Improving your knowledge may help to improve the planet!

Let's start you off with some straightforward ones...

1. Which layer of the Earth's stratosphere, discovered in 1913 by the French physicists, absorbs most of the Sun's ultraviolet radiation? **Ozone layer**
2. What is the nationality of environmental activist Greta Thunberg? **Swedish**
3. What word is used to describe an object capable of being decomposed by bacteria and hence avoiding pollution? **Biodegradable**
4. What sort of rain is caused by emissions of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxide which react with the water molecules in the atmosphere? **Acid rain**

Who knew...

5. Which animal is the primary culprit when it comes to greenhouse gas emissions? **Cattle/cows (by producing methane)**
6. Which country generates the largest amount of solar power in the world? **China**
7. How many pieces of plastic particles are there estimated to be currently floating around in world's oceans?
   A. 500 million
   B. 5 billion
   C. 5 trillion? **5 trillion**
   D. 7.5 trillion

8. How long do each of the following take to 'decompose':
   A. disposable nappies **450 years**
   B. aluminium cans **80-200 years**
   C. plastic bottles **450 years**
   D. glass bottles? **one million years**

9. In 2020 the UK government confirmed a ban on plastic straws, drinks stirrers, and what other single use plastic item? **Cotton buds**

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So how can I help...

10. If you recycle a tonne of paper, how many trees are you saving?

A. 12 trees.
B. 17 trees. **Correct**
C. 23 trees.
D. 28 trees.

11. Recycling just one aluminium can save enough energy to run a television for how long?

A. One hour
B. 3 hours. **Correct**
C. 5 hours.
D. 12 hours.

Aluminium facts:

- Recycling aluminium drink cans saves up to 95% of the energy needed to make aluminium from its raw materials
- Making one aluminium drink can from raw materials uses the same amount of energy that it takes to recycle 20
- Recycling 1 kg of aluminium saves 8kg of bauxite, 4kg of chemical products and 14 Kilowatts of electricity
- The energy saved by recycling 1 aluminium drink can is enough to run a television for three hours

17. Recycling just two glass bottles saves enough energy to boil water for how many cups of tea?

A. 1 cup of tea.
B. 3 cups of tea.
C. 5 cups of tea. **Correct**
D. 7 cups of tea.

18. Which action does NOT save energy in your home?

A. Turning all appliances to stand-by when not in use. **Correct**
B. Turning off and unplugging all appliances when not in use.
C. Turning off all lights when not in the room.
D. Leaving lights on in only the rooms you are moving between.

19. How many batteries does the UK throw away each year? around 600 million batteries?

A. 50 million
B. 300 million
C. 600 million **Correct. Laid end-to-end these batteries would reach from the UK to Australia and back again**.
D. 900 million

Why is recycling batteries so important?

- Batteries can be found in every room in the house. They are used in electrical and electronic items, for example: toys, remote controls, mobile phones, alarm clocks and even doorbells. In fact, every person in Britain uses about 10 batteries a year!
- Thousands of tonnes of CO2 emissions could be avoided if the UK meets its recycling targets. In the UK, around 40,000 tonnes of portable batteries were sold in 2020, with only around 18,000 tonnes being recycled.
- Most batteries are put into rubbish bins and then taken to landfill sites. There are different types of batteries which can contain dangerous chemicals including: lead, cadmium, zinc, lithium and even mercury.
- Battery recycling: when batteries begin to rot away in landfill sites these chemicals may leak into the ground, which can cause soil and water pollution. When chemicals contaminate soil and water animals, humans and the environment can be harmed.
- Recycling is a great way to help protect the environment. Each battery placed in a recycling bin will be taken apart and the materials will be used to make something new.