

Name: _____ Date Due: _____

7th Grade Language Arts



Assignment	Points Earned
Article Summary – “There’s a clean challenge ...”	
Article Annotation & Quiz	
BookBlog #18 – “Your Novel & _____”	
Grammar #06 – Simple & Compound Sentences	
BookBlog #17 due 4/8	fyi
No Journals this Week	fyi

Total=>

There is a clean challenge out there called #trashtag and it's catching on

By Washington Post, adapted by Newsela staff

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Often, news stories with the words "teenager" and "challenge" reveal some dangerous thing teens are daring each other to do. The goal is usually to get as many views online as possible.

Teens have been the subjects of viral online panics for eating liquid laundry detergent pods.

They have dared each other to guzzle a gallon of milk, without vomiting, and eat a tablespoon of cinnamon, which can be deadly, also without vomiting. Another version is to gulp down 2 liters of a carbonated beverage. They have been known to douse themselves in rubbing alcohol and set themselves on fire – also not a smart thing to do – and throw boiling water on unsuspecting peers.

This, however, is not one of those stories.

Instead, this is about the #trashtag challenge, which encourages teens to do something constructive. The trend has been around for years. UCO Gear, an outdoor goods company in Seattle, Washington, started using the #trashtag hashtag in 2015 to "encourage others to pack out trash when they spot it on the trail."

However, social media user Byron Román helped it grab widespread attention online and aimed it at teens, posting on March 5 a before-and-after picture on Facebook. The photo showed a dramatic cleanup in a garbage-strewn area in the woods.

"Here is a new #challenge for all you bored teens," Román wrote. "Take a photo of an area that needs some cleaning or maintenance, then take a photo after you have done something about it, and post it."

Román, a 53-year-old mortgage loan officer from Phoenix, Arizona, said he had seen the photo on a friend's Facebook page, but it appears it came from an ecotourism company, Happy Tours GT in Guatemala. The company posted the picture March 4 with a similar comment in Spanish, which, Román said, he translated into English. Then, he said, he

added the hashtags #trashtag and #BasuraChallenge and directed the message toward teens. "Basura" is the Spanish word for trash.

He said it was not meant to insult teenagers but encourage them.

The Washington Post reached out to Happy Tours GT for a comment. The company said in a message that it only helped the image go viral and does not know where the picture came from or the identity of the man in the photo. Román said he had hoped that the man would have surfaced by now, but he has not yet been identified.

Even as the identity and intentions of the person in the photo remained a mystery, Román's Facebook post continued to spread. By March 12, it had been shared more than 323,000 times. It had gotten a few dozen comments, mostly from social media users who appeared to be adults discussing ways to get teens into it.

"Great idea! Step Up Youngsters!!" one person responded.

"Not just for teens," another replied, adding, "Let's go humanity."

Román said he has since received hundreds of messages from people around the world, including from teachers and parents. They have sent him photos of their own cleanups with their children.

"I think it's our responsibility to keep our planet clean. It doesn't matter who made the mess because it belongs to all of us," Román said in a phone interview with The Washington Post. He said that he has set up a second Facebook account called "Basura Challenge Arizona" to encourage people in his own community to join him in the effort to help clean up the planet. "It's our job," he said.

Román acknowledged in a later post that he did not start the #trashtag challenge or the #basurachallenge. However, he added, "I am glad my post reached every corner of the world."

Apparently, it did go around the world. People from across the United States and the world posted cleanup photos over the weekend on social media including Facebook, Instagram, Reddit and Twitter, and urged others to do the same. The Post could not independently confirm the authenticity of the photos.

Quiz

- 1 According to the article, the #trashtag challenge has become an online phenomenon in recent weeks.

Which paragraph BEST supports the idea outlined above?

- (A) Instead, this is about the #trashtag challenge, which encourages teens to do something constructive. The trend has been around for years. UCO Gear, an outdoor goods company in Seattle, Washington, started using the #trashtag hashtag in 2015 to "encourage others to pack out trash when they spot it on the trail."
- (B) Román, a 53-year-old mortgage loan officer from Phoenix, Arizona, said he had seen the photo on a friend's Facebook page, but it appears it came from an ecotourism company, Happy Tours GT in Guatemala. The company posted the picture March 4 with a similar comment in Spanish, which, Román said, he translated into English. Then, he said, he added the hashtags #trashtag and #BasuraChallenge and directed the message toward teens. "Basura" is the Spanish word for trash.
- (C) Even as the identity and intentions of the person in the photo remained a mystery, Román's Facebook post continued to spread. By March 12, it had been shared more than 323,000 times. It had gotten a few dozen comments, mostly from social media users who appeared to be adults discussing ways to get teens into it.
- (D) "I think it's our responsibility to keep our planet clean. It doesn't matter who made the mess because it belongs to all of us," Román said in a phone interview with The Washington Post. He said that he has set up a second Facebook account called "Basura Challenge Arizona" to encourage people in his own community to join him in the effort to help clean up the planet. "It's our job," he said.

