

Links

1. Podcast: http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/podcasts/worldservice/witness/witness_20150211-0850a.mp3
2. Chisso in Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chisso> From this you can link to W. Eugene Smith and Minamata.
3. Good Spanish Language Site: <https://deokis.wordpress.com/2010/08/05/minamata-la-bahia-maldita/>

Link #3 contains photos/videos of the effects mentioned in the podcast - well worth a look.

After listening to the above podcast, find the answers to these questions by using the podcast and/or web.

1. For what is mercury used? Could we do without it?

2. Did Chisso know that a) mercury was going into the river and b) mercury was harmful. Explain your reasoning. Is there any evidence to back up your belief? (Reading the Wikipedia link on Chisso may help inform your answer.)

3. The Chisso executive drank a glass of water to prove the water was safe. What is wrong with simply drinking a glass of water to prove that the mercury is not in the water?

4. Is this kind of thing, mining and dumping, going on today?* If so, give one example of what you mean.

*Hint: Yes it is.

