

# Fast Fashion

screen sharing lesson plan by **eslhome**

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**Kickoff: Read the questions and answer them.**

1. Where do you normally buy your clothes?
2. How often do you buy new clothes?
3. Which is more important to you when it comes to buying clothes: quality or quantity?



## Vocabulary Focus: Match the underlined words with the definitions.

something that has already been used	take something temporarily	lots of / piles of	rent something (for a set amount of time)
follow / stay current with	not anymore	give to someone else, often a family member	give something temporarily

- There are heaps of clothes in the corner of your room! You need to tidy up!
- Now it's October, it's no longer warm enough to go outside without a jacket on.
- I don't wear these clothes. I think I'll hand them down to my younger brother.
- It can be difficult to keep up with fashion trends. They are changing all the time!



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- e. Can I borrow your shirt for tonight's party? I have nothing to wear!
- f. Would you lend me some money to buy a new dress?
- g. I decided to lease a suit for the wedding instead of buying one.
- h. I love shopping for second-hand clothes. I always find really good deals!





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## Vocabulary Focus: Match the underlined words with the definitions.

something that has already been used <b>second-hand</b>	take something temporarily <b>borrow (sth. from sbd.)</b>	lots of / piles of <b>heaps of</b>	rent something (for a set amount of time) <b>lease</b>
follow / stay current with <b>keep up with</b>	not anymore <b>no longer</b>	give to someone else, often a family member <b>hand down</b>	give something temporarily <b>lend (sth. to sbd.)</b>

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**Speaking I: Answer the questions using your new vocabulary.**

1. Do you have heaps of clothes that you don't wear?
2. What do you do with clothing you no longer want?
3. Do you hand any clothes down to your younger siblings?
4. Do you make an effort to keep up with fashion?
5. Do you ever borrow other people's clothes?
6. Do you ever lend your clothes to other people?
7. Have you ever considered leasing items of clothing?
8. Do you ever buy second-hand clothes?



# Quiz



**Quiz: Read the intro and guess the answers to the questions.  
The real answers will be given at the end.**

Did you know that the fashion industry can be very damaging to the environment? The term “fast fashion” means making clothes quickly and cheaply, using low-quality materials. This causes a lot of waste and poor working conditions.

This quiz will reveal some shocking statistics about the fast fashion industry.



## Question 1

How much clothing is dumped in UK landfill in a single calendar year?

a. 5 million  
items

b. 35 million  
items

c. 235 million  
items

d. 35 billion  
items





## Question 2

The average American is estimated to discard how much clothing each year?

a. 3 kilograms

b. 6 kilograms

c. 12 kilograms

d. 23 kilograms



## Question 3

What percentage of the world's pesticides and insecticides are used on cotton production?

a. 2-5%

b. 18-25%

c. 38-50%

d. 78-90%



## Question 4

What percentage of plastic microfibers in the oceans comes from clothes and textiles?

a.  $\approx 10\%$

b.  $\approx 33\%$

c.  $\approx 85\%$

d.  $\approx 99\%$



## Question 5

How long could clothing manufactured with polyester take to completely break down?

a. 20 years

b. 200 years

c. 2,000 years

d. it never  
breaks down



## Question 6

Of all new clothing bought, how much is disposed of within the first 12 months?

a. 1 in 4 items

b. 1 in 8 items

c. 1 in 16 items

d. 1 in 32 items



## Question 7

How many clothing items are consumed annually around the world?

a. 600 million

b. 7 billion

c. 80 billion

d. 900 billion



## Question 8

How much of the clothing purchased in the West is produced abroad?

a. hardly any  
(4%)

b. one third  
(33%)

c. one half  
(49%)

d. almost all of it  
(97%)



## Question 9

What percentage of clothing donated to charity shops for resale actually gets resold?

a. 10-20%

b. 20-30%

c. 50-60%

d. 90-100%





## Quiz: Check and discuss the answers to the quiz.

1. How much clothing is dumped in UK landfill in a single calendar year?

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## Quiz: Check and discuss the answers to the quiz.

4. What percentage of plastic microfibers in the oceans comes from clothes and textiles?

- a.  $\approx 10\%$                       b.  $\approx 33\%$                       c.  $\approx 85\%$                       d.  $\approx 99\%$

5. How long could clothing manufactured with polyester take to completely break down?

- a. 20 years                      b. 200 years                      c. 2,000 years                      d. it never breaks down

6. Of all new clothing bought, how much is disposed of within the first 12 months?

- a. 1 in 4 items                      b. 1 in 8 items                      c. 1 in 16 items                      d. 1 in 32 items



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## Quiz: Check and discuss the answers to the quiz.

7. How many clothing items are consumed annually around the world?

- a. 600 million      b. 7 billion      c. 80 billion      d. 900 billion

8. How much of the clothing purchased in the West is produced abroad?

- a. hardly any (4%)      b. one third (33%)      c. one half (49%)      d. almost all of it (97%)

9. What percentage of clothing donated to charity shops for resale actually gets resold?

- a. 10-20%      b. 20-30%      c. 50-60%      d. 90-100%



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**So, what can we do?**



**Speaking II:      Read the problems on the left and the solutions on the right.  
Speaking together, match the problems to the solutions.**

- too many clothes get thrown away ·      · don't fall for short-lived fashion crazes;
- sweatshop workers are underpaid ·      · trim, dye & redesign older clothes for current trends
- recycling can consume a lot of energy ·      · do your own recycling; compost 100% cotton clothes;
- clothes have a very short lifespan ·      · give old clothes a new life (use sheets as cloths, etc.)
- people buy clothes for a single use ·      · buy fewer, but higher-quality clothes;
- trends come and go in a matter of weeks ·      · buy clothes produced with higher-quality materials
- · lease clothes for special events and fancy dress;
- · borrow clothes and costumes from friends
- · fix broken clothes; try to upcycle unwanted clothes;
- · take clothes you no longer wear to second-hand shops
- · shop at fair trade companies;
- · support national production of clothing



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## **Speaking III:      Comment on today's class.**

1. Were you surprised by the statistics in the Quiz activity?
2. Were you aware of the problems mentioned in the Speaking II activity?
3. Do you think that you could include any of the solutions from the Speaking II activity in your life?



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We hope you have enjoyed this class.

printable version available at  
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