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## Level 3

# U.S. city will fine people who waste food

26th September, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

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

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

The U.S. city of Seattle is introducing a system to fine people who waste food. The city, in the USA's northwest, will begin issuing warnings on January the 1st and then start fining people six months later on July the 1st. People will get a \$1 fine if more than 10 per cent of their garbage is food. Businesses will get a \$50 fine. City officials want to reduce the amount of food that people and businesses waste. Americans waste around 40 per cent of the food they buy. The city hopes its new fines will bring this figure down. Seattle aims to increase the amount of waste it recycles from the current level of 56 per cent to 60 per cent. It has also become the second U.S. city to make composting compulsory.

The Seattle Public Utilities department said the new garbage disposal system should make people more aware that recycling is important. City official Tim Croll told the 'Seattle Times' newspaper that the programme would not make any money. He said: "The point isn't to raise revenue. We care more about reminding people to separate their materials." He added that he thinks the fines system will be a success and said he didn't expect to collect a lot of money in fines. It will be up to garbage collectors to decide if a house or business gets a fine. The collectors will look inside garbage bins to see how much food waste they contain. They can then add \$1 or \$50 to the next garbage bill.

Sources: [http://seattletimes.com/html/localnews/2024604656\\_citycompost1.xml.html](http://seattletimes.com/html/localnews/2024604656_citycompost1.xml.html)  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-29336968>

# WARM-UPS

**1. FOOD WASTE:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about food waste. 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?

*system / warnings / fines / garbage / waste food / recycles / composting / compulsory / public utilities / garbage disposal / programme / materials / collectors / bill*

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

**3. WASTE:** Complete this table and share what you wrote with your partner(s). Change partners often.

	In your life	How to make things better?
Food		
Money		
Electricity		
Time		
Energy		
Space		

**4. FINES:** Students A **strongly** believe fines for wasting food are necessary; Students B **strongly** believe they are not. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. WASTERS:** Rank these with your partner. Put the biggest wasters of food at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- restaurants
- supermarkets
- farmers
- rich people
- hotels
- food producers
- market traders
- charities

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

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

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

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| a. Seattle will start issuing warnings to people who waste food.         | T / F |
| b. People who have too much food in their garbage will get a \$100 fine. | T / F |
| c. Businesses that waste too much food will be fined \$50.               | T / F |
| d. Seattle has become the first US city to make composting compulsory.   | T / F |
| e. Seattle wants to make more people aware about recycling.              | T / F |
| f. The city hopes to make a lot of money from the fines.                 | T / F |
| g. Garbage collectors will decide who gets fined and who doesn't.        | T / F |
| h. People who waste food will get a pay-on-the-spot fine.                | T / F |

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. introducing | a. divide      |
| 2. issuing     | b. cut         |
| 3. reduce      | c. rubbish     |
| 4. figure      | d. required    |
| 5. compulsory  | e. starting    |
| 6. aware       | f. purpose     |
| 7. point       | g. include     |
| 8. separate    | h. sending out |
| 9. garbage     | i. number      |
| 10. contain    | j. informed    |

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

- |                                       |                             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. People will get                    | a. this figure down         |
| 2. Americans waste around 40 per cent | b. a lot of money in fines  |
| 3. its new fines will bring           | c. compulsory               |
| 4. increase the amount                | d. disposal system          |
| 5. make composting                    | e. a \$1 fine               |
| 6. the new garbage                    | f. to raise revenue         |
| 7. make people more aware that        | g. to the next garbage bill |
| 8. The point isn't                    | h. of waste it recycles     |
| 9. he didn't expect to collect        | i. recycling is important   |
| 10. add \$1 or \$50                   | j. of the food they buy     |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

The U.S. city of Seattle is introducing a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to fine people who waste food. The city, in the USA's northwest, will begin issuing (2) \_\_\_\_\_ on January the 1st and then start (3) \_\_\_\_\_ people six months later on July the 1st. People will get a \$1 fine if more than 10 per cent of their garbage is food. Businesses will get a \$50 fine. City officials want to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the amount of food that people and businesses waste. Americans waste around 40 per cent of the food they (5) \_\_\_\_\_. The city hopes its new fines will bring this (6) \_\_\_\_\_ down. Seattle aims to increase the amount of waste it (7) \_\_\_\_\_ from the current level of 56 per cent to 60 per cent. It has also become the second U.S. city to make composting (8) \_\_\_\_\_.

