

PARTE 3. TEMA 1

STORIES IN NATURE

ÍNDICE

0. Introduction

1. Grammar: oraciones condicionales tipo 1

2. Vocabulario: environment and urban life

0. Introduction

En este tema vamos a leer un texto muy interesante titulado *The "if" generation que nos ayudará para poder entender las oraciones condicionales. Por ahora sólo vamos a necesitar utilizar las de tipo 1.*

THE IF GENERATION

Nowadays, many people have issues with appreciating what they have; it is always the matter of 'If I were richer...', 'If I were younger...', 'If I were him...' etc. I don't have a problem with the fact that we want more from our lives; what annoys me is the fact that we keep saying what we would do 'IF' ...

When I was younger, I thought that if my parents had been richer I could have been more fortunate with my life. I was losing my time on thinking that if I had been born in the family of my cousin, I would have enjoyed private tennis lessons, skiing holidays in Austria or expensive, fashionable clothes. What I didn't take into consideration back then was the fact that I didn't really like sport, I absolutely hated skiing and expensive clothes often covered the lack of personality. In other words, I was jealous of the things that I didn't want in reality.

Nowadays I keep finding myself the new 'ifs' that can successfully keep me away from being happy. I think that if I had more time, I would start going to the gym; if I had more money, I would eat healthy etc. Result? An overweight 30-year-old woman, always complaining about how difficult life is.

But the problem of 'ifs' doesn't finish here. We tend to overuse the 1st conditional in quite straightforward situations. 'I'll visit you if I have time' usually means 'I won't visit you, I'm busy' or 'I will lend you the money if I can' equals: 'I will not lend you the money, don't put me in an uncomfortable situation'. Why do we choose to send confusing messages when we can simply say what we think? We have to be not only politically correct anymore, we must be socially correct too.

1. Grammar

- Oraciones condicionales. Nos ayudarán a expresar condiciones, hipótesis, sugerencias y deseos. En el curriculum del módulo 4 sólo se incluye la condicional de primer tipo y de segundo tipo. Aunque en la teoría aparecerá la explicación de todas las condicionales, en los ejercicios **sólo se practicarán las de tipo 1 y 2, que son de las que el alumno se tendrá que examinar**. En este tema solo haremos ejercicios del tipo 1.

Conditional sentences

CONDITION + RESULT	
ZERO conditional	<p>If you stand in the rain, you get wet. If you heat ice, it melts.</p> <p>PRESENT SIMPLE + PRESENT SIMPLE</p> <p>USES: Facts which are generally true or scientific facts The condition always has the same result</p>
FIRST conditional	<p>If it rains, we will cancel the trip. If you study, you will pass the exam.</p> <p>PRESENT SIMPLE + WILL / WON'T + VERB</p> <p>USES: A possible situation in the future Predicting a likely result in the future (if the condition happens)</p>
SECOND conditional	<p>If I won the lottery, I would travel a lot. If they sold their house, they would be rich.</p> <p>PAST SIMPLE + WOULD + VERB</p> <p>USES: Hypothetical or unlikely situations Unreal or improbable situation now or in the future</p>
THIRD conditional	<p>If you had studied, you would have passed the exam. If I hadn't been sick, I would have gone to your party.</p> <p>PAST PERFECT + WOULD HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE</p> <p>USES: The person is imagining a different past Imaginary situation that did not happen</p>

Los condicionales se emplean para especular acerca de lo que podría ocurrir, lo que puede haber ocurrido y lo que desearíamos que ocurriese. En inglés, la mayoría de las oraciones que emplean el tiempo verbal condicional contienen el término "if". Muchas de las construcciones condicionales del inglés se utilizan en oraciones que incluyen verbos en pasado. Este uso se denomina "el pasado irreal" porque empleamos un tiempo verbal de pasado pero no estamos refiriéndonos a algo que haya sucedido realmente. Hay cinco formas principales de construir oraciones condicionales en inglés. En todos los casos, se componen de una proposición o cláusula con "if" y una proposición principal. En muchas oraciones condicionales negativas existe una construcción alternativa equivalente que usa "unless" en lugar de "if".

