



English II: Writing: Module 8: Practice 1: Section 5

Strategies for Editing

Reading and Highlighting

Instructions: To do this exercise, you can (1) print this PDF, and then read and highlight the article (which has been altered for the purpose of this exercise) using the steps below, or (2) you can use your computer's software to highlight on-screen.

1. Mark every misspelled word you see in pink. You should find 15 words spelled incorrectly in the first nine paragraphs. (**Hint:** A misspelled word may be used more than once.)
2. Mark capitalization errors in blue. You should be able to find 13 words which have an error in capitalization. (**Hint:** In some cases, a word has been capitalized when it should not be, and in other cases, a word might need a capital letter.)
3. Tackle quotation marks vs. underlining last. The excerpt contains two titles of chapters in books. Indicate where the correct punctuation should go for these titles by using yellow highlighting. Also, highlight the title of the article and the name of the newspaper at the very end to indicate where punctuation and italics should go.

When you're finished, return to the lesson.



Source: recycling, sheeshoo, Flickr

- (1) Recycling has become so automatic that if we're out and there's no place to recycle that soda can or bottle, it feels slightly illicit to just drop it in the trash. It's like littering. You just don't do it.
- (2) Lately, however, I started wondering—are we really doing anything with all this recycling besides feeling better about the stuff we buy?
- (3) Much of the discussion has focused on the Economic impact. That issue has been batted back and forth with mixed results, although most experts now agree that Cities have become more experienced and more effective—and therefore made it more cost-efficient—to recycle most products rather than dump them in landfills.



(4) I'm more curious about what impact it has on other environmental behavior. And when I started looking at that more closely, I discovered that there's an intense debate going on about this issue.

(5) Recycling "is good civic behavior," said Samantha MacBride, an assistant professor of public affairs at Baruch College, City University of New York, but it's oversold as a panacea to a host of environmental ills, from overflowing landfills to global warming. "I wouldn't say that people who do recycling feel they've done everything they can by participating, but they think there's a lot more being achieved than there actually is," she said. Nationally, said professor MacBride, who is the author of *Recycling Reconsidered* (MIT Press, 2011), recycling prevents only about one-third of all trash from ending up in landfills.

(6) Partly, she said, that is because people are not recycling everything they can. Partly it's because the recycling model in most municipalities of picking up a bin with all the recyclables mixed together, especially the plastics, doesn't work well.

(7) "There's a huge range of plastic materials and hundreds of different resins," professor MacBride said. "We need markets and processes to route them back into production and for the most part, those processes don't exist."

(8) The emphasis, she said, has to be much more on regulating and recycling waste from manufacturers rather than consumer waste.

(9) The other problem is that while "Recycling is a wonderful thing to do if we're comparing it to throwing stuff away, it has become a reward for consumption," said Michael Maniates, a Professor of Environmental Science at Allegheny College in Pennsylvania.

(10) Gernot Wagner, an Economist with the Environmental Defense Fund and author of *But Will The Planet Notice: How Smart Economics Can Save The World*, (Hill and Wang, 2011), agrees.



Source: Recycle!, wietse?, Flickr

—Alina Tugen, *Recycling Helps, but It's Not All You Can Do for the Environment*, New York Times