

# 7.3.2 Waste management

## AQA GCSE Biology (Higher) Question and answer notes

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### How to use these notes

These notes cover everything you need to know for this part of the specification. They have been written in question-answer format to make them easier for you to study from.

In order to study successfully, I recommend you do the following for each question and answer:

- Read it carefully and make sure you **understand** it.
- **Memorise** the answer.
- **Practice** applying your understanding to past exam questions.

A good way to memorise information is to use **retrieval practice**. This is when you practise retrieving information from your memory. You could do this by making a flashcard for each question with the question on one side and the answer on the other. Or you could use a flashcard app. Alternatively, use a sheet of paper to cover up the answer so you can only see the question. Try to answer the question and then check how you did.

You should practise retrieving each answer from your memory until you can do it perfectly. Even once you can retrieve the answer perfectly, your ability to retrieve it will probably fade as time passes without practising. Therefore you will need to keep going back to the questions that you have previously mastered and practising them again. However, each time you re-learn the answer, the memory will be stronger and will last longer than the time before.

### **Why has there been an increase in the amount of waste that humans produce over the last hundred years?**

Over the last hundred years, there has been a rapid increase in the size of the human population, and standards of living have also increased. These two changes have led to an increase in the amount of waste that humans produce.

**What is pollution? What are the different ways it can occur?**

Pollution is when harmful materials are introduced into the environment as a result of human activities. This can occur:

- In water - from sewage, fertiliser or toxic chemicals
- In air - from smoke and acidic gases
- On land - from landfill and from toxic chemicals

**How does pollution affect biodiversity?**

Pollution kills plants and animals. This can reduce biodiversity.