incorrect: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

- **a topic sentence**
- **at least one piece of text evidence in the form of a paraphrase or a direct quotation**
- **a sentence that states how that evidence supports your central idea**

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Finding Text Evidence

**Directions:** Read “What If This Was Your Water?,” then complete the activity below.

**1. Choose the TWO pieces of text evidence from the article that best support the statement below.**

**STATEMENT:**

**The water crisis in Flint has been a catastrophe.**

- Ⓐ “In an effort to cut costs, the city changed its source of water from Lake Huron to the Flint River in April 2014.” (p. 19)
- Ⓑ “In early 2015, high levels of lead were discovered in the water of one home.” (p. 20)
- Ⓒ “Thousands of people have been affected by the high lead levels. Other pollutants in the water have contributed to 12 deaths.” (p. 21)
- Ⓓ “In January 2016, then-President Barack Obama declared a state of emergency in Flint.” (p. 21)

.....

**2. Choose ONE piece of text evidence from the article that best supports the statement below. Then complete the sentence to explain your choice.**

**STATEMENT:**

**The cleanup of Flint’s water is ongoing.**

- Ⓐ “In the fall of 2015, the city stopped using water from the Flint River.” (p. 20)
- Ⓑ “The city has pledged to replace 18,000 pipes by 2020; at press time, about 6,200 had been replaced.” (p. 21)
- Ⓒ “As a result, lead—a highly toxic metal—was leaching into the water as it passed through the pipes on its way to people’s homes.” (p. 20)

I chose \_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Below are a statement and two pieces of supporting evidence. Find one more piece of supporting evidence from the article and write it on the lines below.

STATEMENT:

Lead is harmful to humans.

- Ⓐ “Exposure to lead over time can result in lead poisoning, which can, in turn, cause serious and even lifelong health problems, especially among children.” (p. 20)
- Ⓑ “In extreme cases, lead poisoning can be fatal.” (p. 20)
- Ⓒ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

.....

4. Read the lines from the article below. Then write a statement that they support.

STATEMENT:

- Ⓐ “The water could have been treated with a chemical to prevent corrosion but wasn’t.” (p. 20)
- Ⓑ “In an effort to cut costs, the city changed its source of water from Lake Huron to the Flint River in April 2014. But the river water, it turned out, was polluted.” (p. 19)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Making a Difference

**Directions:** Fill in the chart below to synthesize information from "What If This Was Your Water?" and "Little Miss Flint" to explore how one person can make a difference, even when facing an enormous problem. We filled in one piece of information for you.

	"What If This Was Your Water?"	"Little Miss Flint"
1. What problems have the people of Flint, Michigan, been facing?		
2. What has been done to address the problem?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mari went to marches and protests, wrote letters, and organized with others to speak out against what was happening in Flint (23).</li> </ul>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Close-Reading Questions

## "What If This Was Your Water?"

1. According to the article, what caused the water crisis in Flint? (key ideas and details)
2. Why might the author have included the sidebar “Where Does Your Water Come From?” (text features)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Close-Reading Questions

## "Little Miss Flint"

1. According to information in the interview, is access to clean water still an issue for Mari's family? (key ideas and details)
2. How has the water crisis affected the people of Flint? (key ideas, inference)
3. Mari says that having President Obama come to Flint was a "surreal" experience. What does she mean? (vocabulary, inference)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Critical-Thinking Questions

## "What If This Was Your Water?" and "Little Miss Flint"

---

1. Could the Flint water crisis have been prevented? Explain.
2. Do Americans take water for granted? Draw on information in the article, the interview, and your own ideas.
3. What lessons can the rest of the U.S. learn from what happened in Flint? In other words, how could learning about what happened in Flint help people in other cities and towns?
4. How can the ongoing water crisis in Flint be solved?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Go to Scope  
Online to listen  
to the words  
and definitions  
read aloud.

# Vocabulary:

## "What If This Was Your Water?" and "Little Miss Flint"

**1. assure (uh-SHUR)** *verb*; To assure someone of something is to tell them with confidence that it is true—in other words, to assure is to promise or guarantee.

**2. contaminant (kuhn-TAM-uh-nuhnt)** *noun*; The verb *contaminate* means "to make something impure or dangerous by adding something harmful or unpleasant to it." A *contaminant* is something that contaminates. In other words, a contaminant is something that makes a place or a substance (such as water or air) unsafe and unfit for use.

**3. corrode (kuh-ROHD)** *verb*; To corrode is to slowly eat away at something—to wear it away or destroy it little by little. *Corrode* is often used to refer to gradual wearing away due to a chemical reaction. When water causes metal to rust, the water is corroding the metal.

**4. dominate (DOM-uh-neyt)** *verb*; To dominate is to have control or power over someone or something. If a dog named Maggie dominates a dog named Max, Maggie lets Max know that she is the boss. *Dominate* can also mean "to be most frequent or common." If a football game dominates the news, there are more articles about the football game than about anything else—you can't turn on the TV or radio without hearing about it.

**5. infrastructure (IN-fruh-struhk-cher)** *noun*; Infrastructure is the basic equipment, systems, and services that a society or an organization needs in order to run smoothly. A city's roads, bridges, water system, power supply, and trash and recycling services are all part of its infrastructure.

**6. leach (leech)** *verb*; To leach is to remove a substance such as a chemical, metal, or nutrient from something solid by passing liquid through it. Brewing tea is an example of leaching: As water passes through tea leaves, it removes substances from them that end up in the water in your cup or teapot.

**7. potable (POH-tuh-buhl)** *adjective*; Potable means "suitable for drinking." In the U.S., tap water is usually potable; dirty water that has been sitting in a bucket in the backyard for months is not potable.

