

RECYCLING - DOWNCYCLING

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On behalf of The World Association of Technology Teachers

W.A.T.T.



World Association of Technology Teachers

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REVISION CARDS - DOWNCYCLING (RECYCLING)

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WHAT IS DOWNCYCLING?



Downcycling is a form of recycling. When a product reaches the end of its lifecycle, it is converted into a lower quality product, or is dismantled and its parts are recycled into several low quality products.

Using downcycled materials and components, means that less new raw materials are needed. This saves on energy consumption and reduces pollution, helping to protect the environment.

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E.Gs - DOWNCYCLED PRODUCTS

When paper is recycled and processed, it loses some of its original quality. Recycled writing paper often ends up as lower quality card board and manilla folders. Quality writing paper can be downcycled only four / five times.



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1. In your own words, what is DOWNCYCLING and how does it differ from normal recycling? 3 marks

2. Describe two products that can be regarded as being the result of downcycling. 4 marks