CONDICIONAL TIPO CERO

El "**zero conditional**" se utiliza cuando el tiempo al que nos referimos es ahora o siempre y la situación es real y posible. Este tipo de condicional suele emplearse para hablar de hechos generales. El tiempo verbal de ambas proposiciones es el "simple present". En las oraciones condicionales de tipo 0, el término "if" puede normalmente sustituirse por "when" sin que cambie el significado.

EJEMPLOS

If you heat ice, it melts.

Ice melts if you heat it.

When you heat ice, it melts.

Ice melts when you heat it.

If it rains, the grass gets wet.

The grass gets wet if it rains.

When it rains, the grass gets wet.

The grass gets wet when it rains.

El condicional tipo cero suele también utilizarse para dar instrucciones y, en este caso, el verbo de la cláusula principal va en imperativo.

EJEMPLOS

If Bill phones, tell him to meet me at the cinema.

Ask Pete if you're not sure what to do.

If you want to come, call me before 5:00.

Meet me here if we get separated.

CONDICIONAL TIPO 1

El "**type 1 conditional**" se emplea para referirse al presente o futuro cuando la situación es real. El condicional tipo 1 se refiere a una condición posible y su resultado probable. En estas oraciones, la cláusula "if" adopta el "simple present" y la proposición principal el "simple future".

EJEMPLOS

If it rains, you will get wet.

You will get wet if it rains.

If Sally is late again I will be mad.

I will be mad if Sally is late again.

If you don't hurry, you will miss the bus.

You will miss the bus if you don't hurry.

CONDICIONAL TIPO 2

El "**type 2 conditional**" se utiliza para referirse a un tiempo que puede ser ahora o en cualquier momento y a una situación que no es real. Estas oraciones no aluden a hechos. El condicional tipo 2 se emplea para hacer referencia a una condición hipotética y su resultado probable. En estas oraciones, la proposición "if" adopta el "simple past" y la cláusula principal el "present conditional".

EJEMPLOS

If it rained, you would get wet.

You would get wet if it rained.

If you went to bed earlier you wouldn't be so tired.

You wouldn't be so tired if you went to bed earlier.

If she fell, she would hurt herself.

She would hurt herself if she fell.

Con el verbo "to be", es correcto y además muy habitual decir "if I were" en lugar de "if I was".

EJEMPLOS

If I were taller, I would buy this dress.

If I were 20, I would travel the world.

If I were you, I would give up smoking.

If I were a plant, I would love the rain.

En las oraciones condicionales de tipo 2 también pueden emplearse los modales en la proposición principal para expresar el grado de certeza, permiso o una recomendación sobre el resultado.

EJEMPLOS

We might buy a larger house if we had more money

He could go to the concert if you gave him your ticket.

If he called me, I couldn't hear.

CONDICIONAL TIPO 3

El "**type 3 conditional**" se emplea para referirse a un tiempo situado en el pasado y a una situación contraria a la realidad. Se basa en unos hechos que son opuestos a lo que se está expresando. El condicional tipo 3 se utiliza para hacer referencia a una condición del pasado que no es real, así como a su resultado probable en el pasado. En estas oraciones, la cláusula "if" adopta el "past perfect" y la proposición principal el "perfect conditional".

EJEMPLOS

If it had rained, you would have gotten wet.

You would have gotten wet if it had rained.

You would have passed your exam if you had worked harder.

If you had worked harder, you would have passed your exam.

I would have believed you if you hadn't lied to me before.

If you hadn't lied to me before, I would have believed you.

RECUERDA QUE SOLO ENTRAN TIPO 1 Y 2 PARA EL EXAMEN

Actividad nº 1

Complete the Conditional Sentences (Type I) by putting the verbs into the correct form.

