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Level 6 – 22nd January, 2020

China plans to reduce single-use plastics

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

China has unveiled ambitious plans to drastically reduce single-use plastics by 2025. China's National Development and Reform Commission is fast-tracking a number of measures designed to slash the production and use of plastics over the next five years. It announced that by the end of 2020, non-biodegradable plastic bags will be banned in supermarkets and shopping malls in major cities. The ban will also apply to food delivery services, which use vast amounts of the plastics. Single-use plastic straws and cutlery used by food takeaway services will be banned nationwide by the end of this year. China will encourage the use of alternative materials such as non-plastic products and biodegradable shopping bags.

Single-use plastics are one of the world's biggest sources of plastic pollution. They have become a ubiquitous part of daily life and a part of our throwaway culture. The Chinese authorities set a goal of reducing the "intensity of consumption" in order to reverse our reliance on single-use plastics. Previous regulations to curb plastic use, in 2008, led to an estimated cut in plastic bag production of 67 billion bags. The United Nations said it is urgent that all countries adopt policies similar to those China is introducing. It said: "We are already unable to cope with the amount of plastic waste we generate, unless we rethink the way we manufacture, use and manage plastics."

Sources: <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/society/article/3046760/china-unveils-plan-reduce-single-use-plastic-2025>
http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-01/19/c_138718276.htm
<https://www.motherjones.com/environment/2020/01/china-plastics-ban-straws-bags/>

WARM-UPS

1. SINGLE-USE PLASTICS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about single-use plastics. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

ambitious / measures / production / plastics / supermarkets / nationwide / bags / pollution / daily life / culture / consumption / urgent / policies / waste / manage

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. BAN: Students A **strongly** believe all plastics should be banned; Students B **strongly** believe this would be silly. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. ALTERNATIVES: How necessary is it for these things to be plastic? What are the alternatives to plastic? How much better would they be? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

Plastic...	How Necessary?	Alternatives	How Much Better?
straws			
pens			
cutlery			
bottles			
bags			
kitchen wrap			

5. BIO-DEGRADABLE: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "biodegradable". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. POLLUTION: Rank these with your partner. Put the worst effects of plastic pollution at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Littered streets
- Dirty rivers
- Micro-plastics in food chain
- Plastics in whales' stomachs
- Release of toxins
- Use of oil
- Ocean garbage patches
- Groundwater pollution

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1. unveiled | a. Greatly reduce a price, quantity, etc. |
| 2. drastically | b. Of a substance or object capable of being broken down and returned to nature by bacteria or other living organisms. |
| 3. measures | c. Showed or announced publicly for the first time. |
| 4. slash | d. Of one or more things available as another possibility. |
| 5. biodegradable | e. In a way that is likely to have a strong or far-reaching effect. |
| 6. vast | f. A plan or course of action taken to achieve a particular purpose. |
| 7. alternative | g. Of very great extent or quantity; immense. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 8. sources | h. Deal effectively with something difficult. |
| 9. ubiquitous | i. A place, person, or thing from which something comes or can be obtained. |
| 10. set | j. Appearing, or found everywhere. |
| 11. intensity | k. Dependence on or trust in someone or something. |
| 12. reliance | l. Of extreme force, degree or passion. |
| 13. curb | m. Decide on. |
| 14. cope | n. Restrain or keep in check. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. China will outlaw all single-use plastics by the year 2025. **T / F**
- b. China will measure things to slash single-use plastics. **T / F**
- c. Non-biodegradable plastic bags will be banned in cities by 2025. **T / F**
- d. Plastic cutlery used by takeaways will be banned by the end of 2020. **T / F**
- e. The article said single-use plastics are a ubiquitous part of our life. **T / F**
- f. China cut plastic bag production by 67 billion in 2008. **T / F**
- g. The UN said more countries should follow China's lead. **T / F**
- h. The UN said we can cope with the amount of plastic waste. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1. unveiled | a. dependence |
| 2. drastically | b. enormous |
| 3. slash | c. manage |
| 4. vast | d. seriously |
| 5. alternative | e. pressing |
| 6. ubiquitous | f. control |
| 7. reliance | g. replacement |
| 8. curb | h. revealed |
| 9. urgent | i. omnipresent |
| 10. cope | j. cut |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. ambitious plans to drastically | a. amounts of the plastics |
| 2. fast-tracking a number | b. alternative materials |
| 3. food delivery services, which use vast | c. those China is introducing |
| 4. Single-use plastic straws | d. of measures |
| 5. China will encourage the use of | e. on single-use plastics |
| 6. They have become a ubiquitous | f. the amount of plastic waste |
| 7. part of our throwaway | g. reduce single-use plastics |
| 8. reverse our reliance | h. culture |
| 9. adopt policies similar to | i. part of daily life |
| 10. We are already unable to cope with | j. and cutlery |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

