

IELTS Listening Lesson 6

Setting statement:

You will hear a recorded informational tour given at a community recycling center. The speaker is explaining procedures, acceptable materials, and special collection schedules.

Questions 1–5

Complete the sentences below. Write NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer.

1. The paper recycling bin is colored _____.
 2. Plastic containers must be labeled with recycling codes _____ to be accepted.
 3. Batteries and motor oil can only be dropped off between _____.
 4. The textile recycling program is run in partnership with _____.
 5. The compost drop-off area is open _____.
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Questions 6–10

Choose the correct letter A, B, or C.

6. What should be done with the lids of glass bottles before recycling?
 - A. They should be washed thoroughly.
 - B. They should be removed.
 - C. They should be placed in a separate bin.
7. What is required to bring bulky waste items to the center?
 - A. A special sticker

B. A volunteer permit

C. Pre-registration

8. Why are fridges not accepted on bulky waste collection days?

A. They are too large to fit in the bins.

B. They contain restricted materials.

C. They must be donated instead.

9. How often does the household hazardous waste collection occur?

A. Weekly

B. Monthly

C. Every three months

10. What do visitors need to do when they arrive at the recycling center for the first time?

A. Proceed directly to the drop-off zones

B. Stop at the information booth

C. Speak to a recycling volunteer online

Script

Hello everyone, and welcome to the Greendale Community Recycling Center. We're pleased to have you here for our orientation tour, especially if you're new to town or visiting with a school or community group. Over the next 15 minutes, I'll guide you through our main recycling procedures, explain what materials we accept, and let you know about some of our special programs and collection days. Feel free to ask questions after the tour, and you can always pick up an information leaflet at the front desk.

Let's begin with the layout of our facility. As you can see, the center is divided into several zones. To your right, there's the general recycling drop-off area. That's where most people bring their household items such as paper, plastics, glass, and aluminum cans. Straight ahead, you'll notice the large covered bins—we call those the "stream-specific containers." They're color-coded to make things simpler: blue for paper and cardboard, green for glass, yellow for plastics, and red for metals. Each of these containers has clear signage explaining exactly what can and can't go inside.

Now, when it comes to paper, we accept newspapers, magazines, office paper, and clean cardboard. Please make sure everything is dry and free of food stains or grease. Pizza boxes, for instance, usually end up in the general waste unless you've torn off the clean top portion. For plastics, we take most containers labeled with recycling codes 1 through 5. That includes things like milk jugs, detergent bottles, and yogurt cups.

However, plastic bags and cling film are not accepted in these bins—they have to go to the soft plastics collection point, which I'll show you later.

Glass bottles and jars are welcome, but lids and corks should be removed in advance. We don't accept ceramics or heat-resistant glass such as

Pyrex, as these have different melting points and can contaminate the batch. Similarly, aluminum and tin cans can be dropped in the red bin, but please rinse them out first. Labels don't need to be removed, though—it's fine to leave those on.

Now let's talk about the special collection area. Around the corner from the main drop-off zone, you'll find a set of locked containers for hazardous and electronic waste. These are only accessible during staffed hours, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday. We ask that you bring in items such as batteries, paint cans, motor oil, and compact fluorescent light bulbs during that time. Our staff will help you sort them appropriately. Please never leave hazardous waste outside the gates or in general recycling—doing so can create serious safety risks.

Electronics, or e-waste, is another important category. We accept small appliances like toasters, old phones, laptops, and even larger items like televisions and desktop computers. There's no charge for dropping off electronics, although we do ask that you remove any batteries beforehand. For data protection reasons, we recommend wiping hard drives before disposal. That said, our recycling partners do shred or securely erase all devices.

We also offer a textile recycling program, in partnership with a local charity. There are two large bins near the front gate where you can place clean clothing, linens, and shoes—preferably in bags. We sort them for reuse or fabric recycling depending on their condition. Shoes should be tied together or placed in pairs to help with sorting.

Now, a few words about special collection days. Once a month, typically on the first Saturday, we run a bulky waste drop-off. That's when you can bring in items like old furniture, mattresses, and broken bicycles. These

materials are difficult to process but are collected and sent to specialized recycling facilities. You do need to pre-register online or by phone, as space is limited and there are some restrictions. For instance, we can't accept fridges or freezers during bulky waste days because of the refrigerants they contain—those require separate disposal.

Another important event is our household hazardous waste collection day, which occurs quarterly—once every three months. This is an excellent opportunity to clear out paint thinners, cleaning solvents, pesticides, and other chemical products. We usually advertise those dates on our website and community bulletin boards.

Let's turn briefly to our composting program. For residents who participate in curbside composting, you'll be familiar with the green bins provided by the city. But for everyone else, we have a drop-off area in the back, open daily. You can bring food scraps, coffee grounds, and garden clippings. However, no meat, dairy, or pet waste is allowed in these bins. We produce compost on-site, and residents can pick up free compost for their gardens during spring and fall. Just bring a bag or container and help yourself—there's a small scoop nearby.

Some visitors ask about commercial recycling—yes, we do work with small businesses. They need to register with us first, and they're assigned a time slot to drop off materials, especially if they're bringing large volumes. Businesses are also charged a small fee depending on the quantity and type of material.

If you're interested in reducing your waste even further, we run monthly workshops on topics like zero-waste living, home composting, and upcycling. These are open to all residents, free of charge, and usually held

on Sunday afternoons in our small conference room. You can sign up via our website or in person at the front desk.

Before we wrap up, let me quickly walk you through the process of checking in. When you arrive at the center, please drive slowly and follow the signs. If it's your first time here, stop by the information booth just past the entrance. One of our volunteers can explain where to go and provide you with a printed map of the site. If you're bringing hazardous waste, electronics, or bulky items, you'll be directed to the appropriate unloading zones. Otherwise, you're free to go straight to the general bins. Please remember to separate your materials beforehand—it really speeds up the process and keeps our system efficient.

And lastly, we're always looking for volunteers. Whether you want to help sort items, lead tours like this one, or assist with events, we'd love to have you involved. Volunteering just a few hours a month can make a big difference.

Thanks again for visiting the Greendale Community Recycling Center. Please feel free to explore the grounds after this talk, and don't forget to stop by the information desk if you have questions or would like to sign up for our programs.

Answer Key

1. blue
2. 1 through 5
3. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
4. a local charity
5. daily

6. B

7. C

8. B

9. C

10. B