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Level 3 – 1st January 2026

Huge rise in household waste over holiday period

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

There are many holidays around the end of the year. These involve parties, family get-togethers, and the giving of gifts. However, celebrations for Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and the New Year can create a lot of trash. The USA's Environmental Protection Agency estimates that household waste increases by 25 per cent over the holiday period. Miriam Holsinger, co-president of Eureka Recycling, urges us to carefully separate what we throw away. She said: "It really does make a difference if you just take a little extra time to put those boxes and those bottles and cans in the blue bin." Engineering professor Dan Hoornweg said we should avoid producing waste as much as possible in the first place.

Various experts have reported on how best to deal with holiday waste. Professor Hoornweg advised people to be aware of and follow the recycling policies in their town. He said different places have different rules. Ms Holsinger asked people to be careful when they throw away things like electronics, toys, and Christmas lights. Other experts also offered great advice. One said it was good to think ahead to reduce waste. She said one idea was to buy "experiences over stuff". This means buying someone a ticket to see a play or concert, instead of buying a present that comes in lots of packaging and a cardboard box. She also recommended giving people digital cards and gift cards.

Sources: <https://www.npr.org/2025/12/26/nx-s1-5649424/holiday-waste-recycling-tips-mistakes>
<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2025/dec/26/five-things-to-do-with-holiday-waste>
<https://www.cbsnews.com/minnesota/news/christmas-tree-holiday-garbage-disposal-tips/>

WARM-UPS

1. WASTE AND TRASH: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about waste and trash. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

holidays / end of the year / family get-togethers / celebrations / waste / recycling / experts / rules / electronics / toys / advice / experiences / concert / cardboard box

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. PACKAGING: Students A **strongly** believe all plastic packaging should be banned; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. HOLIDAYS: What do you know about these holidays? What do you want to know? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	What I Want to Know
Christmas		
Hanukkah		
Kwanzaa		
Eid-al-Fitr		
Diwali		
Lunar New Year		

5. FAMILY: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "family". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. WASTE: Rank these with your partner. Put the worst things to waste at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Packaging
- Food
- Electricity
- Time
- Our energy
- Skills
- Petrol
- Money

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

1. involve	a. Guess a number or amount.
2. get-togethers	b. Stay away from something.
3. celebrations	c. Have something as a part of an activity or situation.
4. estimate (verb)	d. Happy events to show joy for something special, like a birthday or wedding.
5. increases	e. Times when people meet and spend (a happy) time with each other.
6. separate (verb)	f. Becomes bigger or more.
7. avoid	g. Put things apart or not together.

Paragraph 2

8. various	h. People who know a lot (or everything) about something.
9. experts	i. Do something about a problem or situation.
10. deal with	j. Things or objects.
11. be aware of	k. Many different kinds.
12. experiences	l. Said to be good or helpful.
13. stuff (noun)	m. Things that happen to you in your life.
14. recommended	n. Know about something.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. The article says there are a dozen holidays around the end of the year. **T / F**
2. A US agency says we produce 25% more waste over the holiday period. **T / F**
3. A recycling expert says we should put cans in the green recycling bin. **T / F**
4. The article says the USA should be in first place for waste reduction. **T / F**
5. All towns have the same recycling policies. **T / F**
6. A professor urged caution when throwing away electronics. **T / F**
7. An expert said it was better to buy people experiences than stuff. **T / F**
8. The expert said it was a good idea to buy digital gifts. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

1. involve	a. to begin with
2. estimates	b. regulations
3. urges	c. container
4. bin	d. reckons
5. in the first place	e. things
6. experts	f. include
7. rules	g. specialists
8. throw away	h. wrapping
9. stuff	i. encourages
10. packaging	j. discard

