



# WATCH & LEARN: TECH & INNOVATION SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: PLASTICS START UP FIGHTS PLASTIC WASTE (1:35) VIDEO Script & Vocabulary (page 1 of 1/v35308)

## PRE-INTERMEDIATE (A2 - B1) AND ABOVE

- ◊ Read the script and note new vocabulary
- ◊ Write three sentences using new vocabulary
- ◊ Prepare for the discussion questions

### Starting Off

*A French company, Carbios, is using enzymes to break plastic down into its chemical building blocks – which can then be used to make high quality plastic again.*

- 1 Read the **Video Script** below. The words in **bold** are defined in the **Vocabulary** section. Look up any new words in a dictionary.
- 2 Go to the **Your Turn** section at the end of this document. Practice using new words and expressions from the video script to prepare for your next class.
- 3 Look at the **Discussion Questions** and prepare your responses for the next class.

### Discussion Questions:

- ◊ Are you aware of the fact that 91% of plastic waste never gets recycled?
- ◊ Why do you think so much plastic ends up in landfills?
- ◊ What might we do to greatly reduce plastic waste and improve on recycling?

### Video Script:

**Narrator:** When you **recycle** glass you can make more glass, but when you recycle plastic it's more complicated and the quality goes down each time. I mean you can **mix** stuff with it like this **fleece** or even the **carpet** I'm on, but eventually it all ends up in **landfill** or it's **incinerated**. So it's not really recycling, it's **downcycling** and you have to keep making more and more new plastic which uses more and more fossil fuels.



But a French company has developed a way of recycling **PET plastic** so it doesn't lose quality. They get **chopped-up** plastic from things like bottles plus clothes made from polyester, which get **shredded**. They then put them into big **vats** along with water and some special **enzymes**. In a few hours they get **broken down**, the additives can be removed and you're left with two substances which are the building blocks for new PET plastic.

**Emmanuel Ladious, Carbios:** That represents 95 to 97% of the PET production in the world. I mean the PET producers they use those two components, but instead of having them **petro-sourced** they would have them recycled made from waste.

**Narrator:** At the moment, it's much more expensive to recycle plastic this way but they're building a **factory** which will be able to process two billion plastic bottles every year. So maybe recycling plastic will be as easy as recycling glass. I don't think they're paying us enough for this you know.

### Vocabulary:

- **recycle** - process used materials so they can be used again
- **mix** - combine two or more substances together
- **fleece** - soft, warm fabric made from synthetic fibers
- **carpet** - thick, heavy fabric covering the floor
- **landfill** - place where waste is buried under the ground
- **incinerated** - burned completely to ashes
- **downcycling** - process of recycling a material in a way that reduces its quality
- **PET plastic** - type of plastic commonly used for bottles and containers
- **chopped-up** - cut into small pieces
- **shredded** - torn or cut into thin strips or pieces
- **vats** - large containers used for holding liquids
- **enzymes** - proteins that speed up chemical reactions in living organisms
- **broken down** - separated into smaller parts
- **petro-sourced** - made from petroleum or oil
- **factory** - a building where goods are made in large quantities

### Your Turn! Using new vocabulary is the best way to learn and remember it.

- 1 Choose three words or expressions from the video that are new to you and write a sentence using each one in your notebook.
- 2 Try to use them in a context that is familiar to you to help you retain them.
- 3 Please ask for feedback on your sentences in the next lesson.

