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IELTS LISTENING – A Project on Household Waste Recycling S31T4



IELTS Listening A Project on Household Waste Recycling listening practice test has 10 questions belongs to the Leisure & Entertainment subject.

Well, my group has been doing a project on how household waste is recycled in Britain.

We were quite shocked to discover that only 9% of people here in the UK make an effort to recycle their household waste. This is a lower figure than in most other European countries and needs to increase dramatically in the next few years if the government is going to meet its recycling targets.

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Questions 31 - 35 Complete the sentences below. Type NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer. HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING 31 By 2008, carbon dioxide emissions need to be Type correct answers here lower than in 1990. 32 Recycling saves energy and reduces emissions from landfill sites and Type correct answers here 33 People say that one problem is a lack of ' Type correct answers here sites for household waste. 34 Glass designed to be utilised for Type correct answers here cannot be recycled with other types of glass. 35 In the UK, Type correct answers here tons of glass is recycled each year.

The agreed targets for the UK mean that by 2008 we must reduce our carbon dioxide emissions by Q_{31} 12.5%, compared with 1990. And recycling can help to achieve that goal, in two main ways: the production of recycled glass and paper uses much less energy than producing them from virgin materials, and also recycling reduces greenhouse gas emissions from landfill sites and Q_{32} incineration plants.

As part of our project, we carried out a survey of people in the street, and the thing that came up over and over again is that people don't think it's easy enough to recycle their waste. One problem is that there aren't enough Q₃₃ 'drop-off' sites, that is, the places where the public are supposed to take their waste.

We also discovered that waste that's collected from householders is taken to places called 'bring banks', for sorting and baling into loads. One problem here is taking out everything that shouldn't have been placed in the recycling containers: people put all sorts of things into bottle banks, like plastic bags and even broken umbrellas. All this has to be removed by hand. Another difficulty is that toughened glass used for Q_{34} cooking doesn't fully melt at the temperature required for other glass, and so that also has to be picked out by hand.

Glass is easy to recycle because it can be reused over and over again without becoming weaker. Two million tons of glass is thrown away each year, that is, seven billion bottles and jars; but only Q₃₅ 500.000 tons of that is collected and recycled.

Companies working with recycled materials		
Material	Company	Product that the company manufactures
glass	CLA Aggregates	material used for making 36 Type correct answers her
paper	Martin's	office stationery
	Paper save	37 Type correct answers here for use on farms
plastic	Pacrite	38 Type correct answers here for collecting waste
	Waterford	39 Type correct answers here

Oddly enough, half the glass that's collected is green, and a lot of that is imported, so more green glass is recycled than the UK needs. As a result, new uses are being developed for recycled glass, particularly green glass, for example in fiberglass manufacture and water filtration. A company called CLF Aggregates makes a product for Q₃₆ roads, and 30% of the material is crushed glass. For recycling paper, Britain comes second in Europe with 40%, behind Germany's amazing 70%.

When recycling started, there were quality problems, so it was difficult to use recycled paper in office printers. But these problems have now been solved, and Martin's, based in South London, produces a range of office stationery which is 100% recycled, costs the same as normal paper, and is of equally high quality.

But this high quality comes at a cost in terms of the waste produced during the process. Over a third of the waste paper that comes in can't be used in recycled paper, leaving the question of what to do with it. One firm, Papersave, currently sells this to farmers as a Q_{37} soil conditioner, though this practice will soon be banned because of transport costs and the smell, and the company is looking into the possibility of alternative uses.

Plastic causes problems, because there are so many different types of plastic in use today, and each one has to be dealt with differently. Pacrite recycles all sorts of things, from bottles to car bumpers, and one of its most successful activities is recycling plastic bottles to make Q_{38} containers which are used all over the country to collect waste.

The Save-a-Cup scheme was set up by the vending and plastics industries to recycle as many as possible of the three-and-a-half billion polystyrene cups used each year. At the moment 500 million poly cups are collected, processed, and sold on to other businesses, such as Waterford, which turns the cups into Q_{39} pencils, and Johnson & Jones, a Welsh-based firm, which has developed a wide variety of items, including Q₄₀ business cards.

Well, to sum up, there seems to be plenty of research going on into how to reuse materials, but the biggest problem is getting people to think about recycling instead of throwing things away. At least doing the research made us much more careful.

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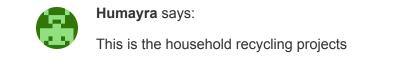
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