*reduce*  
*compulsory*  
*warnings*  
*recycles*  
*buy*  
*system*  
*figure*  
*fining*

The Seattle Public Utilities department said the new garbage (9) \_\_\_\_\_ system should make people more (10) \_\_\_\_\_ that recycling is important. City official Tim Croll told the 'Seattle Times' newspaper that the programme would not (11) \_\_\_\_\_ any money. He said: "The point isn't to raise (12) \_\_\_\_\_. We care more about reminding people to separate their materials." He added that he thinks the fines system will be a (13) \_\_\_\_\_ and said he didn't expect to (14) \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of money in fines. It will be up to garbage collectors to decide if a house or business gets a fine. The (15) \_\_\_\_\_ will look inside garbage bins to see how much food waste they contain. They can then add \$1 or \$50 to the next garbage (16) \_\_\_\_\_.

*aware*  
*revenue*  
*collect*  
*bill*  
*make*  
*collectors*  
*disposal*  
*success*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

- 1) The U.S. city of Seattle is \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. introducing a systems
  - b. introducing a systemic
  - c. introducing a cistern
  - d. introducing a system
- 2) City officials want to reduce the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. amounts of food
  - b. a mountain of food
  - c. amount of food
  - d. a mount of food
- 3) The city hopes its new fines will bring \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. this figure down
  - b. this figures down
  - c. this figured down
  - d. this fig or down
- 4) Seattle aims to increase the amount of waste it recycles from the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. current levels of 56%
  - b. currents level of 56%
  - c. currents levels of 56%
  - d. current level of 56%
- 5) It has also become the second U.S. city to make \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. compost in compulsory
  - b. composting compulsory
  - c. comp post tin compulsory
  - d. compose tin compulsory
- 6) the new garbage disposal system should make \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. people more a where
  - b. people more a ware
  - c. people more away
  - d. people more aware
- 7) We care more about reminding people to separate \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. their materials
  - b. their material
  - c. their materialise
  - d. their matter all
- 8) It will be up to garbage collectors \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. to decide
  - b. to decider
  - c. to decides
  - d. to decided
- 9) The collectors will look inside garbage bins to see how much food \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. waste they contained
  - b. waste they contain
  - c. waste they contains
  - d. waste they container
- 10) They can then add \$1 or \$50 to the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. next garbage will
  - b. next garbage dill
  - c. next garbage bill
  - d. next garbage pill

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

The U.S. city of Seattle is introducing (1) \_\_\_\_\_ people who waste food. The city, in the USA's northwest, will (2) \_\_\_\_\_ on January the 1st and then start fining people six months later on July the 1st. People (3) \_\_\_\_\_ if more than 10 per cent of their garbage is food. Businesses will get a \$50 fine. City officials want to reduce (4) \_\_\_\_\_ that people and businesses waste. Americans waste around 40 per cent of the food they buy. The city hopes its new fines will bring (5) \_\_\_\_\_. Seattle aims to increase the amount of waste it recycles from the current level of 56 per cent to 60 per cent. It has also become the second U.S. city to make (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

The Seattle Public Utilities department said the new garbage disposal system should make people (7) \_\_\_\_\_ recycling is important. City official Tim Croll told the 'Seattle Times' newspaper that the programme would not make any money. He said: "The point (8) \_\_\_\_\_. We care more about reminding people to (9) \_\_\_\_\_." He added that he thinks the fines system will be a success and said he didn't expect to (10) \_\_\_\_\_ money in fines. It will be up to garbage collectors to decide if a house or (11) \_\_\_\_\_. The collectors will look inside garbage bins to see how much food waste they contain. They can then add \$1 or \$50 to the (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

