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# Save our environment



## Let's Think

1. Do you recycle things?
2. What do you do to help save the environment?

You are Judy. You are reading a letter to the editor about environmental protection in Hong Kong.

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the article by Dennis Wong published on 17<sup>th</sup> March, in which Mr Wong said that both businesses and customers can play their own part in environmental protection. I agree entirely with his points and would like to elaborate on how it can be achieved.

First, businesses can consider cutting down on the use of extra decorative packaging. For example, many lifestyle stores, stores that sell clothing, housewares, stationery and gifts, usually wrap purchased items in wrapping paper. However, very often, wrapping paper is immediately thrown away after it is torn from the present. It is a fairly wasteful act. I believe reducing the use of these supplementary materials is a big step to saving forests and protecting our environment.

Second, customers can say no to free plastic cutlery or free plastic bags when buying takeaways and shopping. Similar to wrapping paper, those disposable giveaways are not designed for repeated use, so they can easily become unusable. In my opinion, metal cutlery and nylon shopping bags are customers' good friends. They are eco-friendly, durable and can be washed and cleaned. If the majority of customers follow these practices, I am certain that the problem of plastic waste will be greatly eased.

All in all, environmental protection is something for which all of us are responsible, and we should make a concerted effort to conserve our environment before it is too late to do so.

Yours faithfully,  
Louise Leung

(242 words)

## Part A

Answer the following questions using the information from the letter. Choose the **BEST** answer and blacken **ONE** circle only.

2. Which of the following is most probably the title of Dennis Wong's article?
- A. A financial crisis that is killing us
  - B. Our world's problem and our responsibility
  - C. Plastic and landfills—the severity of land pollution
  - D. 30 ways to go green at home
2. In line 10, the word 'supplementary' can best be replaced by '\_\_\_\_\_'.  
 A. wonderful  
 B. man-made  
 C. coloured  
 D. additional
3. According to the letter, which of the following is **TRUE**?
- A. Some products must be wrapped in pretty wrapping paper.
  - B. Wrapping paper can be expensive.
  - C. Lifestyle stores produce the greatest amount of waste.
  - D. Wrapping paper is in fact not necessary.
4. Which of the following people may consider doing what Louise suggests?
- A. the owner of a women's clothing store
  - B. a woman who goes grocery shopping every week
  - C. a man who likes to buy takeaways for dinner
  - D. all of the above
5. In which of the following publications may the letter be published?
- A. *The Ten Greatest Environmental Crises of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century*
  - B. *The Hong Kong Journal*
  - C. *The Encyclopaedia of Human Behaviour*
  - D. *Peter and the Landfill*

## Grammar Corner

We can use the **connective 'so'** to introduce the results of something.

**e.g.** *Similar to wrapping paper, those disposable giveaways are not designed for repeated use, so they can easily become unusable.* (Lines 13-14)

## Part B

Answer the following questions using the information from the letter. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

1. It can be inferred that Dennis Wong is likely to \_\_\_\_\_ Louise Leung's suggestions.

- A. express disagreement over
- B. show support for
- C. raise questions about
- D. be confused by

2. What does the word 'their' in line 3 refer to?

\_\_\_\_\_



3. Find words in the letter that can be replaced by the following. Fill in each blank with only one word.

completely	(a)	(adv.)
bought	(b)	(v.)
not fit for use	(c)	(adj.)
able to be used for a long time	(d)	(adj.)
united; combined	(e)	(adj.)

4. Find two words that are used to refer to free plastic cutlery and free plastic bags.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. According to the letter, what is the similarity between wrapping paper and plastic cutlery?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Find a phrase which means 'considering all the different parts of the situation together'.

\_\_\_\_\_

# Vocabulary Bank

The following are some slogans about environmental protection. Match them with the correct posters by writing the correct letters in the boxes. One of the words is not used.

- |                                      |                                |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| A. Stop hunting endangered animals   | B. Stop deforestation          |
| C. Choose cooking over takeaway      | D. Bring your own bag with you |
| E. Switch off lights when not in use | F. Prevent ocean pollution     |
| G. Ventilate with open windows       | H. Use public transport        |
| I. Use recycled paper                |                                |



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.



## Let's Discuss

- In your opinion, what environmental issue should be the focus of global attention? Explain your thoughts.
- Do you think environment protection should be taught as a subject at school? Why?