1. If you (SEND)_____ this letter now, she (RECEIVE)_____ it tomorrow.
2. If I (DO)_____ this test, I (IMPROVE)_____ my English.
3. If I (FIND)_____ your ring, I (GIVE)_____ it back to you.
4. Peggy (GO)_____ shopping if she (HAVE)_____ time in the _____ afternoon.
5. Simon (GO)_____ to London next week if he (GET)_____ a cheapflight.
6. If her boyfriend (PHONE)_____ today, she (LEAVE)_____ him.
7. If they (STUDY)_____ harder, they (PASS)_____ the exam.
8. If it (RAIN)_____ tomorrow, I (HAVE)_____ to water the plants.
9. You (CAN)_____ able to sleep if you (WATCH)_____ this scary _____ film. _____
10. Susan (MOVE)_____ into the new house if it (BE)_____ ready ontime.

Actividad 2: Completar las Oraciones

Completa las siguientes oraciones utilizando la forma correcta del condicional tipo 1. Elige el verbo adecuado y conjugado correctamente.

1. If it (rain) tomorrow, I (stay) at home.
2. She (pass) the exam if she (study) harder.
3. If you (not hurry), you (miss) the bus.
4. If I (see) him at the party, I (say) hello.
5. If you (eat) too much, you (feel) sick.

Actividad 3: hacer preguntas.

Trabaja en parejas o grupos. Haz preguntas utilizando el condicional 1. Responde.

1. If you win the lottery what (you/do)?
2. If you can travel anywhere in the world, where (you/go)?
3. If it's sunny tomorrow, what (you/do)?
4. If you have more free time, how (you/spend) it?
5. If you can meet any famous person, who (you/choose)?

2. Vocabulary: environment and urban life

Urban Life and the Environment

In today's rapidly urbanizing world, more people are living in cities than ever before. While urban life offers many opportunities and conveniences, it also presents significant challenges for the environment.

Cities are known for their bustling streets, towering skyscrapers, and vibrant cultures. They are centers of commerce, education, and innovation, attracting people from all walks of life. However, this concentrated urbanization places enormous stress on the environment.

One of the primary environmental issues in cities is air pollution. The high density of vehicles, industrial activities, and energy consumption in urban areas contributes to poor air quality. Smog, caused by the release of pollutants, can have serious health consequences for urban dwellers.

Another concern is the lack of green spaces in many cities. As concrete jungles expand, greenery is often sacrificed for more buildings and infrastructure. Parks and green areas are essential for urban residents' physical and mental well-being, as they provide a respite from the hustle and bustle of city life.

Urbanization also generates a significant amount of waste. The consumption-driven lifestyle in cities leads to the production of vast quantities of garbage, putting a strain on

waste management systems. Recycling and waste reduction initiatives are crucial to mitigate this issue.

Noise pollution is yet another challenge faced by urban inhabitants. Constant traffic, construction, and industrial activities contribute to high noise levels, impacting people's sleep, concentration, and overall quality of life.

To address these environmental issues, many cities are adopting sustainable practices. They are investing in public transportation to reduce the number of private vehicles on the road. Initiatives to increase green spaces and promote recycling are also gaining traction. Additionally, urban planning that prioritizes environmental sustainability is becoming more prevalent.

Actividad 4. Une las palabras con sus definiciones

1. Urbanization
2. Smog
3. Green spaces
4. Recycling
5. Noise pollution

Definitions:

- a. The process of increasing the number of people living in cities and towns.
- b. Excessive noise that disrupts the natural environment and affects human health.
- c. Areas within a city that are covered with grass, trees, and other vegetation.
- d. The practice of converting waste materials into reusable materials.
- e. Air pollution caused by the combination of smoke and fog.

Actividad 5. Rellena los huecos con palabras adecuadas sacadas de la lectura

- a. _____ is a major concern in densely populated urban areas due to industrial activities and vehicle emissions.
- b. Many cities are trying to combat pollution by promoting _____ programs.
- c. People in urban environments often suffer from _____ caused by constant construction and traffic noise.
- d. _____ are essential for urban residents to relax and connect with nature.
- e. Rapid _____ is changing the landscape of cities around the world.