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

1. There are many holidays around	a. deal with holiday waste
2. family get-togethers and the giving	b. possible in the first place
3. household waste increases	c. what we throw away
4. carefully separate	d. to reduce waste
5. avoid producing waste as much as	e. rules
6. experts have reported on how best to	f. the end of the year
7. He said different places have different	g. in lots of packaging
8. be careful when they throw away things	h. by 25 per cent
9. it was good to think ahead	i. like electronics
10. a present that comes	j. of gifts

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

There are many holidays around the (1) _____ of the year. These involve parties, family get-togethers, and the (2) _____ of gifts. However, celebrations for Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and the New Year can (3) _____ a lot of trash. The USA's Environmental Protection Agency estimates that household waste (4) _____ by 25 per cent over the holiday period. Miriam Holsinger, co-president of Eureka Recycling, urges us to (5) _____ separate what we throw away. She said: "It really does make a difference if you just take a little (6) _____ time to put those boxes and those bottles and (7) _____ in the blue bin." Engineering professor Dan Hoornweg said we should avoid producing waste as much as possible in the (8) _____ place.

increases
extra
giving
first
end
cans
create
carefully

Various experts have reported on how (9) _____ to deal with holiday waste. Professor Hoornweg advised people to be (10) _____ of and follow the recycling policies in their town. He said different places have different (11) _____. Ms Holsinger asked people to be careful when they throw away things like electronics, (12) _____, and Christmas lights. Other experts also offered great advice. One said it was good to think ahead to reduce waste. She said one (13) _____ was to buy "experiences over (14) _____. This means buying someone a ticket to see a play or concert, (15) _____ of buying a present that comes in lots of packaging and a (16) _____ box. She also recommended giving people digital cards and gift cards.

toys
cardboard
stuff
best
instead
rules
aware
idea

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

- 1) There are many holidays around the end ____
 - a. off the year
 - b. of the years
 - c. of then year
 - d. of the year
- 2) These involve parties, family get-togethers, and the ____
 - a. given of gifts
 - b. give in of gifts
 - c. giving of gifts
 - d. giving oft gifts
- 3) celebrations for Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and the New Year can create a ____
 - a. lots of trash
 - b. lot of trash
 - c. lot of trashed
 - d. lot of thrash
- 4) take a little extra time to put those boxes and those bottles and cans in ____
 - a. the blue bin
 - b. the blue ban
 - c. the blue bun
 - d. the blue bon
- 5) we should avoid producing waste as much as possible in ____
 - a. the fist place
 - b. the third place
 - c. the fast place
 - d. the first place
- 6) Various experts have reported on how best to deal ____
 - a. wither holiday waste
 - b. with a holiday waste
 - c. with holiday waste
 - d. within holiday waste
- 7) Ms Holsinger asked people to be careful when they throw away ____
 - a. things like electricity
 - b. things like electrics
 - c. things like electricians
 - d. things like electronics
- 8) She said one idea was to buy ____
 - a. experiences under stuff
 - b. experiences over stuff
 - c. experiences over staff
 - d. experiences above stiff
- 9) instead of buying a present that comes in lots of packaging and ____
 - a. a card bored box
 - b. a car board box
 - c. a card bald box
 - d. a cardboard box
- 10) She also recommended giving people digital cards ____
 - a. and gift card
 - b. and gift cards
 - c. end gilt cards
 - d. end gift card

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

There are many holidays around (1) _____ the year. These involve parties, family get-togethers, and the (2) _____. However, celebrations for Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and the New Year can (3) _____ of trash. The USA's Environmental Protection Agency estimates that household waste increases by 25 per cent over the holiday period. Miriam Holsinger, co-president of Eureka Recycling, urges us to carefully (4) _____ throw away. She said: "It really does make a difference if you just take a little extra time to put those boxes and those (5) _____ in the blue bin." Engineering professor Dan Hoornweg said (6) _____ producing waste as much as possible in the first place.

