

GRE Verbal Practice Paper 38

Question

School buses transport more than 25 million American students every day, and they provide the safest transportation for children to get to and from school. However, many older school buses emit harmful diesel exhaust that directly affects children. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is ensuring that all new buses meet tighter standards developed to reduce diesel emissions and improve safety. Today's new buses are cleaner—60 times cleaner than buses built before 1990—and feature additional emergency exits, improved mirror systems, and pedestrian safety devices. But replacing America's school bus fleet will take time because diesel school buses can operate for 20 to 30 years. Clean School Bus USA is a national, innovative program designed to help communities reduce emissions from diesel school buses. It provides resources and assistance to fleet owners and operators as well as educators, transportation officials, and community partners committed to improving school bus fleets and protecting children's health.

Adapted from the EPA's National Clean Diesel Campaign educational material.

1. The passage above suggests which of the following about school buses?

- Older buses lack emergency exits and other safety mechanisms.
- Replacement of outdated school buses will happen over the next 20 to 30 years.
- No diesel buses have been made since 1990.
- Fleet owners are more concerned with longevity than safety.
- Buses built after 1990 are safer for both transport and emissions than those built before 1990.

2. Based on the passage above, one could conclude which of the following?

- Although there are programs to assist with replacing fleets, schools still cannot afford it.
- Students who walk to school or travel in a car are more likely to experience an accident.
- The new bus fleets likely include electric or hybrid buses.
- Prior to 1990, no one was concerned about school bus emissions.
- As part of stricter standards, the EPA will require schools to replace their fleets with safer buses.

3. From the passage, select the sentence that best explains why modern buses are safer.

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is ensuring that all new buses meet tighter standards developed to reduce diesel emissions and improve safety.
- School buses transport more than 25 million American students every day, and they provide the safest transportation for children to get to and from school.
- Clean School Bus USA is a national, innovative program designed to help communities reduce emissions from diesel school buses.
- Today's new buses are cleaner—60 times cleaner than buses built before 1990—and feature additional emergency exits, improved mirror systems, and pedestrian safety devices.
- It provides resources and assistance to fleet owners and operators as well as educators, transportation officials, and community partners committed to improving school bus fleets and protecting children's health.

4. The passage suggests which of the following is true? Consider each of the three choices separately, and select all that apply.

- There are greater threats to global biodiversity than invasive species.
- Invasive species can be beneficial to the environments where they are introduced.
- ANS can have significant impacts beyond environmental devastation.