Actividad 6. Responde las siguientes preguntas

1. What are the primary environmental challenges mentioned in the text that urban areas face?
2. Why are green spaces important in cities, and how do they benefit residents?
3. What initiatives are cities taking to address environmental issues caused by urbanization?
4. How can individuals contribute to making urban life more environmentally friendly?
5. Do you think urbanization is an inevitable trend, and if so, how can it be balanced with environmental sustainability?

PARTE 3. TEMA II

EXTREME CLIMATE

ÍNDICE

0. Introduction

1. Grammar: oraciones condicionales tipo 2

2. Vocabulario: natural disasters

0. Introduction

En este tema vamos a repetir toda la explicación sobre las oraciones condicionales del tema anterior pero debemos recordar que para el examen solamente hay que saber las del tipo 1 y 2. Aquí nos centraremos en los ejercicios del tipo 2. Además nos acercaremos a uno de los temas de moda: el cambio climático.

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If you hadn't lied to me before, I would have believed you.

RECUERDA QUE SOLO ENTRAN TIPO 1 Y 2 PARA EL EXAMEN

Actividad nº 1

Janine is a daydreamer. She imagines what would happen if she won the lottery. Complete the Conditional Sentences Type II.

1. If I (PLAY)_____ the lottery, I (HAVE)_____ a chance to hit the jackpot.
2. If I (HIT)_____ the jackpot, I (BE)_____ rich.
3. If I (BE)_____ rich, my life (CHANGE)_____ completely.
4. I (BUY)_____ a lonely island if I (FIND)_____ a nice one.
5. If I (OWN)_____ a lonely island, I (BUILD)_____ a huge house by the beach.
6. I (INVITE)_____ all my friends if I (HAVE)_____ a house by the beach.

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7. I (PICK)_____my friends up in my yacht if they (WANT)_____to spend their holidays on my island.
8. We (HAVE)_____great parties if my friends (COME)_____to my island.
9. If we (LIKE)_____to go shopping in a big city, we (CHARTER)_____a helicopter.
10. But if my friends' holidays (BE)_____over, I (FEEL)_____very lonely on my lonely island.

Actividad nº 2

Completa las siguientes oraciones utilizando la forma correcta del condicional tipo 2. Elige el verbo adecuado y conjúgalo correctamente.

1. If she (win) the lottery, she (travel) around the world.
2. If I (be) a bird, I (fly) to exotic places.
3. If he (study) more, he (get) better grades.
4. If they (visit) Paris, they (see) the Eiffel Tower.
5. If it (rain) tomorrow, I (stay) at home.

Actividad nº 3

Practica el uso del condicional tipo 2 en conversaciones imaginarias. Responde a las preguntas utilizando el condicional tipo 2.

1. If you could go back in time, what historical period (you/visit)?
2. If you won the lottery, what (you/do) with the money?
3. If you had the opportunity to meet any historical figure, who (you/choose)?
4. If you could speak any language fluently, which language (you/speak)?
5. If you could live in any country, where (you/live)?

2. Vocabulario: natural disasters

Vemos una lectura, con preguntas y una lista de vocabulario:

Title: Natural Disasters: Causes, Consequences, and Preparedness

Introduction

Natural disasters are events that result from natural processes and cause significant damage to the environment and human lives. These events, which include earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, wildfires, and more, are unpredictable and

can have devastating effects. This essay explores the causes and consequences of natural disasters and emphasizes the importance of preparedness.

Causes of Natural Disasters

1. **Earthquakes:** Earthquakes occur when there is a sudden release of energy in the Earth's crust, resulting in seismic waves. These movements can be caused by tectonic plate shifts, volcanic activity, or human-induced factors like mining.
2. **Hurricanes and Cyclones:** These powerful storms form over warm ocean waters. Rising temperatures due to climate change can intensify them, leading to more frequent and severe hurricanes.
3. **Floods:** Flooding can result from heavy rainfall, storm surges, or the melting of snow and ice. Urbanization and deforestation can exacerbate flood risks.
4. **Wildfires:** Wildfires often occur in dry, hot conditions. Human activities, such as campfires or discarded cigarettes, can trigger wildfires.

