

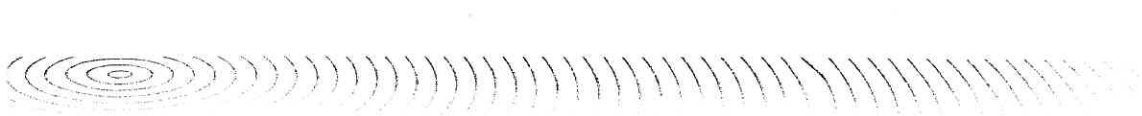
## EVALUATING CONCLUSIONS

**A Deadly Killer Lurks Among Us!**

Read the following editorial that appeared in the Nowheresville Gazette and then answer the questions that follow.

Citizens of Nowheresville, it has come to my attention that the Nowheresville Manufacturing Plant is releasing hydrogen hydroxide into our river and into our air. We must band together and insist the company stop using any of this deadly chemical. Hydrogen hydroxide can kill! Last year alone, four people died after accidentally breathing in excess quantities of hydrogen hydroxide while swimming in the river near the manufacturing plant. Our ground, our air, even the food we eat contains varying quantities of this chemical. Did you know that hydrogen hydroxide is a major component of acid rain? Did you know that it was found in pre-cancerous tumors? Ask yourselves—how much hydrogen hydroxide is present in your body right now? Please, help to stop this threat. Sign the petition to ban hydrogen hydroxide and keep your community safe.

1. After reading the editorial, would you sign the petition to ban hydrogen hydroxide? Why or why not?  
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2. What facts are presented by the editorial? What inferences and conclusions did you make while reading the article? On separate sheet of paper, make a chart that lists the facts in one column, and your inferences and conclusions in another.
3. Would you drink a glass of hydrogen hydroxide? \_\_\_\_\_
4. If a doctor told you that your brain is almost 70% hydrogen hydroxide, how would you react?  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Would you drink a glass of water? \_\_\_\_\_

6. If a doctor told you that your brain is almost 70% water, how would you react?

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7. Hydrogen hydroxide is another name for water. How does knowing this fact change your answers to questions 1, 3 and 4? Why?

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8. The facts the editorial presented were all true, assuming four people drowned in Nowheresville last year. Evaluate the inferences and conclusions you formed now that you have new information. How were your inferences and conclusions biased by the selection of facts and the way in which they were presentation?

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9. How did the author use science facts to mislead the readers? Why do you think he did this?

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