Various experts have reported on how (7) _____ with holiday waste. Professor Hoornweg advised people to (8) _____ and follow the recycling policies in their town. He said different places have different rules. Ms Holsinger asked people to be careful when they throw (9) _____ electronics, toys, and Christmas lights. Other experts also offered great advice. One said it was good to think (10) _____ waste. She said one idea was to buy "experiences over stuff". This means buying someone a ticket to see a play or concert, (11) _____ a present that comes in lots of packaging and a cardboard box. She also recommended giving people digital (12) _____ cards.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

1. When does the article say there are many holidays?
2. What does the article say celebrations can create a lot of?
3. How much more waste do we produce at the end of the year?
4. Where did an expert say we should place bottles and cans?
5. What did an engineering professor say we should avoid?
6. What did the professor say we needed to be aware of?
7. What did the professor say different places have?
8. What did an expert say it was important to do to reduce waste?
9. What did the expert recommend buying as gifts instead of "stuff"?
10. What did an expert say were good gifts?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

- 1) When does the article say there are many holidays?
 - a) all year round
 - b) at the end of the year
 - c) at the beginning of the year
 - d) in summer

- 2) What does the article say celebrations can create a lot of?
 - a) fun
 - b) anger
 - c) noise
 - d) trash

- 3) How much more waste do we produce at the end of the year?
 - a) 25% more
 - b) 35% more
 - c) 15% more
 - d) 45% more

- 4) Where did an expert say we should place bottles and cans?
 - a) in a green bin
 - b) on the red bin
 - c) in the blue bin
 - d) in a big bin

- 5) What did an engineering professor say we should avoid?
 - a) cardboard boxes
 - b) producing waste
 - c) microplastics
 - d) holiday celebrations

- 6) What did the professor say we needed to be aware of?
 - a) recycling policies
 - b) microplastics
 - c) pollution
 - d) dangers to animals

- 7) What did the professor say different places have?
 - a) holidays
 - b) plastics
 - c) rules
 - d) celebrations

- 8) What did an expert say it was important to do to reduce waste?
 - a) think ahead
 - b) not buy anything
 - c) use reusable shopping bags
 - d) buy many recycling bins

- 9) What did the expert recommend buying as gifts instead of "stuff"?
 - a) experiences
 - b) stocks and shares
 - c) property
 - d) food

- 10) What did an expert say were good gifts?
 - a) jogging shoes
 - b) rings and necklaces
 - c) recycling bins
 - d) digital cards and gift cards

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

Role A – Food

You think food is the worst thing to waste. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why it isn't as bad for their things to be wasted. Also, tell the others which is most acceptable of these (and why): time, money or water.

Role B – Time

You think time is the worst thing to waste. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why it isn't as bad for their things to be wasted. Also, tell the others which is most acceptable of these (and why): food, money or water.

Role C – Money

You think money is the worst thing to waste. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why it isn't as bad for their things to be wasted. Also, tell the others which is most acceptable of these (and why): time, food or water.

Role D – Water

You think water is the worst thing to waste. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why it isn't as bad for their things to be wasted. Also, tell the others which is most acceptable of these (and why): time, money or food.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for... the words 'holiday' and 'waste'.

holiday	waste

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• end• involve• estimates• carefully• just• avoid	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• deal• follow• toys• ahead• present• cards
--	--

WASTE AND TRASH SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

Write five GOOD questions about waste and trash in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1	STUDENT 2	STUDENT 3
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WASTE AND TRASH DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'holiday'?
3. What do you think of the end-of-the-year holidays?
4. What do you do at the end of the year?
5. How has this year been for you?
6. How much trash do you produce?
7. What difference does separating trash make?
8. What extra waste do you create over the holiday period?
9. How can we avoid producing waste?
10. What is your advice regarding recycling?

