

NCERT solution Garbage in, Garbage out

Question 1

- (a) Which kind of garbage is not converted into compost by the Red worms?
(b) Have you seen any other organism besides Red worms, in your pit? If yes, try to find out their names. Draw pictures of these.

Answer

a) Non bio-degradable waste like pieces of cloth, polythene bags, broken glass, aluminum wrappers, nails, old shoes and broken toys cannot be converted into compost by the red worms.

(b) Besides red worms there are maggots, spiders, small bugs, flies, cockroaches and small insects etc. can be seen in the pit. Compost is also rich of microbes which can't be seen with unaided eye.

Question 2

Discuss:

- (a) Is garbage disposal the responsibility only of the government?
(b) Is it possible to reduce the problems relating to disposal of garbage?

Answer

(a) Garbage Disposal is the responsibility of every citizen not just of government. Non-biodegradable waste like plastic is harmful to our environment as well as to our health. We must ensure ways to reduce production of garbage. Wherever possible, we must use recyclable material in our daily use. We must try to reduce the waste at school, home, offices and we should not litter in public places

(b) Yes it is possible to reduce the problems relating to disposal of garbage to a large extent.

- i) We should use those materials which are recyclable.
- ii) We should avoid or reduce the use of non-biodegradable materials like plastic at minimum level.
- iii) we should separate biodegradable waste from non-biodegradable and throw them in separate bins
- iv) People should be concerned about generating waste and should generate less waste

Question 3

- (a) What do you do with the leftover food at home?
- (b) If you and your friends are given the choice of eating in a plastic plate or a banana leaf platter at a party, which one would you prefer and why?

Answer

- (a) There could be many uses
 - i) Leftover food can be collected and be converted into compost.
 - ii) We can feed our pet animals with leftover food.
 - iii) If enough food is left (e.g. after a party), we may distribute the food to shelter homes.
- (b) Banana leaf is a better choice. It is bio-degradable and can be disposed easily. On the other hand, eating in plastic plate is not good. Plastic material may contain harmful substance which can make the contained food toxic. which is harmful to our health. Moreover, plastic is non-biodegradable, it will not dispose of easily.

Question 4

- (a) Collect pieces of different kinds of paper. Find out which of these can be recycled.
- (b) With the help of a lens look at the pieces of paper you collected for the above question. Do you see any difference in the material of recycled paper and a new sheet of paper?

Answer

- (a) Almost all kinds of paper are recyclable i.e. newspapers, magazines, papers, notebooks, envelopes etc.
- (b) The difference between new sheet and recycle paper is subtle. Usually handmade recycled paper is of course quality and it is yellowish also

Question 5

- (a) Collect different kinds of packaging material. What was the purpose for which each one was used? Discuss in groups.
- (b) Give an example in which packaging could have been reduced?
- (c) Write a story on how packaging increases the amount of garbage.

Answer

- (a) Different kinds of packaging materials used commonly are:

1. Paper packaging material – it is used to make shoe boxes, machine boxes. It is also used in packing soap, chocolates etc.
2. Plastic Bags - It is used to carry the liquid item like oil, shampoo. Also it is used for creating Toys covers, sarees bags
3. Wooden Boxes – it is used in creating Fruit baskets
4. Cloth bags and Jute Bags – It is used for School bags, shopping bags, vegetables bags

(b) If people started carrying their own bags for shopping, then there will be no need to carry them using plastic bags and it will drastically reduce the waste

(c) The packaging is used to prevent tempering and maintaining the freshness. Once the product is open, the packing is of no use and so all packaging material goes waste and is thrown into dustbin. For example, if you go to any park, there dustbins are full of potato chips wrappers. It unnecessarily increases the amount of garbage. Many of these packing material cannot be recycled and many of them are plastic material which are nonbiodegradable and it poses serious hazard to the environment

Question 6

Do you think it is better to use compost instead of chemical fertilizers? Why?

Answer

No doubt compost is better to use than chemical fertilizers due to following reasons:

1. Compost is much easier to prepare.
2. Compost is environment friendly whereas fertilizers can harm our health and the environment.
3. Compost does not pollute our environment.
4. Soil will not lose its fertility if we use compost to them

Compost decomposes bio-degradable waste into natural soil. It conserves our environment