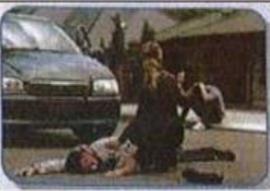


Unit 1

I. Vocab List

Images	Vocabulary
	<p>adverse ['ædvɜ:rs]</p> <p><i>adj.</i> Something that has an adverse effect can be harmful, dangerous, or unfavorable.</p> <p><i>I worry that the tornado will have an adverse effect on the farm.</i></p>
	<p>alternate ['ɔ:lternət]</p> <p><i>adj.</i> An alternate option is a different option.</p> <p><i>Taking the bus and driving to work are alternate ways to travel.</i></p>
	<p>biodegradable [ˌbaɪəʊdɪ'greɪdəbl]</p> <p><i>adj.</i> Materials that are biodegradable break down naturally into substances that do not harm the environment.</p> <p><i>I use biodegradable compost to feed my garden.</i></p>
	<p>boxed [bɒkst]</p> <p><i>adj.</i> When something is boxed, it is inside a package.</p> <p><i>Justine brought a boxed gift to the birthday party.</i></p>
	<p>choke [tʃəʊk]</p> <p><i>v.</i> If you choke on something, it stops you from breathing.</p> <p><i>The gum Malinda swallowed made her choke.</i></p>
	<p>convenient [kən'vi:niənt]</p> <p><i>adj.</i> When something is convenient, it saves you time or effort.</p> <p><i>Walking through the park is a convenient way to exercise on the way to work.</i></p>
	<p>discard [dɪs'kɑ:rd]</p> <p><i>v.</i> To discard something is to throw it away.</p> <p><i>After repairing the window, discard any broken glass.</i></p>
	<p>dolphin ['dɒlfɪn]</p> <p><i>n.</i> A dolphin is a large sea mammal that breathes air.</p> <p><i>Intelligent dolphins have learned to communicate with humans.</i></p>

	<p>ecologically [,i:kə' lɒdʒɪkli] <i>adv.</i> Ecologically means that something is done in a way that concerns living organisms and the environment. <i>We planned our garden according to ecologically correct practices.</i></p>
	<p>fatal ['feɪtl] <i>adj.</i> Something that is fatal results in someone's death. <i>Being shot by the attacker proved fatal to the victim.</i></p>
	<p>incidence ['ɪnsɪdəns] <i>n.</i> The number of times something happens is the incidence of the event. <i>We need to increase the incidence of success in school.</i></p>
	<p>municipal [mju:' nɪsɪpl] <i>adj.</i> Municipal means that something belongs to a city or local government. <i>The municipal parking lot downtown can fit one hundred cars.</i></p>
	<p>overuse [,əʊvər' ju:z] <i>v.</i> Overuse occurs when something is utilized too many times. <i>Rochelle's overuse of the exercise bike caused the gears to break.</i></p>
	<p>pond [pɒnd] <i>n.</i> A pond is a freshwater body that is smaller than a lake. <i>I learned to swim at the pond behind the recreation center.</i></p>
	<p>recycle [,ri:' sɑ:kl] <i>v.</i> When you recycle an object, you use its parts to make something else. <i>We recycle our newspapers so that they can be made into packing boxes.</i></p>
	<p>reusable [,ri:' ju:zəbl] <i>adj.</i> An object that is reusable can be utilized over and over again. <i>Saburo keeps his empty jelly jars because they are reusable for storing sewing supplies.</i></p>
	<p>stuffed [stʌft] <i>adj.</i> When something is stuffed, it is pushed into a small space. <i>The newspapers were all stuffed into the drawer.</i></p>

	<p>tragic ['trædʒɪk] <i>adj.</i> A tragic event causes sadness because it might involve death or suffering. <i>The entire community attended the memorial service for the victims of the tragic fire.</i></p>
	<p>utilize ['ju:təlaɪz] <i>v.</i> To utilize something is to use it for a specific purpose. <i>The team can utilize the lab equipment to complete the experiment.</i></p>
	<p>whale [weɪl] <i>n.</i> A whale is a very large mammal that lives in the ocean. <i>We were surprised when a whale surfaced next to our boat.</i></p>

