

Power Choices Matter

Read how energy use and resource choices affect the environment.

4.11.B “explain the critical role of energy resources to modern life and how conservation, disposal, and recycling of natural resources impact the environment; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three details that show how energy resources support modern life. Circle the four actions that correctly conserve, recycle, or dispose of a resource, then draw an arrow from each action to its stated environmental benefit.

Energy Resources in Daily Life

- ① Modern life depends on energy resources. At home, electricity powers lights, refrigerators, and computers. Schools use it for heating, cooling, and technology. Hospitals need steady electricity for equipment that helps patients. Electricity can be made from energy sources such as natural gas, coal, moving water, wind, and sunlight. People use gasoline, made from petroleum, to fuel many cars and buses.
- ② Conservation means using a resource carefully so less is wasted. When students leave an empty room, they can turn off the lights. At home, a family can unplug a phone charger when it is not charging. These choices reduce the electricity needed. When power plants burn less coal or natural gas, they release fewer air pollutants and less carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas.
- ③ Recycling keeps useful materials in use instead of sending them to a landfill. For example, placing aluminum cans in a recycling bin lets the metal be made into new products, which can save energy and reduce mining. Some items need special disposal. Taking used batteries to a hazardous-waste collection site helps keep harmful chemicals out of soil and water.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Name two ways energy resources support modern life in the passage.

2 How do turning off lights and unplugging an unused charger help the environment?

3 How does recycling aluminum cans affect the environment?

4 What should people do with used batteries, and what problem does this prevent?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose one action named in the passage: turn off lights, unplug an unused charger, recycle aluminum cans, or take used batteries to a hazardous-waste collection site. Write exactly three sentences that name the connected energy or natural resource, describe the action, and explain its environmental impact from the passage.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline three details that show how energy resources support modern life. Circle the four actions that correctly conserve, recycle, or dispose of a resource, then draw an arrow from each action to its stated environmental benefit. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Name two ways energy resources support modern life in the passage.	Electricity powers lights, refrigerators, computers, school heating and cooling, technology, and hospital equipment. Gasoline fuels many cars and buses.
2	How do turning off lights and unplugging an unused charger help the environment?	They reduce the electricity needed. Power plants may burn less coal or natural gas, releasing fewer air pollutants and less carbon dioxide.
3	How does recycling aluminum cans affect the environment?	It keeps cans out of a landfill, saves energy, and reduces mining for metal.
4	What should people do with used batteries, and what problem does this prevent?	Take used batteries to a hazardous-waste collection site. This helps keep harmful chemicals out of soil and water.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I will unplug a phone charger when it is not charging. This conserves electricity, which can be made using coal or natural gas. If power plants burn less of these fuels, they release fewer air pollutants and less carbon dioxide.

Accept only one of the four named passage actions and a connected resource or energy source stated in the passage. The environmental impact must match the passage, such as reduced pollutants and carbon dioxide, reduced mining and energy use, or fewer harmful chemicals in soil and water.