

## 2 What a waste

Waste vocabulary		
to go to waste	It's a shame when food goes to waste and gets put in the garbage instead of being eaten.	verderben
to avoid unnecessary waste	Fran tries her best to avoid unnecessary waste by recycling and reusing all the items she can.	unnötigen Abfall vermeiden
to waste resources	Many companies waste resources without realising it, simply because they don't bother to find out if they could save materials or energy.	Ressourcen verschwenden
to contain hazardous waste	A great deal of the trash that gets dumped into landfills contains hazardous waste.	gefährlichen Abfall enthalten
to be disposed of in garbage bags	Almost all of the trash from schools and other public institutions is disposed of in garbage bags.	in Müllsäcken entsorgt werden
to produce waste	Bigger companies produce more waste than private households.	Abfall produzieren
to dump waste illegally	Last year, a major paper company was caught dumping waste illegally too close to a river.	Abfall illegal entsorgen
to export toxic waste	America exports a lot of toxic waste to China.	giftigen Abfall exportieren
to burn medical waste	Hospitals around the world are sometimes known for burning medical waste instead of disposing of it properly.	medizinischen Abfall verbrennen
to recycle waste	My school recycles most of its waste and the teachers are very strict about disposing of waste properly.	Abfall recyceln
different types of waste	The local municipal centre has to process many different types of waste every day.	verschiedene Arten von Abfall
to be biodegradable	To protect the environment, there are now a lot of products, such as drinking straws, that are biodegradable.	biologisch abbaubar sein
compostables / biodegradable waste	Compostables / Biodegradable waste can be transformed into nutrient-rich soil for use in gardens.	kompostierbare Abfälle / biologisch abbaubarer Abfall
to be generated from animal and plant sources	Compost or natural fertiliser can be generated from both animal and plant sources.	aus Stoffen tierischer und pflanzlicher Herkunft erzeugt werden
to use composted waste to fertilise the garden	My family uses composted waste to fertilise the garden and make sure our plants grow large and strong.	Kompost verwenden / nutzen, um den Garten zu düngen
to be non-recyclable	Depending on where you live, certain materials are non-recyclable, since every city has different recycling capabilities.	nicht wiederverwertbar sein

to dispose of products in a recycling bin / container	Timo disposes of paper products in a recycling bin / container outside his workplace.	Produkte in einer Wertstofftonne entsorgen
to create enormous dumping sites	The lack of waste infrastructure in some developing countries means that citizens create enormous dumping sites that pose a public health hazard.	riesige Mülldeponien verursachen
to sort recyclable waste	It can be time-consuming to sort recyclable waste, but it's necessary to effectively process it.	wiederverwertbaren Abfall sortieren
to be considered hazardous waste	Waste material from nuclear power plants or from chemistry labs is considered hazardous waste.	als gefährlicher Abfall eingestuft werden
to require a specific method of disposal	Medical waste often requires a specific method of disposal.	eine bestimmte Art der Entsorgung erfordern
to be classified as solid waste	Most trash that is deposited in landfills is classified as solid waste.	als Hausabfall / Restmüll eingestuft werden
to be placed inside a dumpster	At the end of the school year, one of Violet's school binders was accidentally placed inside a dumpster.	in einem Müllcontainer platziert werden
to take recycling systems seriously	To work towards a sustainable future, it's important to separate waste and take recycling systems seriously.	Recyclingsysteme wichtig nehmen
to be dumped	Ten tons of wood chips were dumped behind the bank today, and no one knows why.	weggeworfen / abgeladen werden
to pose a serious threat to the environment	Certain types of waste, like plastics, pose a serious threat to the environment.	eine ernste Gefahr für die Umwelt darstellen
to contribute to the waste chain	International agreements can go a long way towards contributing to the waste chain and monitoring it so it doesn't become unmanageable.	einen Beitrag zur Überwachung / Regulierung der Abfallkette leisten
<b>A plastic ocean, a floating island of trash</b>		
a floating island of trash	If too much plastic gets discarded into the ocean, it can form a floating island of trash and damage the ecosystem.	eine schwimmende Müllinsel
garbage patches are large areas of marine debris	Garbage patches are large areas of marine debris composed largely of plastic waste.	Müllflecken / große Meeresmüll-Flächen
to be formed by rotating ocean currents	Most garbage patches are formed and held together by rotating ocean currents.	durch rotierende Meeresströmungen gebildet werden
tiny plastic pieces are called <i>microplastics</i>	The tiny plastic pieces that make up the garbage patches are called <i>microplastics</i> because they are so small.	winzige Plastikteile werden als <i>Mikroplastik</i> bezeichnet
to scoop up marine debris	Getting rid of garbage patches is more complicated than just scooping up marine debris, because the debris isn't easy to separate from the water.	Meeresmüll aufsammeln