II. Exercises

A. Circle the word that fits the definition.

- having a bad effect on something

a. adverse b. convenient c. municipal d. overuse
- breakable into natural pieces

a. alternately b. biodegradable c. chokable d. discardable
- a small body of water

a. boxed b. ecologically c. fatal d. pond
- to use an alternative to throwing something away

a. discard b. recycle c. tragic d. whales
- how many times something happens

a. dolphins b. incidence c. stuffed d. utilized

B. Circle the two words in each group that are most closely related.

1. a. recycle b. oceans c. reusable d. countries
2. a. whales b. flyers c. trees d. dolphins
3. a. scientifically b. ecologically c. easily d. hurriedly
4. a. deadly b. fatal c. sickly d. mythical
5. a. squared b. opened c. boxed d. packaged

C. Write the word from the word bank that best fits each sentence.**WORD BANK**

alternate	choke	pond	recycle	reusable
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1. When I walk past the factory, I _____ on the smells.
2. The _____ is full of fish.
3. The _____ route to the airport takes much longer than this route.
4. A broken glass is not _____ because of its jagged edges.
5. You can _____ old cans to be used in new products.

D. Check (✓) the one that best fits the blank.

1. Because we chose a convenient location, our friends _____.
 a. arrived on time
 b. traveled a long time

2. A tragic misunderstanding resulted in her _____.
- a. award for perfect attendance
 - b. dismissal from her job
3. I utilized the fastest delivery service, so _____.
- a. let's find the closest restaurant
 - b. you'll get your gift soon
4. Because he stuffed his suitcase with too much clothing, _____.
- a. it broke open on the airplane
 - b. it fit perfectly into the small space
5. Kelly boxed the old clothing so it would _____.
- a. be easy to wash
 - b. stay clean in storage

III. Reading comprehension

Environment Over Convenience

Plastic shopping bags are **utilized** almost everywhere. They are lightweight, strong, and inexpensive. Customers like them because they make carrying goods so **convenient**. Stores of all kinds print advertising messages on the bags and give them to customers. Why then, are so many countries regulating or even banning their use?

Unfortunately, because of these very attributes, plastic bags have an **adverse** effect on the environment. Their low cost leads to their **overuse**. For example, environmental groups have estimated that in Taiwan, citizens used to **discard** 16 million plastic bags a day. Residents

of the state of Massachusetts in the United States used more than two billion plastic bags per year. Since plastic is made from chemicals found in oil, these single-use bags never break down and decay. When they are thrown away, they last forever—along roads, in **ponds**, and eventually, in the oceans. There is no proven or efficient way to remove plastics once they enter large bodies of water.

Some animals that dwell in the sea, such as turtles and **dolphins**, mistake plastic bags for food. If a bag becomes **stuffed** down their throats, it can cause **fatal** suffocation. Thousands of animals **choke** on the bags every year. Eventually, the plastic fragments may break down into smaller pieces, but they can still be ingested by a wide range of sea animals, from oysters to **whales**. In this way, microplastics enter the human food chain and cause **tragic** damage to people's health.

Beginning around the year 2000, cities, provinces, and entire countries decided to take action against this form of pollution. At first, **municipal** governments tried to minimize the use of these bags by requiring stores to charge customers for each one. This reduced the **incidence** of bags entering the waste stream, yet billions of bags were still being thrown out each day. As the costs of trying to clean the environment rose, more places enacted outright bans on the bags.

Now, **ecologically**-conscious people around the world use **alternate** means of carrying packages. They bring their own **reusable** bags when they go shopping, pack their purchases in paper bags, **recycle** the bags in special collection bins, or have their purchases **boxed** and delivered to their homes in **biodegradable** packaging.

Part. A. Mark each statement T for true or F for false.

1. _____ People in Taiwan used to discard up to two billion plastic bags a day.
2. _____ Discarded plastic bags can last forever.
3. _____ Plastic enters the human food chain when sea animals eat small bits of plastic bags.
4. _____ Some municipalities banned plastic bags when the costs to produce them became too high.
5. _____ People can use fewer plastic bags by having goods delivered to them in recyclable packages.

Part B. Answer the questions.

1. What is this reading about?
 - a. Users of plastic bags
 - b. How to use plastic bags
 - c. How to make plastic bags
 - d. The impact of plastic bags
2. Why are so many plastic bags used?
 - a. Because they are durable and can be reused many times.
 - b. Because they are cheap and convenient to use.
 - c. Because they help protect the environment.
 - d. Because they are hard to find in stores.
3. Why don't plastic bags decay after they are discarded?
 - a. Because they are made from chemicals found in oil.
 - b. Because they are too small to decompose.
 - c. Because they easily break down and disappear.
 - d. Because they are recycled right after being discarded.