**8. surreal (suh-REE-uhl)** *adjective*; Something that is surreal is bizarre and a little confusing, like something in a dream.

---

**Directions:** In the space below or on the back of this page, list any other words from the article whose definitions you are not sure about. For each word, use context clues to try to figure out the meaning. Then look up the word in a few different dictionaries. Discuss the meaning of the word with your teacher or another adult. Then write a definition for the word and one example sentence using the word.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Paired Texts Quiz

**Directions:** Read the articles “What If This Was Your Water?” and “Little Miss Flint.” Then answer the questions below.

1. According to the article, all of the following contributed to the crisis in Flint EXCEPT which?
  - (A) contaminants in the Flint River
  - (B) aging infrastructure
  - (C) irresponsible public officials
  - (D) excessive water use
2. On page 20, Lewis writes “The water could have been treated with a chemical to prevent corrosion but wasn’t.” This line suggests that
  - (A) Lewis is unsure whether Flint’s water was treated with chemicals.
  - (B) the Flint River’s water is more polluted than that of Lake Huron.
  - (C) public officials could have made better decisions to ensure the safety of Flint’s water.
  - (D) the lead pipes in Flint are old.
3. In the section “The Crisis Isn’t Over,” Lewis’s tone could best be described as
  - (A) sympathetic.
  - (B) confused.
  - (C) angry.
  - (D) uninterested.
4. Which statement CANNOT be supported by information in the sidebar “Where Does Your Water Come From?”
  - (A) Water is a precious resource.
  - (B) Some people use excessive amounts of water, while others don’t have enough.
  - (C) Most of the water on Earth is usable.
  - (D) The government helps ensure that drinking water is safe.
5. The main purpose of “What If This Was Your Water?” is to \_\_\_\_\_, whereas the main purpose of “Little Miss Flint” is to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (A) discuss Americans’ excessive water use; explain the effects of poverty
  - (B) raise awareness about an ongoing crisis; explain how a young girl took action in a crisis
  - (C) describe the effects of lead on the human body; instruct readers on how to raise money
  - (D) inform readers about the water treatment process; detail the presidency of Barack Obama
6. Both the article and the interview support all of the following ideas EXCEPT which?
  - (A) Lead is especially harmful to children.
  - (B) The water crisis in Flint is far from over.
  - (C) Flint’s water crisis has gained national attention.
  - (D) The water crisis in Flint was preventable.

4. Which statement CANNOT be supported by

### Constructed-Response Questions

**Directions:** Write your answers to the questions below on the back of this paper or type them up on a computer.

7. How could the water crisis in Flint have been avoided? Support your answer using text evidence from the article.
8. What are two ways the water crisis has affected the people of Flint? Use text evidence from the article and the interview to support your answer.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Paired Texts Quiz

**Directions:** Read the articles “What If This Was Your Water?” and “Little Miss Flint.” Then answer the questions below.

- According to the article, all of the following factors contributed to the water crisis in Flint EXCEPT which?
  - water pollution in the Flint River
  - old pipes made out of a highly toxic metal
  - irresponsible officials
  - excessive water use
- Which of the following lines from page 20 suggests that the crisis in Flint could have been avoided?
  - “In extreme cases, lead poisoning can be fatal.”
  - “Some reported breaking out in rashes after swimming or bathing.”
  - “The water could have been treated with a chemical to prevent corrosion but wasn’t.”
  - “Across the country, Americans were outraged by what was happening.”
- In the section “The Crisis Isn’t Over,” Lewis’s tone (or attitude toward what she is writing about) could be described as
  - concerned.
  - confused.
  - angry.
  - uninterested.
- Which of the following statements CANNOT be supported by the information in the sidebar “Where Does Your Water Come From?”
  - Water is a precious resource.
  - Some people use excessive amounts of water, while others don’t have enough.
  - Most of the water on Earth is usable.
  - The government helps ensure that drinking water is safe.
- The main purpose of “Little Miss Flint” is to
  - teach readers about the effects of poor leadership.
  - explain how a young girl took action in a crisis.
  - describe the effects of lead on the human body.
  - detail the presidency of Barack Obama.
- Both the article and the interview support all of the following ideas EXCEPT which?
  - Lead is especially harmful to children.
  - The water crisis in Flint is far from over.
  - Flint’s water crisis has gained national attention.
  - The water crisis in Flint was preventable.

## Constructed-Response Questions

**Directions:** Write your answers to the questions below on the back of this paper or type them up on a computer.

- Describe one way the water crisis in Flint could have been avoided. Support your answer using text evidence from the article.
- How has the water crisis affected the health of people in Flint? Use text evidence from the article and the interview to support your answer.

Note: *Scope* does not accept Google Docs. If you are e-mailing your entry, please send a .pdf or .doc file.

## Flint Contest

How does Mari Copeny show that one person can make a difference, even when facing an enormous problem? Answer this question in a well-organized essay. Use text evidence.

Five winners will get *Flush* by Carl Hiaasen.

### Entries will be judged on:

- ⇒ use of information from both texts
- ⇒ grammar, spelling, and punctuation
- ⇒ clarity and good organization
- ⇒ creativity

My name: \_\_\_\_\_

My home phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ My grade: \_\_\_\_\_

My teacher's name: \_\_\_\_\_ My teacher's e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

School name: \_\_\_\_\_

School address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

School phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

My parent or legal guardian consents  
to my participation in this contest.

Parent's or legal guardian's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Include this form with your written entry and send both to: [scopemag@scholastic.com](mailto:scopemag@scholastic.com)  
or mail them to: Flint Contest, c/o *Scope*, P.O. Box 712, New York, NY 10013-0712

**ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY June 15, 2018!**