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WASTE AND TRASH DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'trash'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What are the recycling policies in your town?
15. What are your New Year resolutions?
16. How good are you at recycling?
17. Would you rather be given an experience or stuff?
18. What do you think of cardboard boxes?
19. What do you think of digital gifts and gift cards?
20. What questions would you like to ask a waste expert?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

There are many holidays (1) ____ the end of the year. These involve parties, family get-togethers, and the (2) ____ of gifts. However, celebrations for Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and the New Year can create a (3) ____ of trash. The USA's Environmental Protection Agency estimates that household waste increases by 25 per cent over the holiday period. Miriam Holsinger, co-president of Eureka Recycling, urges us to carefully (4) ____ what we throw away. She said: "It really does make a difference if you just take a little extra time to put (5) ____ boxes and those bottles and cans in the blue bin." Engineering professor Dan Hoornweg said we should avoid producing waste as much as possible (6) ____ the first place.

Various experts have reported on (7) ____ best to deal with holiday waste. Professor Hoornweg advised people to be aware (8) ____ and follow the recycling policies in their town. He said different places have different rules. Ms Holsinger asked people to be careful when they throw away things like (9) ____ , toys, and Christmas lights. Other experts also offered great advice. One said it was good (10) ____ think ahead to reduce waste. She said one idea was to buy "experiences over stuff". This (11) ____ buying someone a ticket to see a play or concert, instead of buying a present that comes in lots of packaging and a (12) ____ box. She also recommended giving people digital cards and gift cards.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

1.	(a) around	(b) abound	(c) about	(d) a rout
2.	(a) given	(b) gives	(c) giving	(d) give
3.	(a) allot	(b) lots	(c) lot	(d) loads
4.	(a) separates	(b) separation	(c) separating	(d) separate
5.	(a) those	(b) them	(c) they	(d) there
6.	(a) of	(b) in	(c) at	(d) to
7.	(a) that	(b) which	(c) what	(d) how
8.	(a) at	(b) of	(c) on	(d) as
9.	(a) electricity	(b) electricians	(c) electronics	(d) electrics
10.	(a) for	(b) to	(c) at	(d) up
11.	(a) mean	(b) meaning	(c) meanie	(d) means
12.	(a) boarded	(b) cardboard	(c) board	(d) carded

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

Paragraph 1

1. These nvlivoe parties
2. family get-gerhotets
3. ilaoesrebcnt for Christmas
4. carefully eartsepa what we throw away
5. eirenegignn professor
6. we should odvai producing waste

Paragraph 2

7. various texreps
8. follow the celiynrgc policies
9. different places have different eslur
10. licoterescn, toys, and Christmas lights
11. She said one idea was to buy execsreiepn
12. lots of packaging and a bcadrdrao box

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () a play or concert, instead of buying a present that comes in lots of packaging and a cardboard
- () aware of and follow the recycling policies in their town. He said different places have different
- () box. She also recommended giving people digital cards and gift cards.
- () by 25 per cent over the holiday period. Miriam Holsinger, co-president of Eureka Recycling, urges us to carefully
- () lights. Other experts also offered great advice. One said it was good to think ahead to reduce
- () of gifts. However, celebrations for Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and the New Year can create a lot
- () of trash. The USA's Environmental Protection Agency estimates that household waste increases
- () professor Dan Hoornweg said we should avoid producing waste as much as possible in the first place.
- () rules. Ms Holsinger asked people to be careful when they throw away things like electronics, toys, and Christmas
- () separate what we throw away. She said: "It really does make a difference if you just take a little extra
- (1) There are many holidays around the end of the year. These involve parties, family get-togethers, and the giving
- () time to put those boxes and those bottles and cans in the blue bin." Engineering
- () Various experts have reported on how best to deal with holiday waste. Professor Hoornweg advised people to be
- () waste. She said one idea was to buy "experiences over stuff". This means buying someone a ticket to see

