

**ATENCIÓN:** Lea el siguiente texto y responda en inglés, en hoja aparte, a las preguntas que se formulan. No es necesario reproducir los enunciados; basta con indicar el número y la letra de cada pregunta. No se permite el uso de diccionario. Puntuación de las secciones: 1ª) 3; 2ª) 3; 3ª) 4.

One of the advantages of living in the developed world is that tap water is safe to drink, and in most municipalities good-tasting as well. In blind tests, most people cannot distinguish between bottled and tap water. Bottled water, including mineral and spring water, is no healthier or safer than what your local water company **supplies**. And it lacks the cavity-fighting fluoride found in most tap water.

Yet in the past few years, bottled water has become the hallmark of health-consciousness. Sales have more than doubled from 2002 to 2008 and continue to escalate, totalling nearly 15 billion dollars in the U.S. alone. This, of course, is excellent news for the bottled-water industry, which promotes its water as superior. Coca-Cola and Pepsi sell about one quarter of all bottled water – which, ironically, is treated tap water. The boom has also been great for **fancy** restaurants, where the mark-up on bottled water is about 300%.

Furthermore, the Consumer Recycling Institute estimates that 144 billion plastic containers, glass bottles, cartons, and aluminium cans have not been recycled. And think of this: in our energy-hungry world, huge amounts of petroleum are needed to make plastic water bottles, and large amounts of fuel are **required** to transport bottled water around or fly it from one country to another. It is efficient to deliver water via pipes, but not in bottles. So, the next time you think about buying a bottle of water, remember that by drinking tap water, you are not only saving yourself some money, but helping to improve your environment.

**1. Answer the following questions about the text in your own words. (No points will be given for answers copied from the text.)**

- a) According to the text, is it better to drink tap water or bottled water? Why?
- b) Why do you think restaurant owners are so interested in selling bottled water?
- c) Why might some developing countries have no choice but to drink bottled water?

**2. Explain the meaning of, or give synonyms for, the following words or expressions from the text:**

- a) **supplies:**
- b) **fancy:**
- c) **required:**

**3. Composition (approx. 120 words):** Is protecting the environment important to you? Explain the things that you do to help to improve the world you live in.

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A violin needs to be played, just as a car needs to be driven, and a human body pushed off the sofa. In Cremona, a city that has produced the best violins ever made, that job belongs to Andrea Mosconi. He is 75, and for the past 30 years he has finger-fed 300-year-old violins – worth millions – a diet of Bach, Tchaikovsky, and Bartok.

It is peaceful where he works, so it is surprising when he compares his gentle job to race-car driving. “When Schumacher gets to 350 kilometers an hour, do you think he ever loses his concentration?” he asks, speaking of the retired racing champion. “In my case, too, I have to pay attention. You have to give your best with these instruments. They make you sweat.” He has just finished playing a few lines of Bach on the most valuable piece in this town’s small but significant collection of locally made stringed instruments: a violin made in 1715 by Antonio Stradivari.

Every morning, Mr. Mosconi stands before six 16<sup>th</sup>-century violins. He has no favorite: the mere question is mildly offensive. “It’s as if you were to ask me which of my children I prefer,” he says.

“I think this is the only place in the world where they are treated like we treat them. A great instrument should get great music and also a great performer.” A multimillion-dollar violin in hand – most violinists never even get close to a Stradivarius – he pauses for a moment to consider his own place: “Not that I am a great performer. But I do my work.”

**1. Answer the following questions about the text in your own words. (No points will be given for answers copied from the text.)**

- a) Why does Mr. Mosconi say that violins make him sweat?
- b) Why do you think it is so important to play these instruments frequently?
- c) How does he feel about the violins he takes care of?

**2. Explain the meaning of, or give synonyms for the following words or expressions from the text:**

- a) **sweat:**
- b) **valuable:**
- c) **performer:**

**3. Composition (approximately 120 words):** Do you think that music should be a compulsory subject in high school? Why/why not? If you could study music, what instrument would you like to play, and why?