

More is not always better

READING

LEVEL
Intermediate

NUMBER
EN_BE_2514R

LANGUAGE
English





Goals

- Can understand a short text about why buying more and more is not always better.
- Can use simple vocabulary related to consumption.







Vocabulary review





Sentences



Our **basic needs** are the things we need to stay alive.

Cosmetics are things like makeup.



Most people like wearing some **jewellery**.

Lots of people enjoy buying the latest **gadgets**.





Sentences



Goods are products made to be sold.

Factories need a lot of **labour**.



Goods are made in a **factory**.

Mass production is making a lot of the same goods.





Vocabulary revision

What can you see in these pictures? When did you last buy these things?





Reading

Is it true we should only buy the things we need? As humans, we all have some **basic needs**. We need food and we need a place to live. We also need clothes. These basic needs are very different and depend on where in the world you live.

For example, if you live in Alaska you need lots of warm clothes and a warm house. If you live near the equator, you probably don't need as many clothes. If we only bought things we really needed, lots of **shops** and **factories** could close.





Speaking

How are people's basic needs different in these places?



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Speaking

**The text says that if we buy less, some shops and factories will close.
Discuss with a partner if you think this is a good thing or a bad thing.**

It's good because...



I agree, but...



Reading



However, the **products** that we choose to buy really depend on the person. Some people need lots of new clothes and buy new items every time the season changes.

Other people think they always need new makeup and **cosmetics** or expensive **jewellery**. Some people enjoy buying exotic foods, the newest **gadgets** and fancy **cars**. Most people's houses these days are full of stuff!



Compare your lists with your classmates.





Brainstorm

**If you have too much “stuff” in your house, what can you do with it?
Brainstorm your ideas here with your classmates.**





Reading

But does buying more and more **goods** make us happier? Most psychologists agree that the answer is no. **Consuming** more does not make people happy. People are working longer and longer hours so they can buy the newest mobile phone or some luxury perfume. But, if we realise that we don't need these things, maybe we could work 6 hours a day and not 9. Then we could spend more time with our families - and this definitely makes us happier.

Products from **factories** are often the result of **mass production**. Mass production makes goods cheaply but they are often not good quality. If we just buy a few expensive things they will be better quality. We should also think about the **labour** in factories - sometimes working conditions are very bad. Climate change is also a big problem and consuming lots of things makes climate change worse. Factories pollute the air and produce a lot of plastic waste.



True or false?

	TRUE	FALSE
1. Psychologists say that consuming more makes people happy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. If we work less, we can spend more time with our families.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Factories often mass produce goods.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The working conditions in factories are always good.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Consuming lots does not make climate change worse.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



What do you think?



Psychologists say that buying more does not always make us happier.

Do you agree with this?

Give reasons for your opinion!



Discuss

Discuss the following statements with your classmates.



1

We should all work 6 hours per day

2

We should spend more time with our family

3

We should always buy the newest mobile phone



Speaking

Which goods in your home are mass produced?

Do you think mass production makes the quality worse?

Do you own any goods that are handmade?

When do you look for handmade products?



Speaking

**Read the quote below. Do you agree with it?
Discuss with your classmates.**

“

Think more, buy less, and keep things for longer.

”





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

Exercise p. 15
1. F, 2. T, 3. T, 4. F, 5. F





Match the beginnings to the endings

1. Our basic needs are...

a. things like perfume and jewellery.

2. If we only buy things we...

b. we can work less.

3. Luxury goods are...

c. mass produced in factories.

4. If we consume less...

d. need, some shops will close.

5. Lots of goods are...

e. makes climate change worse.

6. Consuming lots...

f. food and a place to live.



Complete the sentences

Complete the sentences with your own ideas.

1. My basic needs are...
2. The most luxurious thing I own is...
3. If I could only work 20 hours a week, I would...
4. If I have too much stuff at home I...



Homework answer key

Exercise p. 24

1. f, 2. d, 3. a, 4. b, 5. c, 6. e



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