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CULTURE

English-speaking World

● Citizenship

● Global Goals

● Exams

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS



Inquadra il QR Code e scopri il mondo Sanoma

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THAT'S
AMAZING!



SAN FRANCISCO'S ECO-REVOLUTION

WARM UP

Look at the pictures and write the missing titles.

- ❖ Eat locally, go organic!
- ❖ Transportation
- ❖ No more plastic, please!

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San Francisco is one of the greenest cities in North America. Let's see why.

2 Solar power

The Moscone Convention Center's roof has the largest **municipally owned**³ solar power installation in the USA. This solar power system reduces smog, acid rain and global warming. Each year, the solar power generated by the system reduces carbon dioxide emissions by 35,000 tons (the equivalent of not driving 7,000 cars). Similarly, Oracle Park, home to the San Francisco Giants, is one of the most sustainable stadiums in the US and, in 2007, was the first **major league**⁴ baseball stadium to install solar panels.



The Yerba Buena Gardens complex, an urban oasis on top of the Moscone Center

1

In 2007 it was the first US city to prohibit the use of plastic bags and to promote the use of reusable **tote bags**¹ and of those made from recycled materials. The city also does not allow the sale of plastic water bottles. As a result, San Francisco has reduced the amount of waste going to **landfills**² each year by over 1.6 million tons. Just think, that's equivalent to half the weight of the Golden Gate Bridge!



3

In San Francisco more than 5,000 businesses buy great quantities of fresh food to meet the demand of green customers. Important decisions about what food to buy are made at schools, stores, the city hospitals and so on. The use of locally grown, organic products has many benefits. For example, it reduces the energy used to transport food and is much better for your health.



4

San Francisco is also one of the five American cities with the lowest amount of residents who go to work by car and one of the five most bicycle-friendly. Moreover, San Francisco's network of fuel-efficient buses, metro trains, historic streetcars⁵ and iconic cable cars covers all corners of the city. They are all cheap, safe, convenient and environmentally friendly.

- GLOSSARY**
- 1 **tote bags** borse a tracolla
 - 2 **landfills** discariche
 - 3 **municipally owned** di proprietà del comune
 - 4 **major league** serie A
 - 5 **streetcars** tram

5 Recycling and composting

In 2009, San Francisco made recycling and composting a requirement for all. All of the city's recyclables are brought to Moscone Convention Center's roof, which processes 40 to 45 tons of materials per hour. Similar materials, such as paper, metals and plastic are placed together and sent to recycling plants. As for the compost, all of the city's waste are brought to Jepson Prairie Organics in Vacaville, about 90km north-east of San Francisco. Here, compostables become fertiliser which is sold to vineyards in wine country and nut growers in the Central Valley.




ACTIVITIES

1 **VOCABULARY** Look up the Italian translation of the following words or expressions and write it down.

- 1 waste
- 2 global warming
- 3 carbon dioxide
- 4 organic (adj.)
- 5 fuel-efficient (adj.)

2 **TOWARDS EXAM** Read the text and answer the questions.

- 1 When did San Francisco start a 'war' against plastic?
- 2 What do the Moscone Convention Center and Oracle Park have in common?
- 3 Why is buying locally-grown and organic food a good thing?
- 4 What are some popular means of transport in San Francisco?
- 5 Who buys compost made from food waste?

3 **REAL-LIFE TASK**  **Life skills** You have just been elected mayor of your town. Write down your plan to make it a greener place to live in.

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