

How can we solve the problem of plastic pollution in our oceans? Watch this video to find out how a giant ocean 'snake' could help!

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises. Remember you can read the transcript at any time.

### Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–h next to the numbers 1–8.

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1..... a current             | a. an object or machine that has been invented for a particular purpose  |
| 2..... to drift              | b. a movement of water (or air or electricity) in a particular direction |
| 3..... to break down         | c. to move slowly, with no control over direction                        |
| 4..... a device              | d. a long object that stops something or someone from going somewhere    |
| 5..... to fish something out | e. to separate into smaller parts  |
| 6..... a barrier             | f. to try to solve a problem   |
| 7..... a tweak               | g. to pull something out of water  |
| 8..... to tackle a problem   | h. a small change to something in order to make it work better           |

### 1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

- |    |  |             |              |
|----|--|-------------|--------------|
| 1. | The tube is 600 metres long.   | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. | The Great Garbage Patch is in the Atlantic Ocean.  | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. | Boyan first had the idea for his invention when he was at university.                      | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. | Scientists think that there are 1.8 trillion pieces of plastic in the Great Garbage Patch. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. | The plastic that the device collects will be recycled.                                     | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. | Boyan's organisation wants to put 16 'snakes' in the Pacific Ocean by 2020.                | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

## 2. Check your vocabulary: gap fill

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

mission

currents

snake

barriers

plastic

break down

tackle

marine life

1. The tube looks like a giant \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The device's \_\_\_\_\_ is to catch the ocean's rubbish.
3. Water \_\_\_\_\_ make lots of plastic rubbish drift together.
4. For a school project, Boyan designed a system of floating \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Plastic takes a very long time to \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The plastic in our oceans is killing our \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Boyan hopes to \_\_\_\_\_ the problem of plastic pollution.
8. Boats will fish out the collected \_\_\_\_\_ every few months.

### Discussion

What can we do in our everyday lives to stop plastic pollution?