from the ocean's surface all the way to the seafloor	Waste or marine debris can be found from the ocean's surface all the way to the seafloor.	von der Meeresoberfläche bis zum Meeresboden
to be constantly moving with the ocean currents	Trash that has made its way into the water is constantly moving with the ocean currents.	sich ständig mit den Meeresströmungen bewegen
to disrupt marine life	Human activity, and large amounts of trash in the oceans significantly disrupt marine life.	das Meeresleben stören / durcheinanderbringen
to keep trash out of the ocean	It's up to each and every one of us to keep as much trash out of the ocean as possible.	Müll vom Meer fernhalten
to participate in shoreline clean-ups	Sylvia participated in several shoreline clean-ups last year, and really enjoyed picking up trash with other motivated people like herself.	an Reinigungsaktionen / Aufräumaktionen an der Küste teilnehmen

### Speaking about e-waste

to discard old electronic products	Often, as soon as a company can buy new versions of a device, they discard old electronic products.	alte elektronische Produkte entsorgen
to dispose of electronic appliances	It's essential to dispose of electronic appliances properly.	elektronische Geräte entsorgen
to be hazardous to one's health	Certain chemicals in old electronics can be hazardous to one's health.	gefährlich für die Gesundheit sein
toxic materials can lead to birth defects	Some toxic materials can even lead to birth defects for the children of mothers who are exposed.	giftige Materialien können zu Geburtsfehlern führen
to address e-waste challenges	Many countries have taken action to address e-waste challenges with new recycling programmes.	die durch Elektroschrott verursachten Herausforderungen thematisieren
to cause cancer	There are many common substances that cause cancer, and we might not even know some are dangerous.	Krebs verursachen
to contaminate the soil	Even some natural substances or materials like acid or naturally occurring metals contaminate the soil if they are disposed of improperly.	den Boden verseuchen
to contain toxic components	Items that we use every single day actually contain many toxic components.	giftige Bestandteile enthalten
to contribute to global warming	The release of chemicals and gases from old electronics contributes to global warming.	zur globalen Erwärmung beitragen
to become one of the biggest waste challenges for the future	The disposal of electronics, especially with the increased use of smartphones, is becoming one of the biggest waste challenges for the future.	zu einer der größten Herausforderungen für die Zukunft den Abfall betreffend werden
to reuse / recycle out-of-date electrical appliances	It is important to think creatively and reuse / recycle out-of-date electrical appliances.	veraltete Elektrogeräte wiederverwenden / recyceln
to get sent to landfills if not recycled properly	Unfortunately, a great deal of unsorted waste gets sent to landfills if not recycled properly.	auf Mülldeponien landen, wenn nicht ordnungsgemäß recycelt wird

