



Name _____

Date _____

RECYCLING

Have you ever thought about the fact that most of what you own will one day be thrown out? Think about your clothes, the TV, and the stove. They will tear or break down. Or you may just want to get new, better things. But where do things go when you throw them out?

The bad news is that most of it goes to a landfill. A landfill is a big hole in the ground. It may have a concrete or plastic liner. This liner keeps chemicals from seeping into the groundwater around the landfill. Trash trucks filled with all the things that people throw out go to the landfill. They dump their loads into the hole. Bulldozers cover everything with soil. But there is a better way. And since we are running out of landfill space, more people are doing it.

The better way is recycling. Recycling lets many things be used again. Give away an old TV or stove. They can be fixed so that someone else can use them. Clothes can be sent to people who need them. Most glass, paper, plastic, and metal is recyclable. When people recycle these things, it helps the environment. It saves space in landfills. (Paper takes up more space in landfills than any other thing!) And instead of wasting these materials, they get used again.

Some people have recycle bins. They put their paper, metal, glass, and plastic into the bin. A special truck takes these things to a processing center. Other people must drive to a recycling center and drop off their things.

What happens at the recycling center? Paper is shredded and then mixed with water and wood pulp to make new paper. Glass, metal, and plastics are melted down. Then they are poured into molds to form new things. Glass jars are melted down and become new glass jars. Recycling lets things be used over and over.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Which of the following cannot be recycled?
 - a. dirty paper
 - b. dirty banana
 - c. plastic bag
 - d. soda can
2. What happens to glass jars that you throw out instead of recycle?
 - a. People dig through the trash, find them, and send them to a recycling center.
 - b. They get reused as food containers.
 - c. They take up space in a landfill.
 - d. They slowly rot and turn back into soil.
3. What is the most important reason to recycle paper?
 - a. It saves trees from being cut down.
 - b. It will keep us from running out of paper.
 - c. It keeps the cost of paper low.
 - d. A lot of people are doing it.
4. Which of the following is **true**?
 - a. Some people have to drive their things to a recycling center.
 - b. We have a lot of space available for landfills.
 - c. Glass takes up more space in landfills than any other thing.
 - d. Anything is recyclable.



Name _____ Date _____

CITIZEN TEST

Naturalized citizens are not born in the United States or its territories. They become citizens by fulfilling certain requirements. A requirement is something needed. What are some requirements to become a naturalized citizen?

One must be at least 18 years old. One must have good moral character. If one is moral, one is good. One does not commit crimes or hurt others. One must have lived in the United States for at least five years. One must pass two tests. One test is an English test. The other is a civics test. The civics test is on American history and government.

Not all people have to meet these requirements. Sometimes there are exceptions. Children can be naturalized. They do not have to be 18 years old. They can be naturalized if their parents apply for them. Sometimes older people do not have to learn English. Exceptions are made case by case.

Which president is called “the father of our country”? How many senators are in Congress? What is the capital of your state? Where is the White House located? What do the stars on our flag mean? These five questions are from a list of 96 questions. The list is for the civics test. People can use the list to study for the test. The test they take will not have all 96 questions. The test will only have some of the 96 questions.

What are the answers to the sample questions? The first answer is George Washington. He is the “father of our country.” The second answer is 100. We have 50 states. We have two senators from each state. This means we have 100 senators. There are 50 answers to the third question! Each state has a different capital. The answer to the fourth question is Washington, D.C. Our White House is located there. The last question is about our flag. There are 50 stars on the flag. Each star stands for a state. How did you do on the questions? Did you know about our government?

STORY QUESTIONS

- This story is mainly about . . .
 - who is a citizen.
 - the United States.
 - requirements for some citizens.
 - what to study for tests.
- How many questions are on the study list for the civics test?
 - 18
 - 50
 - 100
 - 96
- What question would most likely be on a civics test?
 - Who elects the president of the United States?
 - What ocean is the biggest ocean?
 - Do you know who invented the first car?
 - How old are you?
- How can a child become a naturalized citizen?
 - Children cannot become naturalized citizens.
 - The child learns to speak English.
 - The child is born in the United States or its territories.
 - The child’s parents apply for the child to become a citizen.



Name _____

Date _____

WHAT IS A BLOG?

A blog is a page on the Internet. The term “blog” used to refer to a web log. People used web logs to list links to various websites. They shared them with others. In other words, they kept logs of places they visited on the Internet. These web logs would have links on them. The term “link” is short for “hyperlink.” It’s a way to connect one webpage to another. When you click on a link, a new page will open.

Over time, people began to use blogs to write personal comments and reflections. Blogs became a form of online journaling. Blogs provide a place for readers to write what they think. Ideally, others will read the blog and comment with their reactions to what they have read. This will result in an ongoing conversation. Many teachers now use blogs with their students. Some blogs just have news and information. These blogs do not usually lend themselves to comments.

People also use blogs to list, or “log,” other blogs they like or their favorite websites. Often a blog will focus on a particular topic or issue. Blogs may contain links to other websites, pictures, lists, or videos. On the Internet, the blog displays the most recent entries first.

Blogs allow a group of people to communicate with each other on different topics. This allows people to create their own publishing space with information, links, and ideas they may want to share.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. You can find a blog . . .
 - a. on television.
 - b. in a newspaper.
 - c. on the Internet.
 - d. at the store.
2. A hyperlink is . . .
 - a. something that cannot control itself.
 - b. a way to connect two computers together.
 - c. a way to connect one webpage to another.
 - d. a new computer game.
3. Which type of blog usually gets fewer comments from readers?
 - a. information blogs
 - b. personal blogs
 - c. blogs that ask readers questions
 - d. blogs with links to favorite websites
4. Why would someone want to create a blog?
 - a. to try to use the telephone less
 - b. because the Internet won’t work without it
 - c. because the teacher said to
 - d. to communicate with others online