Exercise 6.4 Everyday materials and their properties

This exercise will help you to decide which properties of everyday materials are important for particular jobs.

1 Glass and plastic are very useful materials for packaging and storing food and drink.

a Which properties of glass are useful for this job?

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b Which properties of glass are a problem in transporting food and drink?

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c Which properties of plastics are useful in transporting food and drink?

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d Which properties of plastics cause a problem when the container is empty?

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 Imagine you are the owner of a factory making shirts. You are going to make a new design of shirt to be worn in a tropical climate.

The table below shows some properties of three materials that you could use – **A**, **B** and **C**.

	Material A	Material B	Material C
Cost	expensive	very cheap	cheap
Easy to make?	very easy	very difficult because the material slides about	easy
Easy to wash?	very easy	easy	easy
Does it dye well?	very well	patchy	fairly well
Keeps colour after washing ten times?	no fading	very faded	slight fading
Drying time	fast	very fast	slowest
Can sweat evaporate from the skin through the material?	yes	no	yes

a Which material would you choose to use to make the shirts?

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b Explain the reasons for your choice.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS