

ENGLISH

Chapter 13
Session B

4th
SECONDARY

ENVIRONMENT



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HELICOMOTIVATION



An article

- 1 Look at the heading of the article. Which words and expressions related to the environment do you think will be in the article?

**Could *YOUR* WARDROBE
help save the planet?**

How many clothes do you own? 20 items? 50? 100? When we think of protecting the environment, we usually think of things like saving endangered species, using renewable energy or reducing deforestation. We don't think about how many clothes we have. Here's why we should.

“EVERY YEAR,
2 BILLION PAIRS
OF JEANS ARE
MANUFACTURED
WORLDWIDE.”

The fashion industry is one of the most **harmful** industries for the planet. Huge amounts of energy and natural resources are used to produce clothes. Consider a pair of jeans. Around 15,000 liters of water were used to grow the cotton for them, over 300 grams of pesticides were used on the cotton, and chemicals were used in dyeing the material.

Manufacturing the jeans produced 32 kilos of carbon dioxide – as much as driving 125 kilometers. Add to that the energy that was used to transport and sell them. Multiply those figures for each item you have and you start to see the size of the problem.

That's not all – fashion produces a lot of waste. Worldwide, 100 billion new pieces of clothing are produced every year, but each item is worn 30% less than in the past. Enough **unwanted** clothes are collected every hour in America to fill three Olympic swimming pools! In the UK alone, experts predict that 680 million items of

clothing will be thrown away next spring. Some will be given to charity or recycled, but an astonishing 235 million items will end up in a landfill.

But we all want to look good too! A capsule wardrobe could be the answer – simply put, it's having a small number of clothes and using them to make as many different **outfits** as possible. For example, each pair of pants should match with lots of different tops.

Use **accessories**, such as belts, ties or jewelry to add variety to each outfit. For a true capsule wardrobe, the limit is 37 items – could you do it? Try!

Nothing is going to be done about the problem unless we all take action. We can each start with our wardrobe!



Make your wardrobe greener

1 Organize your wardrobe.

What do you wear? Put anything you don't wear to the side.

2 Live with your wardrobe for three months.

Don't buy anything new.

3 Donate or recycle anything you haven't worn.

Even worn-out clothes can be recycled.

4 Start creating your capsule wardrobe.

Before you buy anything new, ask yourself:

- Do I really need it?
- Is it good quality?
- Will I wear it regularly?
- Can I wear it with lots of other items in my wardrobe?

Tip! Try the three rule: one casual, one dressy and one in-between for each 'staple', for example jeans or shoes.

2 Read the article quickly and circle the best option. The article is about ...

- a the best way to organize your wardrobe.
- b** how your clothing choices affect the environment.

3 32 Read and listen to the text. Answer the questions.



- 1 The title suggests that ...
 - a having fashionable clothes is bad for the environment.
 - b there is a link between what's in our wardrobes and the environment.**
- 2 The first paragraph suggests that ...
 - a the number of items of clothing we have is important.**
 - b the most important environmental problem is endangered species.



Subskill: Identifying the central idea

Understanding the central idea means identifying the main topic, and what the writer wants you to know.

Looking at the title, first and last paragraphs, and finding repeated words and phrases can help you to understand the main message.

- 3 The last paragraph recommends readers to ...
 - a talk to other people about their clothes.
 - b do something about the contents of their own wardrobe.**
- 4 Look for repeated words or phrases, and circle the correct main message of the text.
 - a To help the environment we need to reduce the amount of clothes we have and a capsule wardrobe is a good way to do this.**
 - b In order to protect the environment everyone should buy fewer pairs of jeans, recycle their clothes and use more accessories.

5 Are the statements true or false? Correct the false statements.

- | | | |
|---|--|-------|
| 1 | Growing enough cotton for two pairs of jeans takes 15,000 liters of water. | false |
| 2 | Making a pair of jeans produces the same amount of CO ₂ as driving 125 kilometers. | true |
| 3 | These days people don't wear their clothes as often as they used to. | true |
| 4 | In the UK, 235 million items of clothing will be donated to charity next year. | false |
| 5 | To create a capsule wardrobe, you only need one pair of pants that matches lots of different tops. | false |
| 6 | You can use accessories in your capsule wardrobe to make outfits look different. | true |

6 Work in pairs and answer the questions.

- 1 What do people usually think about when they want to protect the environment?

Saving endangered species, using renewable energy or reducing deforestation.

- 2 How many items of clothing are produced every year?

100 billion new pieces of clothing.

- 3 How many Olympic pools could you fill with the clothes thrown away in one hour in America?

3 Olympic pools.

- 4 How many items should you ideally have in a capsule wardrobe?

37 items.

- 5 How long should you live with your wardrobe after you've first organized it?

Three months.

- 6 How many pairs of jeans does the advice suggest for a capsule wardrobe?

Three.

CRITICAL THINKING**SUPER
SKILLS**

- 1 Remember** What are the steps for creating a capsule wardrobe?
- 2 Analyze** Think about the contents of your wardrobe. Is there anything you've never worn?
- 3 Create** Make a list of all your clothes and list your top 10 items that you would keep in your capsule wardrobe.

4 **Word work** Match the definitions to the words in bold in the text.

- 1 sets of clothes that are worn together _____
- 2 making goods in big quantities in a factory _____
- 3 causing damage or problems _____
- 4 an important product that people use regularly _____
- 5 small things that you wear with clothes as decoration _____
- 6 not desired or no longer desired _____