Consequences of Natural Disasters

1. **Loss of Life:** Natural disasters can lead to the tragic loss of human lives, causing immense grief and suffering.
2. **Property Damage:** Homes, infrastructure, and businesses are often destroyed or severely damaged, leading to financial losses and displacement.
3. **Environmental Impact:** Natural disasters can harm ecosystems, cause soil erosion, and contaminate water sources.
4. **Economic Costs:** Rebuilding after disasters comes at a high economic cost, impacting a region's economy for years.
5. **Psychological Impact:** Survivors may experience trauma, anxiety, and stress due to their experiences during a disaster.

Preparedness and Mitigation

1. **Early Warning Systems:** Governments and organizations must invest in effective early warning systems to alert communities of impending disasters.
2. **Infrastructure Resilience:** Building infrastructure with disaster resilience in mind can minimize damage and save lives.
3. **Community Education:** Educating the public on disaster preparedness and evacuation plans is vital.

4. **Environmental Conservation:** Protecting natural habitats and reducing greenhouse gas emissions can mitigate the frequency and intensity of some disasters.
5. **International Cooperation:** Global cooperation is essential to address the cross-border impact of natural disasters.

Conclusion

Natural disasters are unpredictable and can have catastrophic consequences. While we cannot prevent them entirely, preparedness, mitigation, and international cooperation can significantly reduce their impact and save lives.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What are some common natural disasters in your region, and how have they affected your community?
2. How can individuals and communities prepare for natural disasters?
3. What role does climate change play in the increasing frequency and severity of natural disasters?
4. In your opinion, what steps should governments and organizations take to improve disaster preparedness and response?
5. Have you personally experienced or been affected by a natural disaster, and how did it impact your life?

Vocabulary List:

1. **Devastating:** Extremely destructive or damaging.
2. **Seismic waves:** Vibrations in the Earth's crust caused by earthquakes.
3. **Tectonic plate:** A large, rigid piece of the Earth's lithosphere.
4. **Storm surges:** Abnormal rise in sea level during a hurricane.
5. **Deforestation:** The process of clearing forests for agriculture or development.
6. **Erosion:** The gradual wearing away of the Earth's surface.
7. **Infrastructure:** Physical structures and facilities necessary for a society to function.
8. **Mitigation:** Actions taken to reduce the severity or impact of something.
9. **Early warning systems:** Systems designed to provide advance notice of potential dangers.
10. **Resilience:** The ability to recover quickly from difficulties or setbacks.

PARTE 3. TEMA III

THE 3R'S (REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE)

ÍNDICE

0. Introduction

1. Grammar: oraciones condicionales tipo 1 y 2

2. Vocabulario: materials and recycling

0. Introduction

En esta unidad vamos a poner en práctica los conocimientos adquiridos en los dos temas anteriores ya que mezclaremos los dos tipos de condicional que entran en el examen. Ahora, debes estar atento para poder elegir el tipo adecuado en cada ocasión depende de lo que quieras expresar.

Por otro lado, aprenderemos vocabulario necesario a la hora de poder entender un tema tan importante a día de hoy como es el asunto del reciclaje. Primero de todo, vamos a ver una pequeña lectura. Al final de ella se plantearán varias cuestiones.

The 3 R's: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle

In today's world, environmental conservation has become increasingly crucial. It's essential to adopt sustainable practices that minimize waste and protect our planet for future generations. The 3 R's—Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle—offer a practical framework to address these environmental challenges.

1. **Reduce:** The first "R" encourages us to reduce our consumption of resources and products. By being mindful of our needs and making conscious choices, we can significantly decrease our environmental footprint. For example, we can reduce energy consumption by using energy-efficient appliances and turning off lights when not in use. We can also reduce water wastage by fixing leaks and using water-saving fixtures.
2. **Reuse:** The second "R" emphasizes the importance of reusing items whenever possible. Rather than discarding products after a single use, consider their potential for further utility. Reusable shopping bags, water bottles, and containers can help reduce the need for disposable alternatives. Repairing and refurbishing items, such as clothing and electronics, instead of throwing them away, can also contribute to waste reduction.
3. **Recycle:** The final "R" encourages us to recycle materials that can be transformed into new products. Recycling paper, glass, plastic, and metal conserves valuable resources and reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills. Recycling not only helps protect the environment but also conserves energy compared to manufacturing new materials from scratch.

