

Recycling

Level

Pre-Intermediate/Intermediate

Tasks

- Dividing a list of waste products into three groups: household, office and industrial
- Completing the key to a graph showing countries' performance in recycling
- Reading an article on recycling
- Making sentences from derivatives of the word 'recycle'
- Replying to a memo asking for recycling suggestions in the student's own company

How to use the lesson

- 1 Tell students the title of the lesson (Recycling). Write three headings on the board: 'household waste', 'office waste' and 'industrial waste'. Hand out the worksheet and ask students to divide the list of waste products into the three groups. Ask them to check their answers with a partner and elicit any examples of disagreement. Students should justify their answers with examples.

Possible answers

Household waste: plastic bags / furniture / metal cans / clothing / newspapers / glass bottles / cardboard boxes

Office waste: photocopies / inkjet cartridges

Industrial waste: toxic paint / oil

Household and office: envelopes/ mobile phones/ computers

Household and industrial: batteries

- 2 Ask students to complete the key to the graph by filling in the names of the four countries.
- 3 Ask students to scan the first paragraph to check their answers.

Answers

The Netherlands (59%) / Germany (50%+) / Sweden (>40%) / UK (14.5%)

- 4 Ask students to read the whole article and answer the question. If appropriate, ask students to estimate their own countries' performance in recycling.
- 5 Ask students which words in the list are used as nouns, verbs, adjectives and past participles. Students should create sentences with the words e.g. 'we use *recycled* paper at work'.
- 6 Divide students into small groups, by department or company as appropriate. Students discuss and reply to the memo (in a report format if they know how). Ask each group to present their ideas to the rest of the class. The class then vote for the best ideas and/or the best presentation.

Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.wrap.org.uk/>

<http://www.recycledproducts.org.uk>