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

1. around Holidays end the the of year .
2. increases Waste by 25% the over period holiday .
3. We separate carefully we what away throw .
4. It does really a make difference big .
5. Avoid waste producing much as possible as .
6. He different said have places rules different .
7. Be when careful throw they things away .
8. One was idea buy to over experiences stuff .
9. someone Buying ticket a see to play a .
10. She recommended also people giving cards digital .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

There are many holidays *about* / *around* the end of the year. These involve parties, family get-togethers, and the *give* / *giving* of gifts. However, celebrations *for* / *to* Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and the New Year can create a *lot* / *lots* of trash. The USA's Environmental Protection Agency estimates that household waste increases *for* / *by* 25 per cent over the holiday period. Miriam Holsinger, co-president of Eureka Recycling, urges *us* / *as* to carefully separate what *we* / *they* throw away. She said: "It really does make a difference if you just take a little *bit* / *extra* time to put those boxes and those bottles and cans in the blue *bin* / *ban*." Engineering professor Dan Hoornweg said we should avoid producing waste as much as possible in the *second* / *first* place.

Various experts have *repeated* / *reported* on how best to deal *to* / *with* holiday waste. Professor Hoornweg *advised* / *advice* people to be aware of and follow the recycling policies in their town. He said different places have different *rule* / *rules*. Ms Holsinger asked people to be *carefully* / *careful* when they throw away things like *electronics* / *electricity*, toys, and Christmas lights. Other experts also offered great *advice* / *advise*. One said it was good to think ahead to reduce waste. She said one idea was to buy "experiences *under* / *over* stuff". This means buying someone a ticket to see a play or concert, instead *to* / *of* buying a present that comes in lots of packaging and a cardboard box. She also recommended giving people *digital* / *digitally* cards and gift cards.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

Th_r_ _r_ m_ny h_l_d_y s _r__nd th_ _nd _f th_ y__r.
Th_s_ _nv_lv_ p_rt_s, f_m_ly g_t-t_g_th_rs, _nd th_ g_v_ng _f g_fts. H_w_v_r, c_l_br_t_ns f_r Chr_stm_s, H_n_kk_h, Kw_nz__, _nd th_ N_w Y__r c_n cr__t_ _l_t _f tr_sh. Th_ _S_ 's _nv_r_nm_nt_l Pr_t_ct_n g_ncy _st_m_t_s th_t h_s_h_id w_st_ _ncr_ss_s by 25 p_r c_nt _v_r th_ h_l_d_y p_r_d. M_r_m H_ls_ng_r, c_-pr_s_d_nt _f _r_k_ R_cycl_ng, _rg_s s_t_ c_r_f_lly s_p_r_t_ wh_t w_ thr_w _w_y. Sh_ s_d: "t r_lly d_s m_k_ d_ff_r_nc_ _f y_ j_st t_k_ l_ttl_ _xtr_ t_m_ t_ p_t th_s_ b_x_s _nd th_s_ b_ttl_s _nd c_ns _n th_ bl_ b_n." _ng_n_r_ng pr_f_ss_r D_n H_rnw_g s_d w_ sh_id _v_d pr_d_c_ng w_st_ s_m_ch s p_ss_b_l_ _n th_ f_rst pl_c_.
V_r__s _xp_rts h_v_ r_p_rt_d _n h_w b_st t_ d__l w_th h_l_d_y w_st_. Pr_f_ss_r H_rnw_g _dv_s_d p__pl_t_ b_ _w_r_ _f _nd f_ll_w th_ r_cycl_ng p_l_c_s _n th_r t_wn. H_ s_d d_ff_r_nt pl_c_s h_v_ d_ff_r_nt r_l_s. Ms H_ls_ng_r _sk_d p__pl_ t_ b_ c_r_f_l wh_n th_y thr_w _w_y th_ngs l_k_ _l_ctr_n_cs, t_y_s, _nd Chr_stm_s l_ghts. _th_r _xp_rts _ls_ _ff_r_d gr__t _dv_c_. _n_ s_d _t w_s g_d t_ th_nk _h_d t_ r_d_c_ w_st_. Sh_ s_d _n_ _d_ w_s t_ b_y "xp_r_nc_s v_r st_ff". Th_s m_ns b_y_ng s_m_n_ t_ck_t t_ s_ pl_y _r c_nc_rt, _nst_d _f b_y_ng _ pr_s_nt th_t c_m_s _n l_ts _f p_ck_g_ng _nd c_rdb_rd b_x. Sh_ _ls_ r_c_mm_nd_d g_v_ng p__pl_d_g_t_l c_rds _nd g_ft c_rds.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