1. When will Seattle start fining people?

---

2. How much will businesses get fined for wasting food?

---

3. How much of the food they buy do Americans waste?

---

4. What is Seattle's new target for recycling its waste?

---

5. How many other American cities have made composting compulsory?

---

6. What will make people more aware that recycling is important?

---

7. What did Tim Croll say is not the point of the fines system?

---

8. What does Tim Croll want to remind people about?

---

9. Who will decide which people or businesses will get fined?

---

10. What will the fines be added to?

---



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

1. When will Seattle start fining people?
  - a) It hasn't decided
  - b) June 25th
  - c) 2016
  - d) July
2. How much will businesses get fined for wasting food?
  - a) \$500
  - b) \$50
  - c) \$5
  - d) \$5,000
3. How much of the food they buy do Americans waste?
  - a) 20%
  - b) 50%
  - c) 30%
  - d) 40%
4. What is Seattle's new target for recycling its waste?
  - a) 40%
  - b) 50%
  - c) 60%
  - d) 70%
5. How many other American cities have made composting compulsory?
  - a) 99
  - b) 27
  - c) none
  - d) one
6. What will make people more aware that recycling is important?
  - a) pink garbage collection trucks
  - b) an Internet campaign
  - c) the garbage disposal system
  - d) TV ads
7. What did Tim Croll say is not the point of the fines system?
  - a) raising revenue
  - b) clean streets
  - c) garbage
  - d) punishing people
8. What does Tim Croll want to remind people about?
  - a) healthy eating
  - b) food mountains
  - c) to separate their materials
  - d) garbage collection days
9. Who will decide which people or businesses will get fined?
  - a) special food waste agents
  - b) garbage collectors
  - c) neighbours
  - d) Seattle city officials
10. What will the fines be added to?
  - a) a garbage bill
  - b) the garbage bill
  - c) a list
  - d) a website

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

## **Role A – Fines**

You think fines are the best way to reduce food waste. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things won't work. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): using smaller plates, Internet campaigns or increased food prices.

## **Role B – Smaller plates**

You think using smaller plates is the best way to reduce food waste. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things won't work. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): fines, Internet campaigns or increased food prices.

## **Role C – Internet campaigns**

You think Internet campaigns are the best way to reduce food waste. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things won't work. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): using smaller plates, fines or increased food prices.

## **Role D – Increased food prices**

You think increased food prices are the best way to reduce food waste. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things won't work. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): using smaller plates, Internet campaigns or fines.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'food' and 'waste'.

<b>food</b>	<b>waste</b>

- 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"><li>• begin</li><li>• more</li><li>• 40</li><li>• down</li><li>• 56</li><li>• second</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• new</li><li>• make</li><li>• care</li><li>• success</li><li>• inside</li><li>• add</li></ul>
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# FOOD WASTE SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

Write five GOOD questions about food waste 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.

# FOOD WASTE DISCUSSION

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

- 1) What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'garbage'?
- 3) How good are you at recycling?
- 4) Why is recycling important?
- 5) What things do you waste a lot of?
- 6) What do you think of fining people who waste food?
- 7) Why do people waste so much food?
- 8) Is a \$1 fine too small to make people recycle?
- 9) What recycling system does your town have?
- 10) What do you think of making composting compulsory?

*U.S. city will fine people who waste food – 26th September, 2014*  
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# FOOD WASTE DISCUSSION

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

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) How does your town increase awareness of recycling?
- 12) Should Seattle try and make money from its fines?
- 14) How could you reduce what you waste?
- 15) Is raising awareness more important than raising revenue?
- 16) What happens to all the world's waste?
- 17) What does the expression "waste not, want not" mean?
- 18) How will the garbage collectors judge the amount of waste?
- 19) Do you agree with the saying that "one man's trash is another man's treasure"?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask Seattle city officials?

# 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 <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

The U.S. city of Seattle is (1) \_\_\_\_\_ a system to fine people who waste food. The city, in the USA's northwest, will begin issuing warnings on January the 1st and then start (2) \_\_\_\_\_ people six months later on July the 1st. People will get a \$1 fine if more than 10 per cent of their garbage is food. Businesses will get a \$50 fine. City officials want to (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the amount of food that people and businesses waste. Americans waste around 40 per cent of the food they buy. The city hopes its new fines will bring this (4) \_\_\_\_\_ down. Seattle aims to increase the amount of waste it recycles from the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ level of 56 per cent to 60 per cent. It has also become the second U.S. city to make composting (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

The Seattle Public Utilities department said the new garbage disposal system should make people more (7) \_\_\_\_\_ that recycling is important. City official Tim Croll told the 'Seattle Times' newspaper that the programme would not (8) \_\_\_\_\_ any money. He said: "The point isn't to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ revenue. We care more about (10) \_\_\_\_\_ people to separate their materials." He added that he thinks the fines system will be a success and said he didn't (11) \_\_\_\_\_ to collect a lot of money in fines. It will be up to garbage collectors to decide if a house or business gets a fine. The collectors will look inside garbage bins to see how much food waste they contain. They can then add \$1 or \$50 to the next garbage (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