to not put unwanted electronic devices in the bin	Simon didn't put unwanted electronic devices in the bin; instead, he repaired them and used parts from the others for his own projects.	nicht mehr gebrauchte elektronische Geräte nicht in die Mülltonne werfen
heavy metals (e.g. mercury, lead, cadmium, silver, copper)	Heavy metals can pose serious health risks to humans and animals.	Schwermetalle (z. B. Quecksilber, Blei, Cadmium, Silber, Kupfer)
the danger comes from direct contact with harmful materials	The biggest danger comes from direct contact with harmful materials.	die Gefahr geht vom direkten Kontakt mit gefährlichen Materialien aus
to inhale toxic fumes	It's dangerous to inhale toxic fumes, especially at the workplace.	giftige Dämpfe einatmen
to be exposed to toxic fumes	Being exposed to toxic fumes can have devastating effects on someone's ability to breathe.	giftigen Dämpfen ausgesetzt sein
to pose a risk of injury	Some recyclable substances still pose a risk of injury, such as broken glass.	eine Verletzungsgefahr darstellen
to burn cables to remove the plastic	Waste companies will often burn cables to remove the plastic and expose the metal underneath.	Kabel verbrennen, um den Kunststoff zu entfernen
to extract copper and other materials	Most processing of electronic waste aims to extract copper and other materials that are valuable and can be sold or reused.	Kupfer und andere Materialien gewinnen
to buy <i>Energy star</i> -rated electronics	Macy buys <i>Energy star</i> -rated electronics to reduce her carbon footprint.	Elektronik mit dem Energiestatus „Energy Star“ kaufen
to reduce the amount of mining necessary	Reusing electronics can reduce the amount of mining necessary, as metals can simply be recycled in new electronics.	die Menge des erforderlichen Abbaus von Lagerstätten reduzieren
to be cheaper to buy something new	It is often cheaper to buy something new instead of paying for repairs.	billiger sein, etwas Neues zu kaufen
electronic devices are made to be replaced	Modern electronic devices are made to be replaced.	elektronische Geräte werden hergestellt, um ersetzt zu werden
planned obsolescence	Planned obsolescence results in many devices and electronics becoming less functional within a short amount of time, forcing people to buy new ones.	gewollte Produkt-Veralterung
to provide buybacks / return systems for used equipment	Yasmine's appliance store provides buybacks for used equipment to convince people to recycle old devices.	Rückkauf- / Rückgabesysteme für gebrauchte Geräte anbieten
to go to a repair café and bring one's broken items / devices / electronics	Leo went to a repair café and brought his broken items with him, because he wanted to learn how to fix them himself.	in ein Reparatur-Cafè gehen und die kaputten Gegenstände / Apparate / Elektrogeräte mitbringen
<b>Living a zero-waste life</b>		
to throw products away	Joy throws as few products away as possible.	Produkte wegwerfen
a sustainable way of living	Now it's becoming trendy to pursue a sustainable way of living.	eine nachhaltige Lebensweise
to prevent resource extraction	Strict regulations are required to prevent unlawful resource extraction.	den Abbau von Ressourcen verhindern

to reduce the amount of materials sent to landfills / incinerators	Effective recycling programmes reduce the amount of materials sent to landfills / incinerators.	die Menge an Materialien verringern, die auf Mülldeponien / in Verbrennungsanlagen landen
to (not) be easily accessible	Recycling centres are not always easily accessible if you live in a rural area.	(nicht) leicht zugänglich sein
to reduce waste	Liesel's goal last year was to reduce waste in her family's business by trying to reuse as many items as possible.	Abfall reduzieren
to become a trend	It has become a trend in recent years to try to live a minimalist life and only use what you have to.	zu einem Trend werden
to separate waste properly	At <i>Greg's Recycling Centre</i> , it's mandatory to separate waste properly before leaving it for processing.	Abfall richtig trennen
to reduce one's carbon footprint	Fiona wants to reduce her carbon footprint by buying a reusable water bottle.	den eigenen CO <sub>2</sub> -Fußabdruck reduzieren
to reduce costs	Buying equipment that lasts longer can reduce costs of operating a business.	die Kosten senken
to reduce single-use plastic / packaging	Many states reduced or banned single-use plastic and packaging for certain food items.	Einwegplastik / Verpackungen reduzieren
to buy second-hand	To reduce fabric waste, it's helpful to buy second-hand.	second-hand einkaufen / aus zweiter Hand kaufen
to practise zero-waste habits	Maude practises zero-waste habits like composting her food scraps and using the compost on her garden in order to protect the planet.	Zero-Waste-Regeln (be)folgen, Zero-Waste-Gepflogenheiten praktizieren
to prevent waste from entering one's home	If you don't buy products packaged in plastic, you prevent waste from entering your home in the first place.	verhindern, dass Abfall in die Wohnung gelangt
to live in a throwaway society	It's unsustainable to continue living in a throwaway society.	in einer Wegwerfgesellschaft leben
to mend items	My granddad always used to mend items like flat irons or radios instead of throwing them away.	Gegenstände reparieren
to opt for quality and repairability	When Susan buys clothing, she always opts for quality and repairability over the cheapest option.	sich für Qualität und Reparierbarkeit entscheiden
to require time and effort	Making durable products requires a great deal of time and effort.	Zeit und Mühe benötigen / erfordern
to buy plastic-free products	Xavier has recently started looking for and buying plastic-free products.	plastikfreie Produkte kaufen
conscious shopping	Checking to see which brands are sustainably produced is an example of conscious shopping.	bewusstes Einkaufen
the 5 R's of a zero-waste life: to refuse – to reduce – to repair – to recycle – to rot / compost	Winnie tries to remember the 5 Rs of a zero-waste life whenever she needs more inspiration to help the environment more: refuse – reduce – repair – recycle – rot / compost.	die 5 „Rs“ eines abfallfreien Lebens: ablehnen – reduzieren – reparieren – recyceln – verrotten / kompostieren