

# Reading: Green products sell better

READING

LEVEL  
Intermediate

NUMBER  
EN\_BE\_2534R

LANGUAGE  
English

lingoda





## Goals

- Can understand a short text about the popularity of green products.
- Can identify vocabulary relating to sustainability.







## Vocabulary review

**green  
commuting**

**to avoid single-  
use plastics**

**to turn off the  
lights**

**to not use  
paper towels**

**to promote  
remote work**



**to have a green  
team**



## Vocabulary review

**to buy reusable  
cutlery**

**to unplug  
equipment**

**to go paperless**

**to use microfibre  
cloths**



**to offer free  
bikes**

**to recycle old  
electronics**



## Examples with the words



**Promoting remote work** attracts environmentally conscious employees.

**Green commuting** is easy when your company **offers free bikes**.



**Going paperless** is the first step according to our **green team**.

We **unplug all equipment** and **turn off the lights** to save energy.





## Examples with the words



Please do **not use paper towels**, we have **microfibre cloths**.

**Recycling old electronics** is an environmentally-responsible process.



I **buy reusable cutlery** to **avoid single-use plastics**.



## Reading

We are living in times when more and more people feel the need for change. Humans have polluted the air, contaminated the oceans and poisoned the soil.

No matter what big companies do, we can all help the environment at an individual level.

We can **turn off the lights** when we leave the room and **unplug all equipment** like our laptops and computers when we finish using them. We can also **recycle old electronics** and not just throw them away.





## Reading

We can even change our cleaning habits at home or in the office. **Using microfibre cloths** instead of paper towels, for example. These require no chemicals.

However, until now big companies were only focusing on making profits and not on being eco-friendly.





## Reading



Nowadays, some of them are changing their attitude. Not necessarily because they want to save the planet.

They want to serve their customers' needs. They have realised that green products are now more popular than ever.



## Comprehension check

**Read the text again and answer the following questions.**

1. What are three things humans have done to the planet?
2. What can we do on an individual level for the environment?
3. What were big companies focusing on until now?
4. Why have big companies become more environmentally friendly?



## Fill in the gaps

Read the sentences from the text. Fill in the gaps with the words given.

1. We have polluted air, \_\_\_\_\_ oceans and poisoned soil.
2. We can turn off the lights or \_\_\_\_\_ all equipment.
3. Using \_\_\_\_\_ cloths instead of paper towels require no chemicals.
4. We save both \_\_\_\_\_ and money with these actions.
5. Big companies were focusing on making a profit without being \_\_\_\_\_.
6. They want to serve their \_\_\_\_\_ needs.

microfibre

eco-friendly

unplug

energy

contaminated

customers'



## Answer the questions

**Answer the following questions.**



1

What do you do to protect the environment?



2

What does your workplace do to become environmentally friendly?



## Brainstorm



Can you think of any green products that are popular in your country?



## Reading

More and more people are looking for products that biodegrade or have plastic-free packaging. Let's have a look at the most popular green accessories.

### **Metal straws**

In the past, we were using plastic straws when we went out. But there are reusable alternatives. Metal straws are better than **single-use** plastic ones, also because animals do not eat them.



## Reading

### Reusable grocery bags

An average customer was taking home five to ten plastic bags from each shopping trip until now. But reusable grocery bags then became fashionable. You can find them in any colour, size and style. They are zero-waste essentials.







## Reading

### **Bamboo and wooden toothbrushes**

People were changing their toothbrush every month in the past. We contaminated the planet with millions of plastic toothbrushes. Now, there are eco-friendly alternatives made of bamboo or wood.





