## Reading

**Identify the main idea in the text and paragraphs.**

### Energy And Power-Saving

1. **Switch off anything that consumes energy when not in use.**



- If you're not using it, turn it off. This goes for lights, televisions, computers, printers, and so on.
- Put timers on lamps and use them to turn off at the same time each day. Timers like these can be found in hardware stores and they can be plugged into outlets, then control the power to your lamp.

2. **Unplug devices when possible.**



- Leaving devices plugged in, such as laptop chargers or toasters, can use "phantom" energy. Even when an appliance is turned off, it may still use power. It is best to unplug anything that you do not anticipate using in the next 36 hours (or more).
- Use a power strip to turn lots of things off with the flip of a single switch. You can plug all your devices in one area—say, your computer—into a power strip. When you're done, simply turn the power strip off with the switch.
- Measure the energy your devices use or look up typical energy usTo measure usage yourself, use a Kill-a-Watt. You plug an appliance in through the Kill-A-Watt, and it measures the power usThis tool can also tell you whether a particular appliance or device draws power when it is turned off.

3. **Trade in your dryer for a good old-fashioned clothesline.**



- Air drying leaves your clothes smelling fresh and is environmentally friendly. Tumble dryers are among the biggest energy users in most households, after the refrigerator and air conditioner. If you do use a dryer, make sure to keep the vent clear, for safety as well as efficiency. Run your air.

4. **Run your air conditioner sparingly or not at all.**



- Air conditioners use a great deal of electricity.
- Use natural ventilation or a fan to keep cool, as much as possible.
- If you do use an air conditioner, set it to a slightly lower temperature than outsidRemember that setting the temperature lower uses more electricity, and it won't cool things off any faster.

5. **Recycle all you can.**



- If you have curbside recycling, use it. Be sure to separate your recycling into glass, metal, paper and so on.
- Take special trips to a recycling center if you don't have curbside recycling, or if you need to recycle certain materials not accepted by your recycling service.

6. **Conserve water.**



- The average family of four in the U.S. uses about 400 gallons of water every day. Make conscious choices to lower your consumption of water.
- Take shorter showers or fill the bathtub only one-quarter to one-third full.
- Turn off the faucet while you brush your teeth.
- Install low flow faucets (taps) or aerators, low-flow shower heads, and low-flush toilets.
- Run your dishwasher only when it is completely full.
- Wash full loads of laundry in a washing machinChoose a front-load machine if possible.
- If you hand wash your car, park it on your lawn and use buckets and sponges. Use the hose to rinsUse a hose nozzle to stop the water or turn the hose off between rinses. Keep in mind, however, that the soap and other cleaning products might go down the storm drain (if you have one), leading to pollution.
- If you have a swimming pool, use pool covers to reduce evaporation and keep leaves out.
- Plant drought tolerant landscaping, and consider xeriscaping. Maintain your outdoor irrigation and water no more than is necessary.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Choose the correct answers from a, b, c or d:

1. **The best title for this text:**
   a. Minimising the use of electrical devices.
   b. Recycling waste materiel to preserve natural resources.
   c. Lowering the consumption of water.
   d. Changing our habits to save the environment.
2. **The pronoun them in the first section refers to:**
   a. lamps
   b. computers
   c. printers
   d. timers
3. **A synonym for the word devices (second section):**
   a. chargers
   b. appliances
   c. materials
   d. curbsides
4. **"Phantom energy" is used when devices are:**
   a. plugged in
   b. unplugged
   c. turned off
   d. turned on
5. **The word unplug means:**
   a. disconnect
   b. attach
   c. turn off
   d. switch off
6. **Drying clothes on clothes lines:**
   a. is not friendly to the environment
   b. makes clothes smelly
   c. is an old fashioned way to dry clothes
   d. is safer and more efficient
7. **The third most energy-consuming devices is**
   a. refrigerators
   b. conditioners
   c. toasters
   d. dryers
8. **Which statement is correct?**
   a. Setting the temperature of the conditioner lower saves energy.
   b. Setting the temperature of the conditioner lower cools things faster.
   c. Setting the conditioner a little lower than outside saves energy.
   d. Setting the conditioner lower decreases the use of electricity.
9. **Make conscious choices to lower your consumption of water. The word consumption is a/an:**
   a. verb
   b. noun
   c. adjective
   d. adverb
10. **It is advisable to cover swimming pools to:**
    a. reduce evaporation
    b. keep leaves out
    c. decrease evaporation and to keep leaves out
    d. increase the level of water
11. **The main idea in the last part:**
    a. How to use your dishwasher and washing machine without consuming much water
    b. How to wash your car with minimum water
    c. How to use bathroom water economicaly
    d. How to minimize consumption of water

LIVEWORKSHEETS