

Waste Management Essentials

Waste Management · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. What is the process of turning organic waste into nutrient-rich soil called?

- A) Incineration
- B) Composting**
- C) Landfilling
- D) Refining

2. Which material can be recycled indefinitely without losing its quality?

- A) Plastic
- B) Paper
- C) Glass**
- D) Cardboard

3. What is the primary purpose of a landfill liner?

- A) To prevent chemicals from leaking into groundwater**
- B) To make the trash smell better
- C) To speed up decomposition
- D) To provide heat for the area

4. Which of these items is typically considered 'e-waste'?

- A) Apple cores
- B) Old smartphones**
- C) Grass clippings
- D) Cardboard boxes

5. What does the 'chasing arrows' symbol on a plastic item represent?

- A) The item is always biodegradable
- B) The item is made of recycled content
- C) The item is recyclable, but may depend on local facilities**
- D) The item is toxic

6. Approximately how long does it take for a plastic bottle to decompose in a landfill?

- A) 10 years
- B) 50 years
- C) 450 years**
- D) 1,000 years

7. Which of these materials is a major source of methane gas in landfills?

- A) Aluminum
- B) Glass
- C) Food scraps**
- D) Polystyrene

8. What is 'upcycling'?

- A) Burying waste deep underground
- B) Converting waste into a new product of higher value**
- C) Burning waste for electricity
- D) Sorting waste into colored bins

9. Which gas is often captured from landfills to be used as a source of energy?

- A) Oxygen
- B) Methane**
- C) Nitrogen
- D) Helium

10. Why should batteries not be thrown in regular household trash bins?

- A) They are too heavy
- B) They contain toxic chemicals that can leak**
- C) They make the trash bin smell
- D) They are too large to fit in trucks

11. What is the term for waste that cannot be recycled or composted and must be sent to a landfill?

- A) Residual waste**
- B) Raw waste
- C) Renewable waste
- D) Refined waste

12. Which common material accounts for the largest portion of municipal solid waste by weight?

- A) Metal
- B) Glass
- C) Paper and paperboard**
- D) Rubber

13. What is the main environmental benefit of recycling aluminum cans?

- A) It creates more jobs than plastic recycling
- B) It saves a significant amount of energy compared to making new cans**
- C) It prevents the cans from floating in the ocean
- D) It makes the cans stronger

14. Which of these items is generally NOT accepted in standard curbside recycling bins?

- A) Clean cardboard
- B) Plastic bottles
- C) Greasy pizza boxes**
- D) Metal soda cans

15. What is the '3R' hierarchy of waste management?

- A) Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**
- B) Repair, Remove, Refine
- C) Restore, Return, Renew
- D) Reject, Replace, Recycle

16. What happens to waste during the process of incineration?

- A) It is frozen to kill bacteria
- B) It is burned at high temperatures**
- C) It is crushed into small cubes
- D) It is sorted by hand

17. Which of these is a non-renewable resource that plastic is typically made from?

- A) Petroleum**
- B) Wood pulp
- C) Cotton
- D) Seaweed

18. Why is it important to rinse food containers before recycling them?

- A) To stop them from smelling bad
- B) To prevent contamination of other recyclable materials**
- C) To make them lighter for transport
- D) To ensure they fit in the bin

19. What is leachate in the context of landfill management?

- A) The liquid that drains from waste**
- B) The gas released by rotting food
- C) The soil used to cover trash
- D) The plastic used to line the pit

20. Which type of waste is considered 'hazardous' and requires special disposal?

A) Banana peels

B) Old paint

C) Newspapers

D) Plastic cutlery