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

- |     |                |                 |                |                  |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1.  | (a) introduces | (b) introducing | (c) introduced | (d) introduction |
| 2.  | (a) fines      | (b) fining      | (c) fined      | (d) fine         |
| 3.  | (a) cheapen    | (b) smaller     | (c) low        | (d) reduce       |
| 4.  | (a) numeral    | (b) figure      | (c) per cent   | (d) digit        |
| 5.  | (a) currant    | (b) current     | (c) concurrent | (d) currency     |
| 6.  | (a) gardening  | (b) force       | (c) compulsory | (d) have to      |
| 7.  | (a) beware     | (b) wary        | (c) aware      | (d) awareness    |
| 8.  | (a) do         | (b) be          | (c) make       | (d) let          |
| 9.  | (a) height     | (b) rise        | (c) up         | (d) raise        |
| 10. | (a) reminding  | (b) remembering | (c) remaining  | (d) remainder    |
| 11. | (a) expect     | (b) accept      | (c) except     | (d) exert        |
| 12. | (a) dill       | (b) will        | (c) bill       | (d) mill         |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. a yssetm to fine people who waste food
2. begin usgniis warnings on January the 1st
3. 10 per cent of their egbarag is food
4. increase the nmtuao of waste it recycles
5. from the nrtecur level of 56 per cent
6. make composting suormclopy

## Paragraph 2

7. The Seattle Public Utilities tntedaepm
8. make people more rwaae
9. the romgperam would not make any money
10. he didn't expect to coctle a lot of money
11. peatsrae their materials
12. garbage orctecsoll



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) revenue. We care more about reminding people to separate their materials." He added that he thinks the fines
- ( ) system will be a success and said he didn't expect to collect a lot of money in fines. It will be up to garbage
- ( ) The Seattle Public Utilities department said the new garbage disposal system should make people more
- ( ) aware that recycling is important. City official Tim Croll told the 'Seattle Times'
- ( ) bins to see how much food waste they contain. They can then add \$1 or \$50 to the next garbage bill.
- ( ) later on July the 1st. People will get a \$1 fine if more than 10 per cent of their garbage
- ( ) bring this figure down. Seattle aims to increase the amount of waste it recycles from the current level of 56 per cent
- ( **1** ) The U.S. city of Seattle is introducing a system to fine people who waste food. The city, in the USA's
- ( ) to 60 per cent. It has also become the second U.S. city to make composting compulsory.
- ( ) collectors to decide if a house or business gets a fine. The collectors will look inside garbage
- ( ) newspaper that the programme would not make any money. He said: "The point isn't to raise
- ( ) is food. Businesses will get a \$50 fine. City officials want to reduce the amount of food that people and businesses
- ( ) northwest, will begin issuing warnings on January the 1st and then start fining people six months
- ( ) waste. Americans waste around 40 per cent of the food they buy. The city hopes its new fines will

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

1. Introducing to who system people food a fine waste .

---

2. their garbage is food More than 10 per cent of .

---

3. new its hopes city The down figure this bring will fines .

---

4. the amount of waste it recycles Seattle aims to increase .

---

5. U.S. second The compulsory composting make to city .

---

6. that Make recycling people is more important aware .

---

7. fines in money of lot a collect to expect didn't He .

---

8. It up collectors be garbage decide will to to .

---

9. garbage inside look will collectors The bins .

---

10. \$50 can to then the add next garbage bill or \$1 They .

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

The U.S. city of Seattle is *introduction / introducing* a system to fine people who waste food. The city, in the USA's northwest, will begin *issued / issuing* warnings on January the 1st and then *started / start* fining people six months later on July the 1st. People will get a \$1 fine *if / as* more than 10 per cent of *their / there* garbage is food. Businesses will get a \$50 fine. City officials want to reduce the *amount / huge* of food that people and businesses waste. Americans waste around 40 per cent of the food they *eat / buy*. The city hopes its new fines will *bring / carry* this figure down. Seattle aims to increase the amount of waste it recycles from the *currency / current* level of 56 per cent to 60 per cent. It has also become the second U.S. city to make *composting / compost* compulsory.

