

LEARNING ABOUT GARBAGE

Janet Robbins is a professor who studies the garbage from the streets of New York, America's biggest city. She volunteers at the New York Sanitation Department* which collects 3.5 million tons of garbage a year. For her it is a way to learn about the lives of New York's 8.5 million residents.

5 "We're a throwaway culture," she says. "We treat everything — from electronic devices to furniture — like we treat paper cups. We just throw them away." Most apartments in New York City are small, so residents are always throwing out stuff to make more space. According to Robbins, this makes New York 'a gold mine' for people who need things for their homes. They can find beds, 10 TVs, jewelry, and even paintings in the garbage.

In her research, Robbins first observed sanitation workers for two years. She then started collecting garbage with them. She learned to respect the important work they do to keep the city clean and the residents healthy. Robbins also experienced the negative side of the sanitation job. "The smell is sometimes bad," she says, 15 "but you get used to it quickly." According to statistics, sanitation work is one of the ten most dangerous jobs in the country. "The workers are in speeding traffic all day which is really not safe. Even the garbage itself can be harmful if things fly off trucks and hurt them," she explains.

As a result of these experiences, she wrote several books about garbage. 20 Today she teaches a university course on the subject and encourages companies to recycle materials. Robbins' biggest contribution to the sanitation department is the talks she gives to the workers. She makes the city's 6,400 sanitation workers feel proud of their work. She believes they are the city's most important public workers.

* Sanitation Department — מחלקת התברואה, המחלקה העוסקת בפינוי האשפה —
قسم الوقاية الصحية، القسم الذي يعمل في إخلاء النفايات

Answer questions 1-9 in English according to the article. In questions 1, 4, 8 and 9, circle the number of the correct answer. In the other questions, follow the instructions.

1. What do we learn about Robbins in lines 1-4?

- i) How long she has worked with garbage.
- ii) What she does for the city of New York.
- iii) Where she teaches about garbage.
- iv) When she became a professor.

(7 points)

2. According to Robbins, what do paper cups and electronic devices have in common? (lines 5-10)

ANSWER:
(7 points)

3. COMPLETE THE SENTENCE. (lines 5-10)

The writer mentions that the apartments in New York are small to explain why

(7 points)

4. Why does Robbins call New York "a gold mine" (line 9)? (lines 5-10)

- i) She earns a lot of money in her job there.
- ii) People wear a lot of gold jewelry.
- iii) People can find many things in the garbage.
- iv) Most New York residents are very rich.

(7 points)

5. What did Robbins do to learn about the job of sanitation workers? Give ONE thing. (lines 11-18)

ANSWER:

(7 points)

6. What does Robbins say about sanitation work in lines 11-18?

PUT A ✓ BY THE TWO CORRECT ANSWERS.

- i) Working in traffic is dangerous.
- ii) Bad smells are the worst part of the job.
- iii) The workers drive too fast.
- iv) The workers can be hit by garbage.
- v) One in ten workers gets hurt.
- vi) The workers might fall off the trucks.

(2x7=14 points)

7. Give ONE way people can learn about Robbins' research. (lines 19-24)

ANSWER:

(7 points)

8. According to lines 19-24, Robbins feels that sanitation workers (-).

- i) should encourage residents to recycle garbage
- ii) work harder than other public workers
- iii) must talk to New York residents more often
- iv) should be proud of the work they do

(7 points)

9. The main subject of the article is (-).

- i) the research of a New York professor
- ii) the lives of New York residents
- iii) the problems of sanitation workers
- iv) the importance of recycling

(7 points)

PART II: WRITTEN PRESENTATION (30 points)

פרק שני: משימת כתיבה (30 נקודות) الفصل الثاني: مهمة كتابية (30 درجة)
קרא את ההנחיות שלפניך, וכתוב על פיהן اقرأ التوجيهات التي أمامك، وكتب وفقاً لها
חיבור ובו 70-90 מילים. موضوعاً إنشائياً يحوي 70-90 كلمة.

10. Describe a place you visited recently. You may write about why you went there, what you saw there, what happened there, and how you felt.
Write 70-90 words.

Use this page and the next (nos. 5-6) for writing a rough draft.