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Garbage Inventory Exercise

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| Day of the Week | Quantity | Description | Deposition Location |
| Saturday/Day 0 | 1 | Good & gather box of egg whites | Regular trash |
|  | 1 | Chick-fil-a sandwich box (dirty) | Compost |
|  | 1 | Chick-fil-a bag (dirty) | Compost |
|  | 1 | Apple core | Compost |
|  | 1 | Plastic box of raspberries (unknown brand) | Regular trash |
|  | 2 | Floss picks | Regular trash |
|  | 4 | Scratch paper A4 (scribbles and diagrams) | Regular trash |
|  | 1 | Tangerine peel | Regular trash |
|  | 1 | Costco plastic bag containing fish (dirty) | Regular trash |
|  | 1 | Bounce dryer sheet fabric softener | Regular trash |
|  | 1 | Synergy kombucha drink (glass) | Recycle |
|  |  |  |  |
| Sunday/Day 1 | 1 | Apple core (half-eaten) | Compost |
|  | 1 | Piece of gum (green) | Regular trash |
|  | 1 | Surgical mask (blue) | Regular trash |
|  | 2 | Paper towels (dirty, used to dry my hands) | Regular trash |
|  | 1 | Plastic bag (clean, used to contain fruit) | Regular trash |
|  | 2 | Floss picks (dirty) | Regular trash |
|  |  |  |  |
| Monday/Day 2 | 1 | Chocolate chip Clif bar plastic wrapper | Recycling |
|  | 2 | Scratch paper A4 (scribbles and diagrams) | Recycling |
|  | 1 | Apple core (half-eaten) | Compost |
|  | 1 | Plastic plate | Regular trash |
|  | 3 | Paper towels | Regular trash |
|  | 1 | Trader Joe’s salad plastic container | Regular trash |
|  | 2 | Banana peel | Compost |
|  | 2 | Floss picks | Regular trash |
|  |  |  |  |
| Tuesday/Day 3 | 1 | Chocolate chip Clif bar plastic wrapper | Regular trash |
|  | 5 | Paper towels (clean, used to dry my hands) | Regular trash |
|  | 1 | Box of Oreos | Recycling |
|  | 1 | Plastic box used to contain strawberries (clean) | Recycling |
|  | 2 | Floss picks | Regular trash |
|  |  |  |  |
| Wednesday/Day 4 | 1 | Chocolate chip Clif bar plastic wrapper | Recycling |
|  | 1 | Blaze Pizza box (a bit of grease) | Regular trash |
|  | 1 | Box of Clorox wipes | Recycling |
|  | 2 | Tissue (dirty) | Regular trash |
|  | 1 | Plastic plate and spoon | Regular trash |
|  | 2 | Floss picks | Regular trash |
|  |  |  |  |

Patterns:

* A lot of floss strands (2-3 times per day)
* Fruits (banana/tangerine peels or apple cores)
* Paper towels

Outlying items

* I did not discard any outlying items in my trash. All my trash is indicative of the behavior of myself and other people around me (other students, my roommates, etc.)
* Also, this could be because I happened not have a lot of trash this week. Did not buy anything new and almost everything I consume was in a reusable container.
* But I would say that the most outlying item is the scratch paper (mainly just scribbles and diagrams I write when thinking about things)

Over a longer period of time (longer than 5 days), I think my trash would be a good indicator of my behavior. An archeologists would be able to answer various questions about my life (and the lives of others in my geographical community). First, the types of food I eat (meals, snacks) would be apparent. A lot of my trash is plastic with labels, and if those labels are still present in the future, archeologists can get a lot of info about my diet.

I think questions relating to the where and the when can easily be answered with the trash I am leaving behind. But more specific questions about me as an individual cannot easily be answer just by looking at my trash (e.g., am I a student? What am I studying? Where am I from? What is my life like in general?). But of course my trash will be piled with hundreds of thousands of other people’s trash, so questions about the general lifestyle/behavior of people in this generation/area can more easily be answered (e.g., what is our diet like, an increase in masks in trash -> pandemic).