The Seattle Public Utilities department said the new garbage *dispose / disposal* system should make people more *beware / aware* that recycling is important. City official Tim Croll told the 'Seattle Times' newspaper that the programme would not *make / do* any money. He said: "The *point / sharp* isn't to raise revenue. We care more about *remembering / reminding* people to separate their *materials / equipment*." He added that he thinks the fines system will be a success and said he didn't *expect / except* to collect a lot of money in fines. It will be up to garbage collectors to *deride / decide* if a house or business gets a fine. The collectors will look inside garbage *bins / bans* to see how much food waste they contain. They can then add \$1 or \$50 to the next garbage *will / bill*.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

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

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

The U.S. city of Seattle's new recycling system will fine people who waste food. The city, under the city's new law, will begin issuing warnings in January. The first and then start fining people six months later in July. People will get \$1 fine for more than 10 percent of their garbage is food. Businesses will get \$50 fine. City officials want to reduce the amount of food that people and businesses waste. Americans waste around 40 percent of the food they buy. The city hopes these new fines will bring the food down. Seattle aims to increase the amount of waste that is recycled from the current level of 56 percent to 60 percent. The city is back to the second U.S. city to make composting compulsory.

The Seattle Public Utilities department said the new garbage disposal system should make people more aware that recycling is important. City officials told the 'Seattle Times' newspaper that the program would not make anyone. He said: "The point isn't to raise revenue. We're more about reminding people to separate their materials." He added that he thanks the fines system will be successful and said he didn't expect to collect it from anyone in fines. It will be a big garbage collectors to deal with the new business gets fine. The collectors will likely send garbage bins to show how much food waste they contain. They can then add \$1 or \$50 to the next garbage bill.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

the us city of seattle is introducing a system to fine people who waste food  
the city in the usa's northwest will begin issuing warnings on january the 1st  
and then start fining people six months later on july the 1st people will get a  
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the city hopes its new fines will bring this figure down seattle aims to  
increase the amount of waste it recycles from the current level of 56 per  
cent to 60 per cent it has also become the second us city to make  
composting compulsory

the seattle public utilities department said the new garbage disposal system  
should make people more aware that recycling is important city official tim  
croll told the 'seattle times' newspaper that the programme would not make  
any money he said "the point isn't to raise revenue we care more about  
reminding people to separate their materials" he added that he thinks the  
fines system will be a success and said he didn't expect to collect a lot of  
money in fines it will be up to garbage collectors to decide if a house or  
business gets a fine the collectors will look inside garbage bins to see how  
much food waste they contain they can then add \$1 or \$50 to the next  
garbage bill

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1409/140926-food-waste.html>

The U.S. city of Seattle is introducing a system to fine people who waste food. The city, in the USA's northwest, will begin issuing warnings on January 1st and then start fining people six months later on July 1st. People will get a \$1 fine if more than 10 percent of their garbage is food. Businesses will get a \$50 fine. City officials want to reduce the amount of food that people and businesses waste. Americans waste around 40 percent of the food they buy. The city hopes its new fines will bring this figure down. Seattle aims to increase the amount of waste it recycles from the current level of 56 percent to 60 percent. It has also become the second U.S. city to make composting compulsory. The Seattle Public Utilities department said the new garbage disposal system should make people more aware that recycling is important. City official Tim Croll told the 'Seattle Times' newspaper that the program would not make any money. He said: "The point is not to raise revenue. We care more about reminding people to separate their materials." He added that he thinks the fines system will be a success and said he didn't expect to collect a lot of money in fines. It will be up to garbage collectors to decide if a house or business gets a fine. The collectors will look inside garbage bins to see how much food waste they contain. They can then add \$1 or \$50 to the next garbage bill.







# 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 food waste. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. FOOD WASTE:** Make a poster about food waste and how to reduce it. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. FINE:** Write a magazine article about fining people for wasting food. 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 recycling. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to recycle more. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T    b F    c T    d F    e T    f F    g T    h F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. introducing | a. starting    |
| 2. issuing     | b. sending out |
| 3. reduce      | c. cut         |
| 4. figure      | d. number      |
| 5. compulsory  | e. required    |
| 6. aware       | f. informed    |
| 7. point       | g. purpose     |
| 8. separate    | h. divide      |
| 9. garbage     | i. rubbish     |
| 10. contain    | j. include     |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. July 1st
2. \$50
3. 40%
4. 60%
5. One
6. The new garbage disposal system
7. Raising revenue
8. To separate their materials
9. Garbage collectors
10. The next garbage bill

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. d    2. b    3. d    4. c    5. d    6. c    7. a    8. c    9. b    10. a

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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