

CNN News Highlights — Plastic Waste in Africa

1) according to	2) daily	3) fill up	4) drinking straws	5) plastic straws	6) trivia
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Ten-second ____: About how many ____ do Americans use each day? 20,000, 100,000, 1 million, or 500 million?

The correct answer is 500 million. That's how many ____ Americans use each day ____ the National Park Service and EarthDay.org. Just to give you an idea, 500 million straws ____ could ____ 125 school buses each day.

1) impacted	2) littering	3) mounds	4) out of hand	5) power outages	6) yuck
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We all know that trash and waste can pile up, and ____, well, that can just ____ a place up. We're going to go check out a place where garbage has gotten so ____, there's so much of it in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, that there are ____ of it floating in a lake, blocking a dam that creates electricity for the region. Now there are ____, local businesses are being _____. CNN's Victoria Rubadiri explains why and how this is happening.

1) atop	2) border	3) channels	4) clogging	5) ripple effect	6) unsightly
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A sea of garbage ____ a lake on the ____ of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda. It's ____ and a problem with a ____ for families and businesses alike. Plastic bottles, gas cans and other trash collect at the bottom and on the surface of the water, ____ this hydroelectric dam and keeping water from properly entering its _____. Limiting the amount of pressure and speed needed for this electric company's machines to power the region.

1) abandoned	2) drastic consequences	3) forced	4) grates	5) gutters	6) intensified
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We are ____ to shut down the machines and start removing the waste, clearing the _____. And when we stop the machines, power outages also occur.

Waste management issues, ____ by heavy rainfall, cause people's ____ trash to end up in the lake. Those mounds of garbage can have _____.

If they leave the waste lying in a street, in the ____, it ends up in the Rwizi Dam. And this creates a lot of difficulties for us.

1) crucial in tackling	2) disposal site	3) plague	4) sporadic	5) waste companies	6) welders
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As power outages ____ the region small businesses suffer, these ____ feel the pressure as production slows, confused and frustrated by the ____ electricity in their workshop.

People tell us the power is out because of plastic bottles, but we don't know what to do about these bottles. If only there were a way to clear out these bottles so we could have electricity.

Officials say there could be a way. If individual homes pick up waste, authorities say ____ could then collect it and bring it to a _____. But for now, it's only an idea, one that may prove ____ the region's pollution problem.

Translation

十秒問答題：美國人每天大約使用多少塑膠吸管？

20,000、100,000、100 萬，還是 5 億根？

正確答案是 5 億根。根據美國國家公園管理局（National Park Service）和地球日組織

（EarthDay.org）的數據，美國人每天使用的吸管數量高達 5 億根。為了讓大家更有概念，這些吸管每天可以填滿 125 輛校車。

我們都知道垃圾和廢棄物會越堆越多，而亂丟垃圾更是讓環境變得髒亂不堪。我們現在來看看剛果民主共和國的一個地方，那裡的垃圾問題已經失控了。大量垃圾漂浮在湖面上，甚至堵塞了一個提供當地區域電力的水壩。這導致了電力中斷，當地企業受到嚴重影響。CNN 記者維多利亞·魯巴達里（Victoria Rubadiri）為您解析其中的原因及過程。

在剛果民主共和國與盧安達邊界上的一座湖泊，漂浮著一片垃圾海。這場景不僅刺眼，還對當地的家庭和企業產生了連鎖反應。塑膠瓶、油桶以及其他垃圾積聚在湖底和水面，堵塞了這座水力發電壩的水道，導致水無法順利流入發電機系統，影響了產生所需電力的水壓和流速。

「我們被迫停機清理垃圾，清空過濾柵欄。當機器停止運轉時，電力就會中斷。」

垃圾管理不善，再加上強降雨的影響，使人們丟棄的垃圾最終進入湖中。這些垃圾堆積成山，後果非常嚴重。

「如果垃圾堆放在街道或水溝裡，最終都會流入魯維茲水壩（Rwizi Dam），這給我們帶來了極大的困難。」

當地區域因停電問題而深受困擾，小企業也受到重創。例如，這些焊接工人在面對間歇性供電時感到困惑與沮喪，因為生產進度大受影響。

「人們告訴我們，停電是因為塑膠瓶的關係，但我們不知道該怎麼處理這些瓶子。如果有辦法清理這些瓶子，我們就能恢復電力了。」

官員表示，或許可以找到解決辦法。如果每個家庭能自行收集垃圾，廢棄物管理公司就可以將其集中運往處理場。然而，目前這僅是一個構想，但它可能成為解決當地污染問題的關鍵措施。



You can view this activity online at this link:

<https://linguadox.com/2024/11/26/cnn-news-highlights-plastic-waste-in-africa/>

Answers

1) according to	2) daily	3) fill up	4) drinking straws	5) plastic straws	6) trivia
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Ten-second **6) trivia**: About how many **5) plastic straws** do Americans use each day? 20,000, 100,000, 1 million, or 500 million?

The correct answer is 500 million. That's how many **3) drinking straws** Americans use each day **1) according to** the National Park Service and EarthDay.org. Just to give you an idea, 500 million straws **2) daily** could **4) fill up** 125 school buses each day.

1) impacted	2) littering	3) mounds	4) out of hand	5) power outages	6) yuck
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We all know that trash and waste can pile up, and **2) littering**, well, that can just **6) yuck** a place up. We're going to go check out a place where garbage has gotten so **4) out of hand**, there's so much of it in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, that there are **3) mounds** of it floating in a lake, blocking a dam that creates electricity for the region. Now there are **5) power outages**, local businesses are being **1) impacted**. CNN's Victoria Rubadiri explains why and how this is happening.

1) atop	2) border	3) channels	4) clogging	5) ripple effect	6) unsightly
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A sea of garbage **1) atop** a lake on the **2) border** of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda. It's **6) unsightly** and a problem with a **5) ripple effect** for families and businesses alike. Plastic bottles, gas cans and other trash collect at the bottom and on the surface of the water, **4) clogging** this hydroelectric dam and keeping water from properly entering its **3) channels**. Limiting the amount of pressure and speed needed for this electric company's machines to power the region.

1) abandoned	2) drastic consequences	3) forced	4) grates	5) gutters	6) intensified
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We are **3) forced** to shut down the machines and start removing the waste, clearing the **4) grates**. And when we stop the machines, power outages also occur.

Waste management issues, **6) intensified** by heavy rainfall, cause people's **1) abandoned** trash to end up in the lake. Those mounds of garbage can have **2) drastic consequences**.

If they leave the waste lying in a street, in the **5) gutters**, it ends up in the Rwizi Dam. And this creates a lot of difficulties for us.

1) crucial in tackling	2) disposal site	3) plague	4) sporadic	5) waste companies	6) welders
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As power outages **3) plague** the region small businesses suffer, these **6) welders** feel the pressure as production slows, confused and frustrated by the **4) sporadic** electricity in their workshop.

People tell us the power is out because of plastic bottles, but we don't know what to do about these bottles. If only there were a way to clear out these bottles so we could have electricity.

Officials say there could be a way. If individual homes pick up waste, authorities say **5) waste companies** could then collect it and bring it to a **2) disposal site**. But for now, it's only an idea, one that may prove **1) crucial in tackling** the region's pollution problem.