

- How much of a problem is litter in your area? Have any measures been taken to dissuade people from littering? How effective are they?
- Read the information and choose the best alternatives.

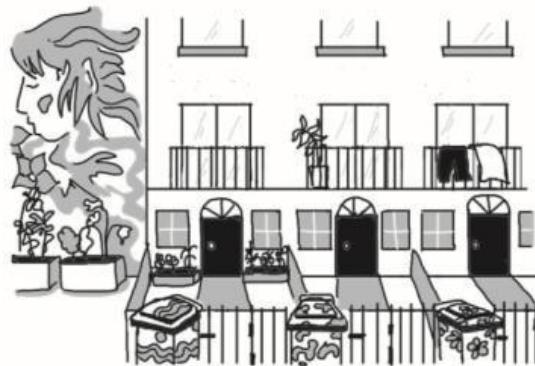
Solving the litter problem

From food ¹remains/debris and packets strewn across sidewalks, to ²flotsam/remain washing up on beaches, litter is an unsightly problem in many places around the world.

But, how can people be encouraged to play their part in keeping the environment ³pristine/disinfected? Here are a few ideas.

Neighbourhood beautification

⁴Scrubbing/Sprucing up a neighbourhood with regular rubbish collections, along with street art, trees, flower beds and the like, can be helpful. Piles of ⁵debris/flotsam attract more rubbish dumping, whereas people are much less likely to drop litter on an ⁶immaculate/hygienic street.



Vote with your rubbish

One creative idea is to provide dual transparent bins, where people can express their opinions by placing their ⁷refuse/muck in the bin that reflects their point of view. Granted, it might sound bizarre, but some studies indicate that this can lead to a reduction in littering.



The bottomless bin

Another idea is to add a sound effect to a bin, so that when someone throws in rubbish, the noise implies that it is falling a very long way down into a hole. This is fun enough to have kids (and kids at heart!) picking up a few extra pieces of rubbish just to hear the sound effect again, helping to keep streets ⁸spruced/spotless.



Bin care

It's obviously helpful if public rubbish bins are kept ⁹hygienic/refused. Being emptied regularly, along with being ¹⁰mucked/scrubbed and ¹¹disinfected/debris makes all the difference. After all, no one wants to touch a bin with ¹²muck/flotsam on it!

3 Work in groups. Discuss the questions.

- What do you think of the ideas in the texts? Would they work in your area? Why/Why not?
- What other ideas can you think of to dissuade people from littering?