

LET'S BEGIN

Do you know? (Put a ✓ or ✕ in the boxes:)

- ☐ Home garbage can be used to generate electricity.
- ☐ Water from sewages can be reused after treatment.
- ☐ Waste paper can be recycled to make new paper.
- ☐ Broken glass can be moulded into new items.
- ☐ Waste metal can be recycled to make new things.
- ☐ Pollution can be controlled by recycling the waste.



Exchange your notebook with your friend and see if he knows everything.

LET'S READ

Do you know that we can save our valuable resources by reusing the waste that is collected everyday in our cities and villages? We should reuse the waste instead of burning it because burning of rubbish creates pollution problems. The process by which we make waste reusable is called 'recycling'.

Various kinds of wastes – sewage, paper, garbage, industrial chemicals, etc. can be recycled for beneficial use. Can you imagine what would be the benefits if all the newspapers in the world are recycled to avoid cutting of trees for making paper? It is estimated that about 75,000 trees would be saved in the United States of America every week just by recycling the Sunday edition of *New York Times*.

Recycling is not very expensive. After the material has been collected from the consumers, it must be cleaned, sold to an industry and transported, re-manufactured and sold once again to consumers. The European countries have established bottle banks into which used bottles can be returned. Usually, there are no payments – people throw bottles



in huge containers at their own will. In Switzerland and Denmark, the bottle banks recover 50% of the glass that these countries need. In Britain 12% is recovered and in India, used bottles are sold which are then reused. In countries where glass milk bottles are used, an average bottle makes about 30 trips to and from the dairy.

In recycling glass, the broken glass, known as ‘cullet’, is re-melted in furnaces and then shaped into new bottles or other objects. Thus, we can conserve our resources.



Half the world’s waste consists of paper. If we use recycled paper, we can save our forests, a rich and vital resource crucial for environmental balance. Many countries have stopped importing newspaper pulp for their paper mills. Instead, they import waste paper and re-pulp it and then reuse it not only for newspapers but also for books, etc. Japan now makes half of its paper by recycling.

Plastic scraps can be recycled and shaped into different objects. Though its recycling is not simple, it is not impossible either. We can recycle plastic waste and make durable fencing and thus save timber. However, plastic products, particularly plastic bags, are not good for health. People throughout the world still use plastic bags which are dangerous for one’s health. There is a campaign going on in the world today against the use of plastic bags. Experts recommend the use of jute or cloth bags to avoid the dangers that plastic bags pose to human beings. A bigger danger is the careless dumping of plastics, especially polythene bags. Plastics do not biodegrade in nature. If you bury a plastic bag in the ground, it can still be dug out intact after 500 years. Worse still, certain poisonous chemicals leak from plastic and get into water making it unfit for use. Carelessly thrown plastics blow around in the surroundings, get into soil, choke drains and waterways, and sometimes kill animals that eat them by mistake. They can also be collected and illegally sold back into the market, causing serious health risks.



Metal is the most important product that can be recycled easily. The car that you own or a car on the road will consist partly of earlier cars that have been scrapped and recycled into new steel and other material.

In India, efforts are on to re-utilise and recycle the waste through treatment plants in many parts of the country. The National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) at Nagpur is also involved in developing suitable technologies for the treatment of waste-water, and utilisation of domestic and industrial waste-water in agriculture after purifying it. One purifying plant in Gujarat is able to treat 450, 000 litres of waste daily and generating energy equal to that produced by 10 tonnes of coal. But, this is not enough. There is a lot of waste material that we do not reuse yet. Our population is growing at a fast rate, but our resources, especially the natural resources, are very limited. We cannot afford to waste our resources when there are means and methods available to reuse them. Recycling the waste material not only saves money but also helps the environment. Do you know the **three R's** of the modern world? These are:

- **Reduce** (meaning, let's minimize our waste output).
- **Reuse** (don't simply use and throw; reuse whatever you can).
- **Recycle** (things like paper, plastic, glass, metal, etc. should all be recycled, i.e., converted to fresh raw material).

So, in recycling we will be saving our lives from the hazards of pollution. It would also mean saving our valuable resources.

Glossary

<i>thermal</i>	: connected with heat
<i>pollutants</i>	: things that make air, water, etc. dirty
<i>bottle bank</i>	: Huge containers that can be used to throw used bottles into it which are later on taken to a furnace for recycling
<i>scrap</i>	: things which are of no use



furnace : a container which is heated to a very high temperature, so that substances that are put inside it, such as metal, will melt or burn

timber : wood used for buildings

WORKING WITH THE TEXT

I. Answer these questions:

1. Why should we recycle things?
2. Why is it easy to recycle plastic or metal?
3. Why is plastic dangerous for health?
4. What are the benefits of recycling paper?
5. Two ways of recycling glass are mentioned in the text. What are they?
6. For what purposes can waste water be easily reused?
7. Mention the efforts that India is making in recycling things.

