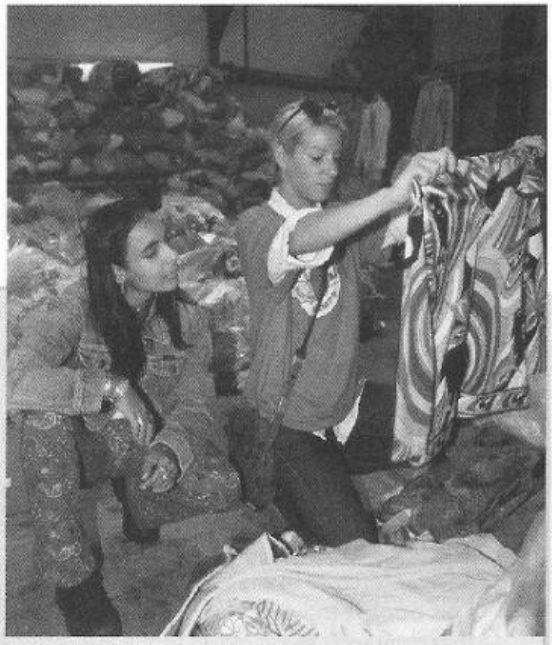
Reading and Use of English

Part 7 Exam task

You are going to read a newspaper article about clothes and the environment. Six paragraphs have been removed from the article. Choose from the paragraphs **A–G** the one which fits each gap (**1–6**). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.



Is it possible to be green and fashionable?

Despite the huge numbers of people who care about the environment and love clothes, there is a basic contradiction about being green and being fashionable. This is because the fashion industry depends on a constant stream of ever-changing trends, which means you have to keep consuming. However, buying a lot of things that you don't need, in this case new clothes, is harmful to the environment.

1 _____

Firstly, develop your own unique style, so, rather than basing your choice of clothes on whatever the fashion industry says you should, choose your own look. If you do this, you'll look a lot more like an individual, and probably more genuinely stylish. It does not require any sense of style to copy the looks in glossy magazines. It does require some to develop your own. You'll find that because your clothes aren't going in and out of fashion every week, you'll buy fewer and this helps the environment.

2 _____

The problem with buying every changing fashion is that it looks out of date within a few weeks. If you buy a white T-shirt with a slogan because that is the in thing right now, in just a few months, it will look silly. The trend might come round again, but probably not in the same form. On the other hand, if you buy a white T-shirt, it will look fine until it wears out. Opt for simple designs, especially with larger items such as coats.

3 _____

A variation on this is to organise clothes swaps with friends or neighbours. This way, everybody gets new clothes without actually consuming any more resources. You can feel pleased with yourself because you'll have earned a reputation for being green.

4 _____

While we're on the subject of the materials, here is a word of warning. Try to avoid buying clothes made from animal products, especially fur. Not only will this have the effect of reducing animal suffering, it will also reduce your environmental footprint; animal products have a larger impact than plant products because they consume more resources.

5 _____

So, let's imagine you have taken our advice and gone for simple, second-hand, organic clothes, but you still want to enjoy passing trends. The gentlest way to do this is to go for small things like jewellery, bags and shoes which use up fewer resources than an entire new wardrobe every month.

6 _____

In the end, what you wear is your choice and no-one would suggest that this should not be a free choice. But we hope that, having read this, you will be fully aware of the impact your choices may have on the health of our planet.

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A If plain-looking clothes don't appeal to you, an alternative eco-friendly option is to buy second-hand clothes. The environmental impact is practically zero as nothing new is being made. If your image of shops which sell second-hand clothes is piles of shabby pullovers and jeans, think again. Find the right shops, and you'll discover a lot of very attractive clothes, often for a lot less than you'd pay for new.

B On the other hand, your clothes habit is probably not the biggest part of your carbon footprint. If being fashionable is important to you, compromise where you can to make the habit a bit greener, and concentrate your planet-saving activities elsewhere. There are a number of simple actions you can take.

C Part of the growing eco-friendly lifestyle includes being mindful not only of what we eat and how we recycle, but also being more aware of what goes into the clothes we buy.

D Remember, too that these are the sort of items widely available from independent producers, meaning that you can support small businesses rather than massive, planet-damaging multinationals. And, if you have any skill with crafts yourself, you could even note the latest trend and make your own version.

E Some people think that another way of achieving this is to buy only natural fabrics, like cotton. But actually the production of some plant-based fabrics involves the use of enormous quantities of pesticides. In fact, cotton is an especially dirty crop, with methods used in its cultivation which can wreck the local environment. If you want to avoid adding to soil and water pollution in this manner, simply opt for organic fabrics.

F This also applies to leather clothing production, which supports the not-very-environmentally-friendly cattle farming industry. However, since leather is a practical material rather than simply a fashion fabric like fur, we'll allow an exception for coats, shoes and boots.

G You can achieve the same effect by buying higher quality clothes because these will not need to be replaced as frequently as a greater number of cheap clothes. This is not only better for the environment, it also means you'll have simpler, more attractive clothes even if they are less obviously stylish.

Part 4 Exam task

For questions **1–6**, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **three** and **six** words, including the word given. Here is an example **(0)**.

Example:

0 It was only after I got home that I realised I'd left my wallet at work.
UNTIL
Not ..... UNTIL I GOT HOME ..... did I realise I'd left my wallet at work.

---

1 When the management asked for suggestions, several original ideas were made by staff.
CAME
Responding to a management request for suggestions,
.....
several original ideas.

2 Lucy was very happy to hear that she'd passed her driving test.
MOON
Lucy .....
heard that she'd passed her driving test.

