

Extend Your Listening What's For English

Waste

Pre-Questions

1. Do you know how much waste your country produces per capita?
2. How are people in your country trying to reduce waste?
3. How successful has recycling been in your country?
4. Which country would you guess produces more waste per capita: USA or Germany?
5. Would you suppose that Germany produces less paper waste per person than the USA? YES..... NO.....
6. Which country has a greater percentage of plastics in its waste: USA or Germany?
7. Which of the following countries would you expect to use landfill as a major source of waste disposal: USA, Sweden, Japan?
8. Which country would you expect to use incineration as a major source of waste disposal: South Korea, Japan, Australia?
9. Which country has been most successful at recycling: South Korea, United Kingdom, Sweden?
10. What is a good way to dispose of organic waste: landfill, recycling, composting?

Comprehension and Vocabulary Questions

True or False

1. Germany and the USA produce the same amount of waste per capita.
2. Compared with Germany, the USA produces a greater proportion of organic waste.
3. The most common form of waste in Germany and the USA is paper and cardboard.
4. The author believes that the Americans recycle more of their plastic than the Germans.
5. Landfilling means disposing of waste by dumping and (eventually) burying it.

6. Small island nations tend to avoid landfilling.
7. Finland and Sweden use the same forms of waste disposal.
8. Recycling is significant in the USA and Australia even though landfilling is cheaper.
9. Composting is more common in some Central and Eastern European countries.
10. The author believes that political forces influence the waste disposal choices in many (or most) countries.

Synonyms. Choose the One choice that is **incorrect**.

1. Americans **dispose of** too much organic waste.
 - A. **throw out**
 - B. **consume**
 - C. **chuck out**
 - D. **throw away**

2. Recycling is **growing in popularity** as a form of waste disposal.
 - A. Recycling is **gaining ground** as a form of waste disposal.
 - B. Recycling is **increasing in significance** as a form of waste disposal.
 - C. Recycling is **being promoted** as a form of waste disposal.
 - D. Recycling is **taking off** as a form of waste disposal.

3. Sweden and Japan have **influential** companies that make incineration equipment.
 - A. **powerful**
 - B. **important**
 - C. **corrupt**
 - D. **well-connected**

4. The U.K. uses landfill **to a greater degree** than one might have expected.
 - A. **more likely**
 - B. **much more**
 - C. **more thoroughly**
 - D. **to a larger degree**

5. Where land is **relatively cheap**, landfilling is a common choice.
 - A. **inexpensive**
 - B. **abundant**
 - C. **costs little**
 - D. **depreciated**

Vocabulary Choose the correct word or word form.

1. Waste **disposal / disposing** is a major concern in many countries.
2. Do you know how the U.K. **disposed / disposes** its waste?
3. Where is to **recycle / recycling** especially popular these days?
4. Mexico and Turkey cannot afford **incineration / incinerated** technologies.
5. South Korea uses **landfill / a landfill** but it also **recycled / recycles** more waste than any other country.
6. The only way to decrease our waste is to reduce our **consumption / purchase** of materials.
7. Our town fears that a new **incineration / incinerator** will cause air pollution.
8. We must learn to manage waste **disposal / disposing** in a more effective manner.
9. **Compost / Composting** is a way to convert organic waste into bio gas.
10. Our **landfilling / landfill** is almost full.

Answers

True or False

1. F; 2. T; 3. T; 4. F; 5. T; 6. F; 7. F; 8. T; 9. F; 10.

Synonyms

1. B; 2. C; 3. C; 4. A; 5. B

Correct word or word form

1. disposal; 2. disposes; 3. recycling; 4. incineration; 5. landfill - recycles; 6. consumption; 7. incinerator; 8. disposal; 9. Composting; 10. landfill