II. Say whether the following statements are right or wrong. Put ✓ or ✗ in the boxes:

1. The Americans can save seventy-five thousand trees if they recycle *New York Times*' Sunday issue. ☐
2. We cannot recycle plastic. ☐
3. 'Cullet' is another name for broken glass. ☐
4. Paper waste makes one-fourth of world's total waste. ☐
5. The Swiss and the Dutch recover 50% of their glass from recycling. ☐
6. India needs to do more to recycle her waste. ☐



LANGUAGE WORK

- I. 'Recycle' means to do a thing again so that it becomes a new thing. It is made up of two parts: 're' meaning 'again' and 'cycle' meaning 'a series of repetitive actions'. You can use 're' as a prefix with many words (a 'prefix' is a word or part of a word that is added before another word to enlarge the meaning of that word). For example, **re-write, re-shape, re-do, re-gain, re-employ**, etc. (NOTE: You can join these words or alternatively use the hyphen). The following are some other prefixes (meaning is given in brackets):

post-(after) as in **post-war**

non- (not) as in **non-violence**

anti- (against) as in **anti-social**

bi-(twice)as in **bi-annual**

il-(not) as in illegal

im- (not) as in impossible

Now guess the meanings of the underlined expressions in the following sentences. You can use a dictionary if necessary.

- i. The school is celebrating its bicentenary next week.
 - ii. He's been imprisoned for his anti-government views.
 - iii. The President will address the post-lunch session of the parliament.
 - iv. Many employees were arrested for non-payment of their taxes.
 - v. This note from Grandpa is almost illegible.
 - vi. I don't like that boy. He's very impolite.
 - vii. We'll have to re-organise the groups to accommodate more girls.
- II. Dictionaries do not only give you the meaning/usage of words. They also tell you how many sound-groups called 'syllables' a word has. Most of the dictionaries show syllable division by putting a dot [.] between each syllable. For instance, 'cat'



is a single syllabic word; therefore it will have no dot shown; 'rubbish' is a two-syllabic word which contains a dot in the middle [rub.bish]. You can have even more than two syllables in a word, as in 'computer' [com.pu.ter].

Guess how many syllables these words have. Consult the dictionary only after you have finished. All the words are from the text.

plastic	bum	different	cullet
metal	import	furnace	pulp
recover	consist	western	money

GRAMMAR WORK

- I. Glass, paper, and metal are nouns which cannot be counted. You cannot use 'one', 'two', etc. with them. You can say: 'some glass', 'a sheet/piece of paper', 'some metal,' etc. They are called **uncountable nouns**. They are different from *cat*, *boy*, and *watch* (you can say: 'a cat/two cats, one boy/two boys, and a watch/many watches') which can be counted and are therefore called countable nouns. You can use numerals before them and add -s to form plurals.

Now complete this list by putting a/an or some before the words:

an egg	some cheese
_____ apple	_____ fly
_____ sweets	_____ orange
_____ bread	_____ bananas
_____ meat	_____ rice
_____ sugar	_____ pen





II. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb given in the brackets. You will need to use **is/am/are** and add **-ing** to the main verb.

The President _____ (address) the nation on the eve of Independence Day. This speech is likely to interest everybody. He _____ (call upon) people to fight narrow-mindedness, illiteracy and poverty. All the TV channels _____ (telecast) the address live. If you wish, you can listen to the speech from any of the channels in your home. After his speech, the President _____ (leave) for Chennai where he _____ (inaugurate) the newly-built hospital building.

The Prime Minister and his cabinet colleagues _____ (accompany) him to Chennai. I _____ (go) to listen to the address as soon as it is telecast. My friends, Hameed and Tashi, _____ (come) to my home. You know, they don't have a TV set in their hostel. If you like, you can come too.



LET'S TALK

What are some of the things that we usually recycle at home? (e.g. use empty bottles as containers, storing pickles, old boxes for keeping odd items, important papers, old calendars for lining shelves and covering notebooks, etc). Talk to a partner and make a list. Compare your answers with another pair.



LET'S WRITE

Read this notice and then write a similar notice requesting people to throw all vegetable refuse in a compost pit.

MUNICIPALITY AT YOUR SERVICE
DO NOT LITTER!
USE DUSTBINS.
KEEP YOUR CITY CLEAN!



DO IT YOURSELF

Many English words have entered other languages. There must be several words in your mother tongue that have come from English. Make a list of as many as you can of such words. Also, say whether these words are pronounced in the same way as in English or differently.

Tongue Twister

If you tell Tom to tell a tongue-twister his tongue
will be twisted as tongue twister twists tongues.