

Lesson 7 Glossary

brand new (adjective phrase): absolutely new, fresh

currency (noun): the state of being current, up-to-the-minute

detrimental (adjective): harmful

discarded (verb, past tense): thrown away

disposed of (verb phrase, past tense): to get rid of

endeavor (noun): effort, attempt

footprint (noun): the area that is affected by action or inaction (as used by this Lesson, footprint is a common way to describe environmental impact)

functional (adjective): operational, working well

harvest (verb): gather

initiative (noun): a step or beginning action towards a larger goal

metrics (noun): a quantitative measurable set of data used for decision-making

mining (verb): the process of obtaining minerals (as used by this Lesson, it could be considered jargon because “urban mining” is the collection of materials and minerals that have already been dug from the ground and processed; urban mining means collecting waste and extracting profitable goods back out of that waste)

mitigation (noun): the action of reducing the pain, damage or impact of something negative

necessarily (adjective): inevitably, as an unavoidable result

peerless (adjective): without equal; superb; exceptionally good

potentially (adjective): can happen in the future

prime (adjective): agreeable, good, advantageous

reclaim, reclaiming (verb): recover, collect

stakeholders (noun, plural): those who have an investment, interest, or concern in a matter

thus (adverb, transition word): therefore; as a result

urban mining (noun): see “mining”

viable (adjective): practical, capable of being put into action

voiced (verb, past tense): stated, said

Lesson 7, Listening: Practice Activity #1

1. If lead is used in lead-acid batteries, the lead will be recoverable to repeated uses.
2. If primary lead is mined, the new material will only be used to top off lead that is already circulating in the economy.
3. If humans get prolonged exposure to cadmium, there will be consequences for liver functioning.
4. If PVC plastics are used in piping, they will offer a low cost and resistance to environmental degradation
5. If containers using #3 plastics or PVC plastics are burned, hydrogen gas will be released in the smoke.
6. If mercury vapor is inhaled, there will be significant lung damage.

Lesson 7 Listening: Transcript, Jon and Roberto

Jon: Say, Roberto - How is the proposal coming? Have you turned it in yet?

Roberto: Yes, well, I have a draft, but I can't say I'm entirely satisfied with the result!

Jon: Why? What's wrong, if you don't mind my asking?

Roberto: You know, it's not as complete as I wanted. I really needed another full week to do research. If I had another week, the proposal would be a winner, no question. I'm sure of it.

Jon: Oh, Roberto. You know how that goes. If you had another week, you would just want even more time.

Roberto: Maybe. But I never received answers to some of my research questions when I contacted some of my resources. If the answers were available, I could fill in some important gaps. I'm just not sure I have a convincing proposal.

Jon: If I were you, I wouldn't worry too much. The proposal is just a start. If the managers wanted all the details, they would give everyone six months instead of one. Our managers are a pretty practical group, overall. I think that if your proposal is selected, they'll give you more time to flesh out the details before implementation. In fact, I'm sure of it.

Roberto: Really? I'm glad you think so. All right, then - I'll just wait to hear how it goes.

Lesson 7, Speaking: Practice Activity #2

PSA Exercise Transcript

For fill-in-the-blank activity:

Got a 5-year-old computer _____ never use again? You're not alone. Outdated electronics, called e-waste, make up one of the fastest growing contributors to landfills. And if you _____ your outdated laptop, printer or phone in the trash, _____ just add to the problem. The solution? The international engineering firm Logrify is sponsoring a Recycling day June 24-25 from 9 to 5 at 1245 Main Street. If _____ your outdated electronic devices to us, we _____ dispose of them safely, removing toxic elements and recycling useful materials. Call 851-555-4444 now for more information. That's 851-555-4444. This is your chance to do the right thing for the environment!

Answers follow on the next page.

Completed activity:

Got a 5-year-old computer you'll never use again? You're not alone. Outdated electronics, called e-waste, make up one of the fastest growing contributors to landfills. And if you throw your outdated laptop, printer or phone in the trash, you will just add to the problem. The solution? The international engineering firm Logrify is sponsoring a Recycling day June 24-25 from 9 to 5 at 1245 Main Street. If you'll bring your outdated electronic devices to us, we will dispose of them safely, removing toxic elements and recycling useful materials. Call 851-555-4444 now for more information. That's 851-555-4444. This is your chance to do the right thing for the environment!

L 7 Speaking: Practice Activity #4

Exercise

Ted: So, Myra, how did the PSA go?

Myra: The station cooperated, but they didn't allow us much time. But that's their PSA policy. If the time limits _____ not so strict, we _____ provide more information to the public.

Ted: I'm sorry to hear that. On the other hand, the plans for Recycling Day are shaping up nicely. If enough people _____, _____ be able to collect good data on precious metals saved and parts recycled.

Myra: I'd like to have a better understanding about that. If you _____ me a brief summary now, _____ take notes for a press release. Evidently only 10-40% of e-waste recycling is done properly. I know we can do better.

Ted: Right. Well, to start, we _____ separate plastics from metals and internal circuitry. Then we _____ see what can be recovered, reused and recycled, including plastic, metals and glass. If we _____ to complete those processes ourselves, it _____ be impossible, so we've contracted with two specialized vendors for that.

Myra: So, I imagine that Logrify _____ incur some expenses for those vendors, and other costs.

Ted: Yes, that's why we charge on a per-pound basis. But it's not about profit. At the end of the day, Logrify _____ certainly spend money, but in return we _____ get a lot of positive P.R.

End of Exercise Worksheet—Answers on next page

Results

Ted: So, Myra, how did the PSA go?

Myra: The station cooperated, but they didn't allow us much time. But that's their PSA policy. If the time limits were not so strict, we could/would/might provide more information to the public.

Ted: I'm sorry to hear that. On the other hand, the plans for Recycling Day are shaping up nicely. If enough people come/cooperate/show up/donate, we'll be able to collect good data on precious metals saved and parts recycled.

Myra: I'd like to have a better understanding about that. If you give/can give me a brief summary now, I'll take notes for a press release. Evidently only 10-40% of e-waste recycling is done properly. I know we can do better.

Ted: Right. Well, to start, we will separate plastics from metals and internal circuitry. Then we will see what can be recovered, reused and recycled, including plastic, metals and glass. If we tried/attempted to complete those processes ourselves, it would/might be impossible, so we've contracted with two specialized vendors for that.

Myra: So, I imagine that Logrify will incur some expenses for those vendors, and other costs.

Ted: Yes, that's why we charge on a per-pound basis. But it's not about profit. At the end of the day, Logrify will certainly spend money, but in return we will get a lot of positive P.R.