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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 05/09/17

What do you think about plastic bottle recycling?

What do you think about plastic bottle recycling? It's an interesting question that the Scottish government is taking action on. They aim to introduce a deposit return scheme, whereby you can get money for depositing your plastic drinks bottles, glass bottles, and aluminium cans, into recycling containers. The Scottish government wants to tackle litter and clean up its streets.

Having a deposit return scheme could also have a huge impact on decreasing the amount of litter found on Scottish beaches. Certainly, it will save money for local authorities, and it will help the recycling industry.

The UK has seen a huge reduction of plastic bags left as litter, since the UK government introduced a 5p charge per plastic bag. In fact, in just one year, the number of plastic bags handed out to shoppers in supermarkets, in the UK, has fallen by six billion.

The idea of cash for bottles is hardly new. People of a certain age will remember getting money back for glass bottles returned to shops. This died out when plastic bottles were introduced.

Large drinks manufacturers like Coca-Cola and Irn-Bru have, till now, largely been against any plastic bottle refunds, but thanks to UK broadcaster Sky News debating plastic waste in the ocean, and Scottish plastic bottle recycling, Coca-Cola has reversed its original objection to the recycling of plastic bottles in Scotland.

Surely, any recycling of plastic bottles must be good for the environment, as it reduces the impact on them ending up in rivers, and worse, into our oceans, where the fish are dying, because of the plastic they eat.

SPEAKING – WARM UP

Think of three things you know about recycling. Go round the room swapping details with others.

LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

1) The article – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

2) The article - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

3) Article quiz - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A questions

- 1) Name the country.
- 2) How much is a plastic bag in the UK from a supermarket?
- 3) Name the broadcaster.
- 4) Name the drinks manufacturers.
- 5) What is plastic?

Student B questions

- 1) What is litter?
- 2) What is a deposit return scheme?
- 3) What is hardly new? Explain.
- 4) Where does the plastic generally end up?
- 5) Where is Scotland?

Category: Environment / Recycling / Scotland
Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate

What do you think about plastic bottle recycling? – 05th Sep 2017

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs/As a class – Think of three important points about recycling plastic bottles, bottles and aluminium cans. Write them below and discuss. Add more points, if need be.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs/As a class – On the board think of 20 different items you might throw away. For each of them, think of how they could be recycled into something else. Which idea is best?

SPEAKING – 1 - ROLEPLAY

There is a demonstration taking place about the environment in London. It will go past Downing Street. *Student A* is an environmental protester outside Downing Street in London. *Student B* is a journalist. Start a conversation together about saving the environment, and why you think recycling is one of the key issues in today's world. 2-3 mins.

SPEAKING – 2 – PLASTIC BOTTLES

On your own/In pairs - Prepare a one minute speech about **plastic bottles**. Stand up and deliver it. Allow 2-3 mins to prepare.

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) Do you recycle anything? Explain.
- 3) Is recycling a good idea? Explain.
- 4) Should more people and countries recycle things?
- 5) What are the most likely things people recycle? Why?
- 6) Surely, we should all just bung everything in the dustbins, and not recycle anything, eh?
- 7) Do you think it's a good thing the Scottish government have taken the lead on recycling, like they have?
- 8) Does your country promote recycling? Explain.
- 9) What is the alternative to plastic bottles?
- 10) Have you learned anything today?

SPEAKING – 3 - ROLEPLAY

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio in Edinburgh, Scotland. Today's interview is about: *What do you think about plastic bottle recycling?*

- 1) A representative from the Scottish government.
- 2) A Scottish person.
- 3) A litter collector in Scotland.
- 4) A tourist in Scotland.

The teacher will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

SPEAKING – 4 - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

You are all at Downing Street in London to discuss with the Prime Minister and the Environment Minister - your concerns about recycling litter – plastic bottles, glass bottles and aluminium cans. You care about the environment and wish to see more plastic bottle deposit return containers installed right across the UK. You are also worried about the sheer amount of plastic that is now in the rivers and sea.

(One of you can be the UK Prime Minister, another can be the UK Environment Minister)

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) What do you do with your glass bottles and plastic bottles?
- 3) In the past, did you get money back on your glass bottles?
- 4) Why don't we see more plastic bottle recycling units offering cash back?
- 5) Why are drinks manufacturers wary of supporting recycled plastic bottles?
- 6) How much do you have to pay for a plastic bag when you visit a supermarket?
- 7) Should we be concerned about the sheer amount of plastic that is making its way into the sea?
- 8) Do you watch Sky News?
- 9) Is there a lot of litter on your streets?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

What do you think about plastic bottle recycling?

What do you think about plastic bottle (1)___? It's an interesting question that the Scottish government is taking action on. They aim to introduce a deposit return scheme, whereby you can get money for depositing your plastic drinks bottles, glass bottles, and aluminium cans, into recycling containers. The Scottish government wants to (2)___ (3)___ and clean up its streets.

