# Refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle – rethink!

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## Introduction

Our natural resources, such as minerals, land, air and water, are being depleted and degraded at an ever-faster

pace. But what can we do to protect our resources??

"Extract, produce, use, dispose of" - the finite nature of our resources means that we must treat them more sustainably. This requires an economic model where materials and products aren't disposed of bur repaired, reuses or recycled. This type of model is called a "circular economy". It conserves resources, this means that a valuable role in protecting the environment as the basis our lives. It also gives our economy the chance to achieve a sustainable growth.



## Vocabulary:

depleted --> ausgebeutet degraded --> abgebaut

## **Circular economy**

#### Reduce:

Designing products so that they can be recycled or reconditioned is much more resource-efficient than manufacturing something from scratch. Fewer processes are required, shorter distances are covered and the resources used in the original manufacture of the product are given a second life.

#### Reuse:

Products and components that are in serviceable condition when disposed of contain valuable resources that can be reused in new products.

#### Recycle:

A large number of materials can be recycled to make new product. This requires products to be designed in such a way that material can be separated and recovered at the end of their life.

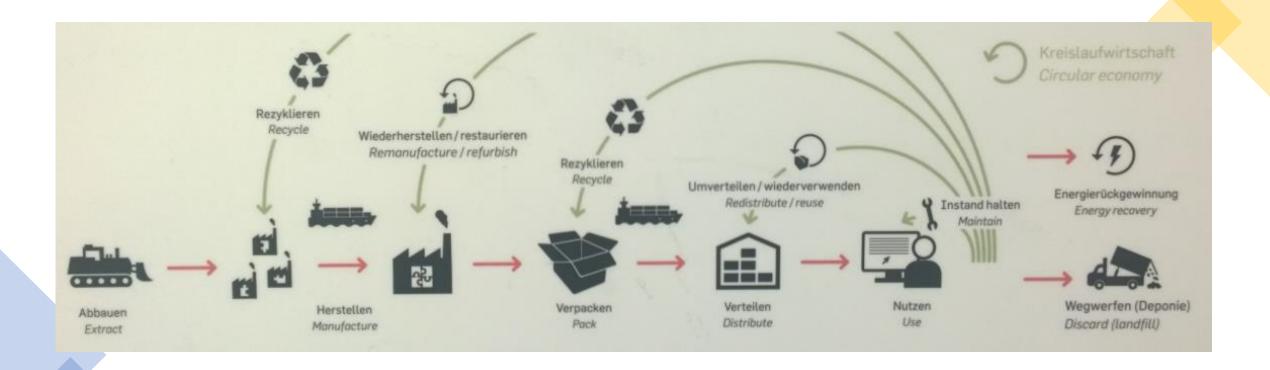
We have known this for a long time and have had a lot to do with it in our lives. One example is already with our waste disposal.



#### Vocabulary:

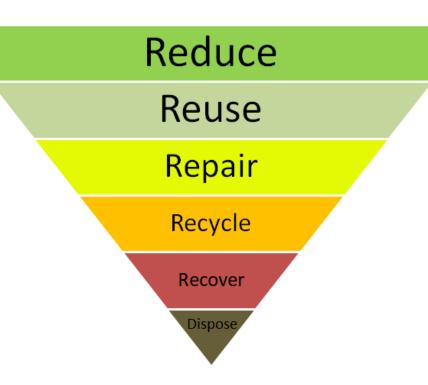
reconditioned --> Wiederaufbereitet manufacturing something from scratch --> von etwas neu herzustellen reduce --> reduzieren reuse --> Wiederverwendung

# **Circular economy**



# **Pyramid of waste**

- Only 40 % of our trash gets recyled or reused
- Many different important resources get wasted
- Until 2050 our resources will be enough
- The pyramid is like a checklist
- Already working on ways to find new way to save our planet



# **Pyramid of waste**

The stages different stages to rethink our attitude

## Vocabulary:

avoid--> Vermeidung

reduce --> Reduzierung

reuse --> Wiederverwendung

recycle --> Rezyklierung (Wiederverwertung)

disposal --> Verfügung

attitude --> Einstellung zu etwas



## Resource-saving business models

- Businesses and private people need to change their mindsets
- Companies dont care about saving resources, when they make enough profit
- Hard for consumers

Businesses started to change their way and do help saving the recourses as good as possible

## Vocabulary:

mindset --> Denkweise save --> schonen, sparen

## **Question**

How many steps does the circular economy takes?

- a.) 7
- b.) 5
- c.) 6



# Thanks for your attention

Refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle – rethink!