

8.10 Waste Reduction Methods

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 10 marks**

KEY WORDS composting 堆肥 • reduce, reuse, recycle 减量、再利用、回收

Objective

Build the skills to answer exam questions on **waste reduction methods**.

You must be able to:

- apply the **three Rs** (reduce, reuse, recycle) and **composting** 堆肥
- explain the **waste hierarchy** (reduce is best)
- describe benefits of each method

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a question type used later — follow the steps and you can do the Practice and Exam-style questions yourself.

■ The waste hierarchy

Best to worst: **Reduce** → **Reuse** → **Recycle** → (**Recover energy**) → **Dispose**.
Preventing waste in the first place (**reduce**) is best.

■ The three Rs

- **Reduce** — use less / buy less packaging.
- **Reuse** — use items again (refillable bottles).
- **Recycle** — process materials into new products (paper, glass, metal, plastic).

■ Composting

Composting turns food and yard waste into fertilizer, keeping organic matter out of landfills (where it would make methane) and enriching soil.

■ Benefits

Waste reduction saves **landfill space**, **energy**, and **raw materials**, and cuts pollution and greenhouse gases.

2 Practice

Now apply the methods above.

2.1 State the three Rs in order (best first). [1]

2.2 What does composting turn waste into? [1]

2.3 Which R is the most effective? [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 In the waste hierarchy, the best option is to [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** dispose
B recycle
C reduce
D incinerate

3.2 A household wants to cut its waste.

- (a) Give one example each of reducing, reusing, and recycling. [3]
(b) Explain one environmental benefit of composting food scraps. [1]

3.3 Explain why “reduce” is more effective than “recycle”. [2]