



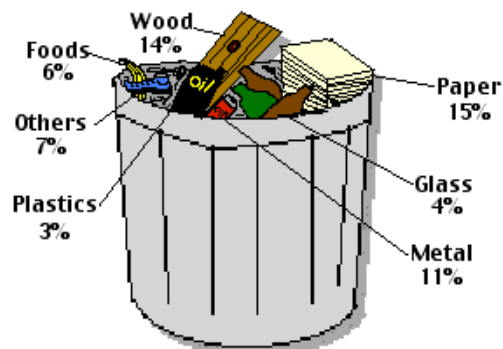
Although we may not notice it now, rubbish and littering is a problem, and is set to get worse in the future. Although over 95% of the things that we throw away can be re-used or recycled in some way, only 5% is.

Any rubbish that isn't recycled is buried in a Landfill site, which is usually an old pit or quarry. Here it is compacted until it fills the space, then soil is laid on top to bury it. Pipes are put into the ground, to let any dangerous gases escape. There could be explosions otherwise!

One problem with this is that no-one really wants to live near to a pile of buried rubbish. Although they try really hard, you can still get strange smells around the sites. Another concern is that a lot of the waste takes a really long time to break into small, safe parts, or biodegrade. Synthetic or man-made products are the worst – if Henry VIII wore disposable nappies 500 years ago, they would still be around today!

Many more people are trying to do "their bit" towards recycling things now. Supermarkets ask you to reuse bags, many councils collect old paper and bottles free of charge and there will always be a home for unwanted clothes. As one famous American Indian once said,

*"We don't inherit the land from our parents,  
we borrow it from our children"*



English Group

Does the author like landfill sites? Write down three words or phrases that make you think that?

Name 2 problems with people not recycling

What do these words mean:

synthetic

compacted

concern

What could this article be called?

What do you think the article means by people "doing their bit"?

Why will there always be a home for unwanted clothes?

How long does it take for nappies to break into small parts?

Do you think the author wants more people to recycle? Why do you think this?