Having a (4)___ return scheme could also have a huge (5)___ on decreasing the amount of litter found on Scottish beaches. Certainly, it will save money for local authorities, and it will help the recycling industry.

The UK has seen a huge (6)___ of plastic bags left as litter, since the UK government introduced a 5p charge per plastic bag. In fact, in just one year, the number of plastic bags handed out to (7)___ in supermarkets, in the UK, has fallen by six (8)___.

deposit / reduction / litter / billion / tackle / recycling / shoppers / impact

The (1)___ of cash for bottles is hardly new. People of a certain age will remember getting money back for glass bottles returned to shops. This died out when plastic bottles were introduced.

Large drinks manufacturers like Coca-Cola and Irn-Bru have, till now, largely been against any plastic bottle (2)___, but thanks to UK (3)___ Sky News debating plastic waste in the ocean, and Scottish plastic bottle recycling, Coca-Cola has reversed its original (4)___ to the recycling of plastic bottles in Scotland.

(5)___, any recycling of plastic bottles must be good for the (6)___, as it reduces the impact on them ending up in rivers, and (7)___, into our oceans, where the fish are dying, because of the (8)___ they eat.

plastic / surely / refunds / worse / idea / environment / objection / broadcaster /

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

What do you think about plastic bottle recycling?

(1)___ do you think about plastic bottle recycling? It's an interesting question (2)___ the Scottish government is taking action on. They aim to introduce a deposit return scheme, (3)___ you can get money for depositing (4)___ plastic drinks bottles, glass bottles, and aluminium cans, (5)___ recycling containers. The Scottish government wants to tackle litter and clean up its streets.

Having a deposit return scheme (6)___ (7)___ have a huge impact on decreasing the amount of litter found on Scottish beaches. Certainly, it will save money for local authorities, and it will help the recycling industry.

The UK has seen a huge reduction of plastic bags left as litter, since the UK government introduced a 5p charge per plastic bag. In fact, in (8)___ one year, the number of plastic bags handed out to shoppers in supermarkets, in the UK, has fallen by six billion.

just / into / your / could / what / whereby / that / also

The idea of cash for bottles is hardly new. People of a certain age will remember getting money back (1)___ glass bottles returned to shops. This died out when plastic bottles were introduced.

Large drinks manufacturers like Coca-Cola and Irn-Bru have, till now, largely been against any plastic bottle refunds, (2)___ thanks to UK broadcaster Sky News debating plastic waste in the ocean, and Scottish plastic bottle recycling, Coca-Cola has reversed (3)___ original objection to the recycling of plastic bottles in Scotland.

Surely, (4)___ recycling of plastic bottles must be good for the environment, as (5)___ reduces the impact (6)___ them ending up (7)___ rivers, and worse, into our oceans, where the fish are dying, because (8)___ the plastic they eat.

of / in / on / it / its / but / for / any



GAP FILL: LISTENING

WRITING/SPELLING

What do you think about plastic bottle recycling?

What do you think about _____? It's an interesting question that the Scottish government is taking action on. They aim to introduce a deposit return scheme, whereby you can get money for depositing your plastic drinks bottles, glass bottles, _____, into recycling containers. The _____ wants to tackle litter and clean up its streets.

Having a deposit return scheme could also have a huge impact on decreasing _____ found on Scottish beaches. Certainly, it will save money for local authorities, and it will help the _____.

The UK has seen a huge reduction of plastic bags left as litter, since the UK government introduced a 5p charge per plastic bag. In fact, in just one year, the number of plastic bags handed out to _____, in the UK, has fallen by six billion.

The idea of cash for bottles is hardly new. People of a certain age will remember _____ for glass bottles returned to shops. This died out when plastic bottles were introduced.

Large drinks manufacturers like Coca-Cola and Irn-Bru have, till now, largely been against any plastic bottle refunds, but thanks to _____ debating plastic waste in the ocean, and Scottish plastic bottle recycling, Coca-Cola has reversed its original objection to the recycling of plastic bottles in Scotland.

Surely, any recycling of plastic bottles must be good for the environment, as it reduces _____ ending up in rivers, and worse, into our oceans, where the fish are dying, because of _____.

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WRITING / SPEAKING

1) On the board - In pairs. On the board, write as many words as you can about '**Recycling**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

2) Sentence starters - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

1) Plastic bottles _____

2) I think _____

3) Recycling _____

3) Write down 50 words about: *What do you think about plastic bottle recycling?* Your words can be read out in class.

4) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: *What do you think about plastic bottle recycling?*

SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) supermarkets
- 2) reduction
- 3) question
- 4) introduce
- 5) aluminium
- 6) recycling
- 7) bottles
- 8) deposit
- 9) Scottish
- 10) authorities

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

- Pass = 12**
- Good = 15**
- Very good = 18**
- Excellent = 20**

- 11) litter
- 12) billion
- 13) certain
- 14) manufacturers
- 15) broadcaster
- 16) worse
- 17) ocean
- 18) objection
- 19) original
- 20) environment