there are many holidays around the end of the year these involve parties family gettogethers and the giving of gifts however celebrations for christmas hanukkah kwanzaa and the new year can create a lot of trash the usas environmental protection agency estimates that household waste increases by 25 per cent over the holiday period miriam holsinger copresident of eureka recycling urges us to carefully separate what we throw away she said it really does make a difference if you just take a little extra time to put those boxes and those bottles and cans in the blue bin engineering professor dan hoornweg said we should avoid producing waste as much as possible in the first place

various experts have reported on how best to deal with holiday waste professor hoornweg advised people to be aware of and follow the recycling policies in their town he said different places have different rules ms holsinger asked people to be careful when they throw away things like electronics toys and christmas lights other experts also offered great advice one said it was good to think ahead to reduce waste she said one idea was to buy experiences over stuff this means buying someone a ticket to see a play or concert instead of buying a present that comes in lots of packaging and a cardboard box she also recommended giving people digital cards and gift cards

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

There are many holidays around the end of the year. These involve parties, family get-togethers, and the giving of gifts. However, celebrations for Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and the New Year can create a lot of trash. The USA's Environmental Protection Agency estimates that household waste increases by 25 percent over the holiday period. Miriam Holsinger, co-president of Eureka Recycling, urges us to carefully separate what we throw away. She said: "It really does make a difference if you just take a little extra time to put those boxes and those bottles and cans in the blue bin." Engineering professor Dan Hoornweg said we should avoid producing waste as much as possible in the first place. Various experts have reported on how best to deal with holiday waste. Professor Hoornweg advised people to be aware of and follow the recycling policies in their town. He said different places have different rules. Ms Holsinger asked people to be careful when they throw away things like electronics, toys, and Christmas lights. Other experts also offered great advice. One said it was good to think ahead to reduce waste. She said one idea was to buy "experiences over stuff". This means buying someone a ticket to see a play or concert, instead of buying a present that comes in lots of packaging and a cardboard box. She also recommended giving people digital cards and gift cards.

FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

Write about **waste and trash** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260101-holiday-waste.html>

We should all buy fewer things. Discuss.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. WASTE AND TRASH: Make a poster about waste and trash. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. BUYING LESS: Write a magazine article about all of us buying less so that we can reduce waste and trash. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on waste and trash. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how we can reduce it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1.	c	2.	e	3.	d	4.	a	5.	f	6.	g	7.	b
8.	k	9.	h	10.	i	11.	n	12.	m	13.	j	14.	l

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

1	F	2	T	3	F	4	F	5	F	6	T	7	T	8	T
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. f	2. d	3. i	4. c	5. a
6. g	7. b	8. j	9. e	10. h

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- At the end of the year
- Trash
- Twenty-five per cent more
- In the blue bin
- Producing waste
- Recycling policies
- Rules
- Think ahead
- Experiences
- Digital cards and gift cards

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- Holidays around the end of the year.
- Waste increases by 25% over the holiday period.
- We carefully separate what we throw away.
- It really does make a big difference.
- Avoid producing waste as much as possible.
- He said different places have different rules.
- Be careful when they throw away things.
- One idea was to buy experiences over stuff.
- Buying someone a ticket to see a play.
- She also recommended giving people digital cards.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

- b
- d
- a
- c
- b
- a
- c
- a
- a
- d

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)