

Just before garbage collection

the-cars

the-cdrs

mixture of useful data and garbage

working  
memory

↑  
free

new-cars

new-cdrs

free memory

free  
memory

Just after garbage collection

new-cars

new-cdrs

discarded memory

new  
free  
memory

the-cars

the-cdrs

useful data

free area

new  
working  
memory

↑  
free