3 Simon's approach to life is very practical.
EARTH
Simon .....
approach to life.

4 How would you describe his appearance?
LOOKS
Could you tell me ..... ?

5 Cities today are not as badly polluted as cities a hundred years ago.
COMPARED
Cities today are ..... cities a hundred years ago.

6 The 1970s was the last time fish were seen in this river.
SINCE
Not .....
seen in this river.

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Listening

Part 1

Collocations

Match words from List A with words from List B to make two-word phrases. Write a definition for each phrase.

A air endangered global habitat renewable solar
B destruction energy panel pollution species warming

Exam task

08 You will hear three different extracts. For questions **1–6**, choose the answer (**A**, **B** or **C**) which fits best according to what you hear. There are two questions for each extract.

Extract One

You hear two neighbours discussing future energy supplies.

1 They agree that
   A their region is a good location for wind turbines.
   B renewable sources of energy should be used.
   C the appearance of the countryside is important.

2 What does the man have against wind turbines?
   A He objects to what they look like.
   B He thinks they are too expensive to build.
   C He believes they produce insufficient energy.

Extract Two

You hear part of an interview with Carlos Gomez, an architect who designs environmentally-friendly houses.

3 How are Carlos' houses similar to 'normal houses'?
   A They are built to modern standards.
   B They are efficient in their use of energy.
   C They reflect the needs of their occupants.

4 The interviewer assumes the houses designed by Carlos are
   A outside the price range of most people.
   B about average in price.
   C more affordable than ordinary homes.

Extract Three

You hear two managers talking about how their company could reduce the negative impact it has on the environment.

5 What worries the woman about her colleague's suggestion?
   A She thinks the public may question the company's motives.
   B She thinks it would not make much difference to the environment.
   C She thinks it would reduce the company's profits.

6 The woman suggests that the company
   A uses less plastic packaging.
   B purchases more food from nearby sources.
   C reduces the price of the food it sells.

Grammar

Inversion of subject and verb

1 Rewrite these sentences beginning with the words and phrases in brackets.

1 We've hardly ever seen such environmental destruction. (*Seldom*)
.....

2 The storm damaged hundreds of trees and brought down power lines. (*Not only*
.....

3 You shouldn't smoke if there are young children in the room. (*On no account*)
.....

4 The children weren't in any way to blame for the damage. (*In no way*)
.....

5 It was only in the twentieth century that they started cutting down the rainforests (*Not until*)
.....

6 People didn't realise that vehicle emissions caused global warming. (*Little*)
.....

7 The ship left the harbour and almost immediately it sank. (*Hardly*)
.....

8 Whatever the situation, fires should not b lit here. (*Under no circumstances*)
.....

9 I've never seen such a blaze. (*Never before*)
.....

10 You won't see these species anywhere else in the world. (*Nowhere*)
.....

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Writing

Part 1 Exam task: essay

Sentence adverbs

1 Rewrite these sentences starting with one of the adverbs in the box. There are two adverbs you do not need to use.

admittedly	apparently	fortunately	generally
not surprisingly	obviously	sadly	

1 We should save energy whenever we can. That's clear.

.....

2 It was very lucky that no one was hurt in the accident.

.....

3 Everyone welcomes the tax cuts. That's no surprise.

.....

4 There were hardly any butterflies in our garden this summer, which is a real shame.

.....

5 This winter will be the coldest on record, so they say.

.....

2 Read the exam task and discuss these questions.

1 How might the law and education be used to improve the situation?
2 How do you think the public would react to price rises?
3 Which, if any, of the opinions expressed by panel members do you agree with?

Your class has attended a panel discussion on what methods governments should use to encourage people to reduce their carbon footprint. You have made the notes below.

Methods governments could use to encourage people to reduce their carbon footprint

- the law
- price rises
- education

Some opinions expressed by panel members:

'People need to be convinced they can make a difference.'

'All public bodies should set an example.'

'We should control the use of precious resources like petrol and gas.'

Write an essay for your tutor discussing **two** of the points in your notes. You should **explain which method you think would be more effective, giving reasons** to support your opinion.
You may, if you wish, make use of the opinions expressed by panel members, but you should use your own words as far as possible.

3 Read the model essay below and answer these questions.

1 Which two notes does the writer refer to and where?
2 Which two opinions does he use and how does he paraphrase them?
3 Which method does he think would be more effective?
4 What reasons does he provide for his choice of method?

Not until recently had anyone used the term "carbon footprint" and yet today it is one of the most common phrases heard when people discuss climate change and global warming. It is generally agreed that the quantity of carbon dioxide resulting from human activity is causing long-term damage to our environment. The question under consideration is this: what can be done to reduce the carbon footprint of businesses and individuals?

One of the solutions put forward to achieve this aim was for governments to bring in new laws to change our use of energy resources. It was suggested, for example, that fossil fuels should be limited in future. Other members agreed that this would be effective, but thought it would be unpopular with the public because it would limit how far they could travel in their cars and their ability to heat their homes.

Another method suggested was that schools should play a leading role in educating future generations about the effect of human behaviour on the environment. It was agreed that the population need to be persuaded more forcefully that individuals should change their behaviour. Many people believe that this process of persuasion should begin in primary schools.

On balance, I would prefer the education route to the use of the law. It is my view that people need to be taught about the problem and to understand how they can contribute to the solution. Laws could have a negative effect if they were felt to be unfair, and this could lead to resentment and lack of cooperation.

4 Now write your own essay in response to this question. Use one different note and one different opinion from those used in the model essay. Write **220–260** words in an appropriate style.

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