The Lorax, by Dr. Seuss – Worksheet

PART A – While watching the short animated film answer the following questions in DESCRIPTIVE PHRASES or SHORT SENTENCES based on the factual information and your interpretation.

1. The Once-ler describes a "glorious place." Identify and briefly describe at least four living components of the "glorious place."
   a. 
   b. 
   c. 
   d. 

2. Where did the Lorax live and who did he speak for?

3. The Once-ler used what to make Thneeds?

4. How long for a Truffula Tree seed to germinate? And how long to become a sapling (young tree)?

5. Identify and briefly describe three pieces of technology developed by the Once-ler to upgrade his Thneeds industry.
   a. 
   b. 
   c. 

6. Eventually all the trees were cut down, houses were built, and this led to increased what?

7. Where was the waste and garbage dumped from the town and factory?

8. Bar-ba-loots were driven out because of a lack of what?

9. Describe the sky (or air quality) after the Once-ler created his factory.

10. What drove away the Swomee-Swans?

11. Why did the Humming Fish leave?

12. After they cut down the last Truffula Tree, what happened?

13. What did the Lorax leave behind and what did it mean?

14. What could the last Truffula seed be used for?
PART B – POST-VIDEO QUESTIONS: Answer these questions on a separate sheet of paper. Please answer with complete, original thoughts.

1. Have you ever acted like the Once-ler? (explain)
2. Choose a real-life example of whom or what you think the Once-ler represents?
3. Have you ever done anything that you think the Lorax would have done? (explain)
4. Choose a real-life example of whom or what you think the Lorax represents?
5. How could the Once-ler have made Thneeds without destroying the Truffula Trees?
6. What message was the author of The Lorax trying to convey?
7. Besides using a cartoon video, what other ways could this message be shared with other people in the community?
8. The Lorax spoke for trees "for trees have no tongues." What would you choose to speak for, and what would you say?
9. Name an important natural resource in your area, state, or country.
10. Why would the humming fish make reference to Lake Erie, a "real" place in an otherwise fictitious world? (NOTE: Do some post-film research on your own for an environmental issue in the 1970s associated with Lake Erie.)

PART C – Working in groups of 2, answer one of the 10 numbered choices below:

1. Identify and research real-life examples of three of the following items in the story:
   a. Swomee-Swans
   b. Truffula Trees
   c. Brown Bar-ba-loots
   d. Humming Fish
   e. Thneeds
2. Most environmental problems result from a "domino effect" begun by a single action or activity. Select three of the following environmental issues below observed in the "glorious place" and relate them to the development of the Thneeds.
   a. Energy Consumption
   b. Pollution
   c. Waste Disposal / Management
   d. Deforestation
   e. Human Population Explosion
   f. Endangered / Threatened Species
3. The Once-ler, like other humans in business, organized a system to manufacture and distribute his product. Listed below are several parts of a manufacturing process. Describe if and how each of the following was used in the story.
   a. raw materials
   b. product design
   c. labor (workers)
   d. assembly line
   e. energy
   f. shipping, transportation
   g. communication
   h. profits/losses
4. Write a news article that informs the reader about an event from The Lorax.
5. Design a WANTED poster for the "villain" of the story.
6. Draw a map of where the story happened.
7. Draw/paint you favorite part of the story.
8. Draw a series of 4 pictures to summarize the story.
9. Make a plasticine or clay model of the Truffula trees and the Lorax as it would have been at the beginning of the story.
10. Draw a flow diagram to show how the Once-ler devastated the Truffula trees.