These three principles, when combined, form a powerful strategy for environmental conservation. They not only reduce the depletion of natural resources but also decrease pollution and landfill waste.

Questions for Discussion:

1. Why is it important to practice the 3 R's (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) in our daily lives?
2. How can reducing our consumption of resources benefit the environment and society as a whole?
3. What are some practical ways to reduce energy consumption in our homes?
4. Give examples of items that can be reused and explain why reusing them is beneficial.
5. How does recycling contribute to conserving natural resources, and what materials are commonly recycled in your community?
6. Are there any challenges or obstacles to implementing the 3 R's in your area, and how can they be overcome?

The 3 R's provide a straightforward approach to living more sustainably and reducing our impact on the environment. By incorporating these principles into our daily lives, we can contribute to a greener and healthier planet.

1. Grammar

Recordamos brevemente la estructura de los diferentes tipos de condicionales y nos centramos en los tipos 1 y 2.

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ZERO conditional	If you stand in the rain, you get wet. If you heat ice, it melts. PRESENT SIMPLE + PRESENT SIMPLE USES: Facts which are generally true or scientific facts The condition always has the same result
FIRST conditional	If it rains, we will cancel the trip. If you study, you will pass the exam. PRESENT SIMPLE + WILL / WON'T + VERB USES: A possible situation in the future Predicting a likely result in the future (if the condition happens)
SECOND conditional	If I won the lottery, I would travel a lot. If they sold their house, they would be rich. PAST SIMPLE + WOULD + VERB USES: Hypothetical or unlikely situations Unreal or improbable situation now or in the future
THIRD conditional	If you had studied, you would have passed the exam. If I hadn't been sick, I would have gone to your party. PAST PERFECT + WOULD HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE USES: The person is imagining a different past Imaginary situation that did not happen

Actividad nº 1: Completa las frases condicionales. Decide si es tipo 1 o tipo 2.

1. If you (DO)_____your homework now, we (GO)_____to the cinema in the evening.
2. If we (ORDER)_____the book now, we (HAVE)_____it tomorrow.
3. If I (HAVE)_____more money, I (BUY)_____a bigger car.
4. If I (MEET)_____my favourite movie star, I (ASK)_____him for an autograph.
5. I (CALL)_____you if I (NEED)_____your help.
6. I (GO)_____swimming if the weather (BE)_____better.
7. If he (HAVE)_____time tomorrow, we (MEET)_____the day after.
8. If I (BE)_____you, I (KNOW)_____what to do.
9. If we (ORDER)_____the tickets soon, there (BE)_____any tickets left.
10. She (SAY)_____that if she (BE)_____your friend.

Actividad nº 2: Cambio de Condicionales Tipo 1 a Tipo 2

Toma las siguientes oraciones condicionales tipo 1 y conviértelas en oraciones condicionales tipo 2. Usa la estructura adecuada para cada tipo.

1. If she studies hard, she will pass the exam.

Tipo 2: If she...

2. If he comes to the party, I will be happy.

Tipo 2: If he...

3. If they finish their work on time, they will go on vacation.

Tipo 2: If they...

4. If it rains tomorrow, the picnic will be canceled.

Tipo 2: If..

5. If you call me later, I will answer your questions.

Tipo 2: If..

6. If she visits Paris, she will see the Eiffel Tower.

Tipo 2: If...

7. If he studies more, he will improve his grades.

Tipo 2: If..

8. If they arrive early, we will have dinner together.

Tipo 2: If...

