

The LORAX is a fictional story about a man who abused the environment and about what he learned. The story begins in the most run-down part of a dull, gray town. A small boy asks the Once-ler to share the secret of the Lorax and how he was "taken away." Thus, the story is told as a "flashback" as the Once-ler talks about the Lorax and past events.

1. Who did the Once-ler represent? _____
2. Who did the Lorax represent? _____
3. The Once-ler moved across the land in his wagon. He came upon a new region with an important natural resource. (A natural resource is a plant, animal, or mineral that can be used by people.) What was this natural resource the Once-ler found? _____
4. Humans often appreciate the beauty of the natural world. Experiences such as finding sea shells on a beach or seeing a rare bird often cause strong feelings. Did the Once-ler have feelings about the region and natural resource that he found? _____
5. The Once-ler used the land's natural resource to start a business which made and sold a product.
 - (a) What was the product? _____
 - (b) How was it used by buyers? _____
6. Pollution not only affects plant and animal species, but it also affects another living species, human beings. Explain whether the Once-ler's factory and town was a safe and healthy place to live.

7. The Once-ler's business failed. What happened to cause the failure of this business?

8. The Once-ler learned that he had made a serious mistake. What, in your opinion, was his mistake?

9. Explain what, in the Once-ler's opinion, must happen for the Lorax and his animals to return.

10. Can you think of a real-life example of how man-made pollution affected a real ecosystem, its abiotics (e.g. temperature, water quality, etc.) its biotics (e.g., species extinction), or its habitat? Please briefly describe the incident below.

