

A Case Study on Pollution



Case Study: *The Plastic Coastline*

On the eastern shore of a large country, a coastal city became famous for its fishing industry and beautiful beaches. Over the years, however, large amounts of plastic waste began washing ashore. Bottles, bags, and fishing nets clogged the sand and floated in the shallow waters. Sea turtles were often found tangled in nets, and seabirds swallowed small plastic pieces.

Tourism also declined because visitors no longer wanted to swim in dirty water or relax on polluted beaches. The fishing community suffered when fish numbers dropped because of damaged habitats. Local officials admitted that much of the plastic came from the city itself, where garbage collection was not well organized. Some residents had started recycling, but many people continued throwing trash directly into rivers that led to the sea.

1. What types of pollution are described in this case study?
2. Name two groups of living things harmed by the pollution.
3. How did the pollution affect the city's economy?
4. What is one human action that caused the problem?
5. Suggest **two realistic solutions** the community could use to reduce plastic pollution.
6. Reflection: Why is it important for both residents and government leaders to work together against pollution?