## True or false?

	TRUE	FALSE	DOESN'T SAY
1. We were using metal straws when we went out in the past.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Animals eat metal straws.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Reusable grocery bags are zero-waste essentials.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. You can find reusable grocery bags in supermarkets.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Eco-friendly toothbrushes are made of bamboo or metal.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. A huge amount of plastic waste is recycled.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



## Give your opinion

Do you own any of these products? Have you used any of them? Why are they better than plastic ones?



metal straws  
reusable grocery  
bags



bamboo and  
wooden  
toothbrushes



## Reading

### Reusable water bottles

Some people say there is nothing worse than using plastic bottles. We were buying 57.3 billion of them in 2014. A huge amount of plastic waste ends up in the oceans. We can decrease this number by simply using our own bottles over and over again.





## Reading

### Edible cutlery

People in the United States were using 100 million **single-use cutlery items** every day in 2018. There are not only eco-friendly, but a number of edible alternatives. If you want a durable version, you can take metal or wooden ones with you.

We have less than twelve years to stop climate change. We can do a lot together by making careful choices.





## Matching

**Match the descriptions with the words from the text.**

1. Something that you can eat.

A) reusable

2. Something that is long-lasting.

B) waste

3. Something that serves no purpose anymore.

C) edible

4. Something that we can use many times.

D) durable



## Finish the sentences

**Read the text again and finish the sentences.**

1. We were buying...
2. We can decrease this number by....
3. People in the United States....
4. There are not only eco-friendly,...
5. We have less than twelve years to...



## Writing

**Read the whole text once again. There are six sentences in the past continuous. Can you find them?**

was/were +

verb+ing



A blank sheet of lined paper with a spiral binding on the left side, intended for writing answers.





## Speaking

**Think about what you were doing differently in the past. What different products were you using?**

commuting by

plastic-packaging

cleaning with

single-use  
plastics



## Writing

**You opened a green shop. Sell your plastic-free products. Why are they better than the plastic alternatives? Why is plastic worse than reusable materials?**

- Bamboo toothbrushes are better than...
- Plastic items are worse than...





## Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

no





## Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.  
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?



If you have time, go over  
the most difficult slides again



## Answer key

1. F
2. F
3. T
4. Doesn't say
5. F
6. Doesn't say

### Exercise 3, p.18

1. contaminated
2. unplug
3. micro-fiber
4. energy
5. eco-friendly
6. customers'

### Exercise 2, p.12

1. polluted air, contaminated oceans, poisoned soil
2. turn off the lights, unplug all electronics, change our cleaning habits
3. Making profits and not being eco-friendly.
4. They want to serve their customers' needs.

### Exercise 1, p.11



## Answer key

### Exercise 4, p.22

1. C
2. D
3. B
4. A

### Exercise 5, p.23

1. We were buying **57.3 billion of them in 2014.**
2. We can decrease this number by **simply using our own bottles over and over again.**
3. People in the United States **were using 100 million single use cutlery every day in 2018.**
4. There are not only eco-friendly, **but a number of edible alternatives.**
5. We have less than twelve years to **stop radical climate change.**

### Exercise 6, p.24

1. Until now, big companies **were focusing** on making a profit without being eco-friendly.
2. In the past, we **were using** plastic straws when we went out.
3. An average customer **was taking** five to ten plastic bags home from each shopping trip until now.
4. People **were changing** their toothbrush every month in the past.
5. We **were buying** 57.3 billion of them in 2014.
6. People in the United States **were using** 100 million single use cutlery every day in 2018.





## Homework complete the sentences

**Complete the sentences by matching two parts.**

1. We were using 57.3 billion

A) you can take metal or wood ones with you.

2. We are living in times when more

B) with millions of plastic toothbrushes.

3. We contaminated the planet

C) plastic bottles in 2014.

4. If you want a durable version,

D) and more people feel the need for a change.





## Homework writing activity

**Write a sentence with the words. Use the past continuous when possible.**

eco-friendly

metal straws

reusable water  
bottles

bamboo  
toothbrush

reusable  
grocery bags

edible cutlery



We were not using eco-friendly



products in 2000.





## Homework answer key

**Exercise 1, p.36**  
1.C      2.D

3.B

4.A



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