



Vocabulary: *fashion* 词汇: 时尚

There's nothing quite like new clothes, is there? The UK certainly loves them. According to a report by the Environmental Audit Committee (EAC), the UK consumes five times more clothes today than it did in the 1980s. That's more than any other nation in Europe and amounts to around 26.7kgs per person. This results in 235 million **garments** going to landfill – victims of fast fashion.

Fast fashion is defined as “an accelerated fashion business model” involving “increased numbers of new fashion **collections** every year”, “quick turnarounds” and “lower prices”, according to the EAC. Globalisation means that **attire** is made in countries where labour is cheaper. This saving is passed on to consumers, who then consider the **garb** they own **disposable** – easily replaceable with something more **on-trend**. And that creates problems.

First, there's the environmental cost. Manufacturing any kind of **textile** costs resources. For example, synthetic **fibres**, which are made from plastic, have a larger carbon footprint than natural ones. Natural fibres, although more carbon-efficient, still require more water to grow. And further resources are used as the cloth is **dyed**, made into clothing and transported to **retail** for sale. Secondly, the fast-fashion industry is under pressure to put the latest trending items on shelves fast, which can lead to workers being exploited and forced to labour in poor working conditions. In countries such as Bangladesh, Ethiopia and the Philippines, workers are paid wages that are insufficient to live on. One worker in Ethiopia told the BBC that they had to deal with intolerable conditions, such as withheld overtime payments, verbal abuse, and unsanitary toilets.

So what can be done in the UK to reduce clothes waste? The EAC has recommended eighteen improvements to the UK government, from increasing tax on purchases to fund recycling centres to introducing more **sewing** lessons in schools, encouraging a **make do and mend** attitude when things become **threadbare**.

What can we do? Shop “**second-hand** and **vintage**,” recommends Tolly Gregory, an ethical fashion blogger. Kristabel Plummer, a London-based fashion blogger, who spoke to the BBC, also recommends “looking for quality” and “longevity”. So keep an eye out for **durable, resilient, hardy apparel** that resists **wear and tear**.

词汇表

garment	衣服, 服装
collection	一系列 (新) 服装
attire	(特定样式或正式的) 服装
garb	(某种特定样式的) 服装
disposable	用完即可丢弃的
on-trend	流行的, 时尚的
textile	纺织物
fibre	(植物或人造) 纤维
dye	染色
retail	零售
sewing	缝纫
make do and mend	不买新的而是修补旧的将就过去
threadbare	(衣物) 穿旧的, 磨破的
second-hand	二手的, 旧的
vintage	复古的
durable	耐用的
resilient	有弹性的
hardy	结实耐用的
apparel	衣服, 服装
wear and tear	磨损

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. True or False? *British people buy the same amount of clothing today as they always have.*

2. How do the EAC define 'fast fashion'?

3. What are the problems associated with using either synthetic or natural fabrics?

4. What does the EAC recommend doing to improve the fast fashion situation?

5. What does Kristabel Plummer recommend doing?

2. 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. I'm sorry, sir. We can't let you in with that _____. It's formal dress only, I'm afraid.

attire

fabric

vintage

sewing

2. These hiking boots are so _____. I bought them five years ago and they're still in great condition.

vintage

threadbare

sustainable

durable

3. Despite the signs of _____ from use over the years, the dress was in excellent condition.

on-trend

make do and mend

dyeing

wear and tear

4. The house is in terrible condition. The carpets and curtains are _____. It wasn't looked after at all.

sustainable

threadbare

textile

second-hand

5. We need to stop using _____ items. They are extremely wasteful, environmentally speaking.

on-trend

disposable

sustainable

resilient

答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. True or False? *British people buy the same amount of clothing today as they always have.*

False. The UK buys five times more clothes today than it did in the 1980s.

2. How do the EAC define 'fast fashion'?

Fast fashion is defined as “an accelerated fashion business model” involving “increased numbers of new fashion collections every year”, “quick turnarounds” and “lower prices”.

3. What are the problems associated with using either synthetic or natural fabrics?

Synthetic fibres have a larger carbon footprint than natural ones, but natural fabrics require more water.

4. What does the EAC recommend doing to improve the fast fashion situation?

Among their eighteen improvements, they recommend increasing tax on purchases to fund recycling centres and introducing more sewing lessons in schools to encourage a make do and mend mentality.

5. What does Kristabel Plummer recommend doing?

She recommends looking for quality and longevity in clothes.

2. 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. I'm sorry, sir. We can't let you in with that **attire**. It's formal dress only, I'm afraid.

2. These hiking boots are so **durable**. I bought them five years ago and they're still in great condition.

3. Despite the signs of **wear and tear** from use over the years, the dress was in excellent condition.

4. The house is in terrible condition. The carpets and curtains are **threadbare**. It wasn't looked after at all.

5. We need to stop using **disposable** items. They are extremely wasteful, environmentally speaking.