

Throwaway Society Activities

Ideas

- Discuss with learners what a throwaway society is
- Discuss what they think 'Make-do and mend' means
- Use the w/sheet to make your own questions
- Ask learners to read the w/sheet and make their own questions
- Read the w/sheet, as a class and ask learners what we can do to move forward, away from being a throwaway society
- Ask learners to make a poster or presentation with their ideas
- Ask learners to read the w/sheet and then discuss if 'Make-do and mend' is practical in today's world.
- Learners can have a debate on the topic with one side 'for' and the other 'against' the 'Make-do and mend' lifestyle.

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Throwaway Society

Today, we produce more waste than ever before. Modern waste contains plastics, that are difficult to dispose of and take a long time to break down.

'Make-do and mend'

In the past, British people did not like to throw things away. Families had fewer possessions and looked after them carefully. If their clothes, shoes or furniture were damaged, they mended them and carried on using them. If they could not be repaired, objects were recycled.

Old clothes were cut up to use as cleaning cloths; scrap paper was even used as toilet paper!



Consumer lifestyle

Life is different now and we are a throwaway society. Our possessions are not designed to last. It is cheaper and easier to buy new goods than it is to repair old ones. Advertisements, special offers and online deals encourage everyone to buy more. Many people often purchase the latest products to impress their friends and make themselves feel more confident.



Facts and figures

- By 2050, it is estimated that there will more plastic in our oceans than fish.
- A massive 79% of all plastic ever produced has ended up in landfill, with only 9% being recycled.
- Every piece of plastic that has ever been made, still currently exists on our planet, in one form or another, today.



