

# THINK YOU KNOW GREEN?

A QUIZ TO TEST YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE ENVIRONMENT.

#1

Heating something in the microwave uses less energy than heating it in a conventional oven.

T F

#2

A cell phone is considered hazardous waste.

T F

Now that the green movement has gone mainstream, many commonly held beliefs and truths about how to minimize our impact on the environment are being revisited. Take the following true-or-false quiz to learn what's an eco-fact versus an eco-fiction.

#3

It takes more water per acre to grow cotton than any other crop.

T F

#6

The clothes dryer is the second biggest energy-consuming appliance in a typical American household.

T F

#4

Textiles made of bamboo are always eco-friendly.

T F

#5

Sixty-five percent of the trash in America comes from businesses.

T F

#7

There's no need to warm up your car in the driveway before driving.

T F

#8

Growing cotton reduces carbon dioxide.

T F

#9

Aerosol sprays contain chemicals believed to contribute to the hole in the ozone layer.

T F

#10

China consumes more energy than the United States.

T F

# ANSWER KEY

**1. True.** Throw those organically grown, free-range veggie dogs in the microwave. A microwave is approximately 75 percent more energy-efficient than a conventional oven, a fact that makes those veggie dogs even more satisfying.

**2. True.** Last year's ring tones aren't the only serious trash in your cell phone. Cell phones contain toxic metals, such as arsenic, beryllium, cadmium, copper and nickel, and should not be disposed of in the trash.

**3. False.** Studies have shown that water use for cotton is about the same as crops like corn and soybeans, and cotton uses less water than rice and alfalfa, both of which make disappointing underwear.

**4. False.** The actual bamboo plant is quite eco-friendly but the process by which the plant is turned into fiber may not be. Bamboo often requires a lot of processing and harsh chemicals like lye to turn raw bamboo grass into usable textile fiber. It's best to stick to bamboo for floors, furniture and panda food.

**5. False.** Sixty-five percent of America's garbage comes from residences, while 35 percent comes from schools and commercial locations, including hospitals and businesses. (Studies have yet to determine the amount of trash that comes from reality TV.)

**6. True.** It's second only to the refrigerator. So hang those cotton duds to dry as much as possible. It doesn't require any energy from your home and you get that nice, spring-fresh scent without the dryer sheets.

**7. True.** Driving heats your car faster than idling. And with today's modern engines, no more than 30 seconds is needed to get it hot.

**8. True.** The production of cotton, when compared with petroleum-based fibers, actually reduces carbon dioxide by extracting it from the air and turning it into oxygen through photosynthesis. In fact, carbon captured by the world's cotton fiber supply is the equivalent of taking 7.25 million passenger vehicles off of the highways. Too bad it can't target bad drivers.

**9. False.** Aerosols formerly had chemicals that were thought to contribute to the hole in the ozone layer, but these chemicals have been banned from most spray cans. (However, too much hairspray may result in hair high enough to affect the migratory patterns of small birds.)

**10. False.** The United States consumes far more energy than any other country—more than China and Russia combined. The U.S. represents just 5 percent of the world's population but consumes 23 percent of its energy. Sometimes being number one ain't so cool.

**Test yourself online with the complete interactive green quiz at [www.thefabricofourlives.com](http://www.thefabricofourlives.com) and [www.mysteryfabric.com](http://www.mysteryfabric.com). The challenge, hosted by the popular Mystery Fabric characters, fashionista Jane and fashion disaster Susie, quizzes users on their green knowledge through a series of ten eco-statements. Visitors are then awarded "outfits" from either Jane or Susie's closets that are added to their virtual prize package. But be careful, you might just win a stuffed monkey suit from Susie instead of Jane's hot blue dress.**

*TheFabricOfOurLives.com, from Cotton Incorporated, is the single most comprehensive source for cotton information on the Web. Cotton Incorporated, funded by United States growers of upland cotton and importers of cotton and cotton textile products, is the research and marketing company representing upland cotton. The program is designed and operated to improve the demand for and profitability of cotton.*