Actividad nº3: Cambio de condicionales de tipo 2 a tipo 1

Toma las siguientes oraciones condicionales tipo 2 y conviértelas en oraciones condicionales tipo 1. Utiliza la estructura adecuada para cada tipo y el verbo en la forma correcta.

1. If I had more free time, I would travel.

Tipo 1: If..

2. If he won the lottery, he would buy a new house.

Tipo 1: If

3. If she spoke French fluently, she would apply for the job.

Tipo 1: If

4. If they had enough money, they would start a business.

Tipo 1: If

5. If it snowed tomorrow, they would cancel the event.

Tipo 1: If

6. If I lived in a bigger city, I would have more opportunities.

Tipo 1: If

7. If she found the key, she would unlock the door.

Tipo 1: If

8. If they had better grades, they would get into a prestigious university.

Tipo 1: If

2. Vocabulario: materials and recycling

Title: Recycling: A Small Act with a Big Impact

Introduction

Recycling is a simple yet powerful way to contribute to a healthier planet. It involves collecting and processing materials that would otherwise be discarded as waste and turning them into new products. This essay explores the importance of recycling, its benefits, and how individuals can play a role in this sustainable practice.

The Significance of Recycling

Recycling is essential for several reasons. Firstly, it conserves valuable natural resources. When we recycle materials like paper, glass, and plastic, we reduce the need to extract raw materials from the Earth. This helps protect forests, reduce mining, and conserve energy.

Secondly, recycling minimizes waste in landfills. Landfills are not only unsightly but can also pose environmental risks, such as groundwater pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. By diverting materials from landfills, recycling helps mitigate these hazards.

Environmental Benefits of Recycling

Recycling has several environmental benefits:

- 1. Energy Conservation:** Recycling often requires less energy than producing new items from raw materials. For instance, recycling aluminum saves up to 95% of the energy needed to create aluminum from bauxite ore.
- 2. Reduction in Pollution:** Recycling reduces the pollution associated with extracting, refining, and processing raw materials. For example, recycling paper reduces air and water pollution compared to manufacturing paper from trees.
- 3. Lower Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** Recycling helps decrease greenhouse gas emissions, as it typically requires less energy and resources than making products from scratch.

The Role of Individuals

Individuals can make a significant impact by adopting recycling practices in their daily lives. Here are some steps to consider:

- 1. Separate Recyclables:** Sort recyclable materials, such as paper, glass, plastic, and aluminum, from regular waste. Many communities provide recycling bins for easy collection.
- 2. Educate Yourself:** Learn about local recycling programs and guidelines to ensure you're recycling correctly.
- 3. Reduce and Reuse:** Before recycling, consider reducing your consumption of single-use items and reusing items when possible.
- 4. Purchase Recycled Products:** Support the recycling industry by choosing products made from recycled materials.
- 5. Advocate for Recycling:** Encourage friends and family to recycle and raise awareness about the benefits of recycling in your community.

Conclusion

Recycling is a small but significant step toward a more sustainable and eco-friendly future. It conserves resources, reduces pollution, and lowers greenhouse gas emissions. By actively participating in recycling efforts, individuals can contribute to a cleaner and healthier planet for generations to come.

Questions for Discussion:

1. Have you ever participated in a recycling program? If so, how was your experience?
2. How does recycling benefit the environment in your opinion?
3. What materials are commonly recycled in your community?
4. Do you believe that recycling is widely practiced and encouraged in your area? Why or why not?
5. What can governments and organizations do to promote and improve recycling efforts?

Vocabulary List:

1. **Conserving:** Preserving or protecting something from harm or depletion.
2. **Raw materials:** Unprocessed substances used in the production of goods.
3. **Diverting:** Redirecting or channeling something in a different direction.
4. **Mitigate:** To make something less severe, harmful, or painful.
5. **Unsightly:** Unpleasant to look at, often due to being ugly or disorganized.
6. **Greenhouse gas emissions:** The release of gases like carbon dioxide that contribute to the greenhouse effect and global warming.
7. **Single-use items:** Products designed for one-time use and then discarded.
8. **Eco-friendly:** Environmentally friendly or not harmful to the environment.