2 Which option would Byron Román MOST LIKELY agree with?

1. *Online challenges for teenagers are risky and dangerous.*
2. *Teenagers should take an active role in caring for the environment.*

Which sentence from the article supports your response?

- (A) Option 1; Teens have been the subjects of viral online panics for eating liquid laundry detergent pods.
 - (B) Option 1; Román said he had hoped that the man would have surfaced by now, but he has not yet been identified.
 - (C) Option 2; Román said he has since received hundreds of messages from people around the world, including from teachers and parents.
 - (D) Option 2; "It doesn't matter who made the mess because it belongs to all of us," Román said in a phone interview with The Washington Post.
- 3 Which characterization accurately describes BOTH the #trashtag challenge and other viral dares for teens?
- (A) Both types of challenges are spread online.
 - (B) Both types of challenges are dangerous for young people.
 - (C) Both types of challenges help protect the environment.
 - (D) Both types of challenges are extremely popular.
- 4 Which of the following answer choices would BEST describe Byron Román's reaction to the spread of his #trashtag post?
- (A) Román was angry that he could not find the person who created the #trashtag challenge.
 - (B) Román was excited to see so many people working to protect the environment.
 - (C) Román was disappointed that more people did not share the #trashtag challenge.
 - (D) Román was happy that other people liked the online challenge he created.

Lesson 6

Simple and Compound Sentences

A **simple sentence** has one subject and one predicate. The subject and the predicate in a simple sentence may be simple or compound.

SUBJECT	PREDICATE
Oscar	fed the dog.
Oscar and Cathy	fed and groomed the dog.

A **compound sentence** contains two or more simple sentences joined by a comma and a coordinating conjunction (*or, nor, and, either...or, neither...nor, but*) or by a semicolon.

Oscar fed the dog, **and** he groomed him.
Oscar's dog likes to run; Cathy's dog prefers to sleep.

Two or more simple sentences joined incorrectly result in a **run-on sentence**. Correct a run-on sentence by writing separate sentences, by adding a comma and a conjunction, or by adding a semicolon.

Patti practiced every day for the recital she played flawlessly. (run-on)
Patti practiced every day for the recital. She played flawlessly. (separated)
Patti practiced every day for the recital, and she played flawlessly. (joined by a comma and a conjunction)
Patti practiced every day for the recital; she played flawlessly. (joined by a semicolon)

► **Exercise 1** Write **S** in the blank before each simple sentence, **C** before each compound sentence, and **R** before each run-on sentence.

- C** The trumpets blared, and the king entered the room.
- _____ 1. Ketchup makes french fries taste better.
- _____ 2. I walked and walked for days.
- _____ 3. Hydrogen has weight, but you can't weigh it on an ordinary scale.
- _____ 4. Air is taken into the lungs oxygen is absorbed into the bloodstream.
- _____ 5. You can buy your ticket in advance, or you can buy it at the door.
- _____ 6. Radar detects objects in darkness and bad weather.
- _____ 7. Humans can't see well in the dark, nor can they hear sounds more than about one kilometer away.

- _____ 8. I read it, but I didn't understand it.
- _____ 9. Korean foods and Thai foods can be very spicy.
- _____ 10. You can ask questions, but you may not find the answers.
- _____ 11. The choir sang and clapped for the audience.
- _____ 12. Neither fog nor hail stops the letter carrier.
- _____ 13. Max found the light bulb he couldn't find a ladder.
- _____ 14. The first modern computer was built in 1946; it processed 5,000 calculations per minute.
- _____ 15. The South American condor is smaller and heavier than the California condor.

► **Exercise 2** Draw one line under each simple subject and two lines under each simple predicate. Circle each coordinating conjunction.

Stuart dialed the phone, and he waited for someone to answer.

1. The athletes ran for a long time, and they breathed hard.
2. I went there last year, but I cancelled my reservation this year.
3. She called me, but she wrote more often.
4. I studied hard, and I passed the test.
5. Did you find it, or do you need my help?
6. The skies were cloudy, but I saw no rain.
7. He just sat there; nobody talked to him.
8. Most plants require plenty of sunlight, but some plants thrive in low light.
9. Colorado is a beautiful state, and it has nice weather.
10. The game was close, but we won it in the last minute.
11. I can ride a bike, and I can also fix it.
12. Chimpanzees live in the rain forests of Africa; they eat berries, fruit, and some meat.
13. Pluto is the smallest planet in the solar system, and it is farthest from the sun.
14. Rice tastes good, but I prefer potatoes.
15. Tanya saw the birds, and she heard their calls.