

Name:



# SNOW GLOBE SOLASTALGIA

1. Happy moments frozen in time: this is the promise and the appeal of a snow globe. But what happens when happy moments start to melt? What happens when the enchanting, swirling, mesmerizing snow dries up? What happens when nothing happy can stay frozen in time any longer?

2. Solastalgia happens. Solastalgia, a **portmanteau** of the words 'solace' and 'nostalgia,' is a newly coined word that describes the mental or existential distress caused by environmental change. Whether close to home or on a global scale, solastalgia expresses one's feeling of distress associated with environmental change.

3. In many ways, snow globes have always been a symbol of solastalgia. The patented inventor of the snow globe, Erwin Perzy, dreamed up his invention by accident in a country that is famous for snow. Austria is where his invention was born, and this country has always been a beautiful winter haven. Austrians celebrate the snow with winter sports, warm gatherings, and wishful traditions.

4. Therefore, it came to no surprise that when Perzy attempted an experiment to intensify candlelight by using a water-filled globe, floating particles reminded him of the magic of snowfall. People loved the novelty and nostalgia of his accidental invention, so with the help of his brother, he opened a family-ran snow globe shop in the magical city of Vienna where his snow globe business continues to this day. "Nowadays kids have everything... computers... electronic things... [but] when the kids come here, their eyes are wide open, they are enchanted" says Erwin Perzy III in "The family company that invented the snow globe" from BBC.

**1. The author's attention-grabbing strategy in paragraph 1 is most likely designed to...**

- A. Pose a question that the reader will answer.
- B. Pose a solution that is explained throughout the article.
- C. Introduce a symbol that is carried throughout the article.

**2. "Portmanteau" most likely means...**

- A. A word meaning port of man.
- B. A made-up blended word combining two meanings and sounds
- C. A historic word made of two meanings and sounds

**3. Infer why the author emphasizes Austria.**

- A. It's a winter haven full of fun.
- B. It's a winter haven at risk of losing its magic to climate change.
- C. It's the place where snow globes were invented.

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5. The snow globe shop in Vienna, Austria doubles as a museum for all things snow globe, but many of the planet's concerned citizens hope that snow itself doesn't become an archive of the past. By now, most people have witnessed the depressing image of a once mighty polar bear floating on a melting ice chunk of despair. Scientists and animal activist alike want nothing more than to create a real-life snow globe for the polar bear in which his snowy and abundant home will return to a happy place frozen in time.

6. While the starving polar bear has become a morbid mascot of the climate change movement, the danger of global warming now threatens a species much closer to home—humankind. NASA scientists have observed several global climate changes and predict that it will have a profound effect on precipitation patterns that will cause flooding and droughts, heat waves that will rise to deadly extremes, intense hurricanes that will destroy communities, frequent wildfires that will torch precious land and homes, and sea level rise that will expand the ocean into populated land (“The Effects of Climate Change” NASA).

7. Despite the bleak evidence and predictions, there are some things you can do this winter to help preserve seasons vital to us all. Small changes to reduce carbon emissions add up, but big changes make bigger impacts on this urgent mission. Therefore, according to the World Wildlife Fund, one of the best actions you can take is to contact your representatives in Congress to ask them to support climate legislation. Another action you can take is to write a letter to one of your elected representatives at the local and state level to express your concerns about climate change and that you support the implementation of laws that preserve our environment. Next, think about ways you can make a big impact on climate change at your school or in your community. Take action to improve your community's effect on global warming. Lastly, think about small, personal changes you can make in your everyday life to reduce carbon emissions (“What You Can Do to Fight Climate Change”).

8. Unlike an enchanting snow globe with a happy moment frozen in time, the earth isn't sheltered by a protective, impermeable globe. If we want our happy world to remain, we must work together to conserve its wonder, bounty, and vitality. Years from now, we don't want to look back at our once lush home with a sense of solastalgia, wishing we could hold the earth in our hands, shake it up, and watch the gentle, sparkling snowfall capture the magic that once was.

**4. The author's tone in paragraph 5 can best be described as...**

- A. Hopeful
- B. Sad
- C. Troubled

**5. The key word(s) that best show you the tone in paragraph 5 are...**

- A. Concerned citizens hope that snow...
- B. Melting ice chunk of despair
- C. Concerned citizens... archive of the past

**6. The purpose of paragraph 6 is to...**

- A. Provide warning by using valid sources
- B. Provide fiction by using fake-news sources
- C. Provide hope by using testimonial sources

**7. A transition word that could replace “despite” in paragraph 7 is...**

- A. Regardless of
- B. Therefore
- C. In addition to

**8. Which statement best identifies the central idea of the article?**

- A. Snow globes are symbols of climate change.
- B. Human action is required to save winter and the world.
- C. Solastalgia is inevitable.

**9. Which lines best support the central idea?**

- A. If we want our happy world to remain, we must work together...
- B. hold the earth in our hands, shake it up...
- C. with a sense of solastalgia

# SNOW GLOBE SOLASTALGIA

**Directions:** Think of a place that is special to you. A place that you want to shield from the negative effects of climate change. Place a representation of this special place inside the snow globe. Next, write about your special place using imagery and a nostalgic tone. Lastly, end your writing with a commitment or call to action for climate change reform.



Venice is widely regarded as the most romantic city in the world, and for good reason. When my husband and I visited in 2018, it took our breath away. The city was built for beauty, and every detail is designed to heighten the senses. As the gentle water ushers you through the streets, the pink and gold buildings shimmer in its path. Along with the rhythmic lap of waves against the sidewalks, you can hear mouths slurping up delicate homemade pasta. Not only is love in the air in Venice, but so is the sweet smell of the pastel Adriatic Sea. Even without pictures, Venice is ingrained in my memory. I can close my eyes and immediately recall every detail of this stunning city. Unfortunately, my romantic memories of Venice might be the only lasting souvenir of my time there. Venice is now the latest victim of historic flooding from climate change according to Sylvia Poggioli, an NPR senior European correspondent. In the interview following a massive flood in 2019, Poggioli reports, "The spectacular centerpiece of Venice, St Mark's Square, now floods more than 60 times a year, up from four times a year in 1900." She also adds, "Upcoming research conducted with our colleagues at the National Research Center of Venice (CNR) shows that, without intervention, within 50 years this kind of flooding could occur with nearly every high tide. In fact, some experts have argued that Venice will be gone by the year 2100" ("Venice Is The Latest Victim Of Historic Flooding From Climate Change"). Venice, along with the rest of our beautiful earth, deserve our best intervention efforts because a world without beauty is a sad place indeed. I'm now committed to reducing my carbon footprint by walking more and driving less. Each time I stroll down my sidewalk, I picture Venice and imagine the water lapping an inch lower, and an inch lower with each step.

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Directions: Think of a place that is special to Holden. A place that he would want to shield from the negative effects of climate change. Draw a representation of this special place inside the snow globe. Next, write about the place using imagery and a nostalgic tone. Make sure to include details from the novel and two blended quotes parenthetically cited.

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