China has unveiled (1) _____ plans to drastically reduce single-use plastics by 2025. China's National Development and Reform Commission is fast-(2) _____ a number of measures designed to (3) _____ the production and use of plastics over the next five years. It (4) _____ that by the end of 2020, non-biodegradable plastic bags will be (5) _____ in supermarkets and shopping malls in major cities. The ban will also (6) _____ to food delivery services, which use vast amounts of the plastics. Single-use plastic straws and (7) _____ used by food takeaway services will be banned nationwide by the end of this year. China will encourage the use of (8) _____ materials such as non-plastic products and biodegradable shopping bags.

apply
tracking
alternative
announced
ambitious
banned
cutlery
slash

Single-use plastics are one of the world's biggest (9) _____ of plastic pollution. They have become a (10) _____ part of daily life and a part of our throwaway culture. The Chinese (11) _____ set a goal of reducing the "intensity of consumption" in order to reverse our (12) _____ on single-use plastics. Previous regulations to curb plastic use, in 2008, led to an (13) _____ cut in plastic bag production of 67 billion bags. The United Nations said it is (14) _____ that all countries adopt policies similar to those China is introducing. It said: "We are already unable to (15) _____ with the amount of plastic waste we (16) _____, unless we rethink the way we manufacture, use and manage plastics."

ubiquitous
estimated
cope
sources
generate
reliance
authorities
urgent

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

- 1) China has unveiled ambitious plans to _____ single-use plastics
 - a. drastic key reduce
 - b. drastically reduce
 - c. dress tick ally reduce
 - d. dross tick ally reduce
- 2) fast-tracking a number of measures designed _____ production
 - a. to slash the
 - b. to slosh the
 - c. to slush the
 - d. to stash the
- 3) plastic bags will be banned in supermarkets and shopping _____ cities
 - a. malls on major
 - b. malls in major
 - c. malls in majors
 - d. malls on majored
- 4) The ban will also apply to food delivery services, which _____
 - a. use baste amounts
 - b. use haste amounts
 - c. use fast amounts
 - d. use vast amounts
- 5) China will encourage the use of _____
 - a. alternatively materials
 - b. alternative material
 - c. alternative materials
 - d. alternatively material
- 6) Single-use plastics are one of the world's biggest _____
 - a. sauces of plastic
 - b. sources of plastic
 - c. saucers of plastic
 - d. scorches of plastic
- 7) They have become a _____
 - a. ubiquity part
 - b. ubiquity us part
 - c. ubiquitous part
 - d. ubiquitously part
- 8) the "intensity of consumption" in order to reverse our _____-use plastics
 - a. reliance in single
 - b. reliance on single
 - c. reliance an single
 - d. reliance un-single
- 9) We are already unable to _____ amount
 - a. scope with the
 - b. copes with the
 - c. cope with the
 - d. cape with the
- 10) unless we rethink the way we manufacture, _____ plastics
 - a. abuse and manage
 - b. usage and manage
 - c. user and manage
 - d. use and manage

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

China has unveiled ambitious (1) _____ reduce single-use plastics by 2025. China's National Development and Reform Commission is fast-tracking a number of measures (2) _____ the production and use of plastics over the next five years. It announced that by the end of 2020, (3) _____ bags will be banned in supermarkets and shopping malls in major cities. The ban will also apply to food delivery services, which (4) _____ of the plastics. Single-use plastic (5) _____ used by food takeaway services will be banned nationwide by the end of this year. China will encourage the (6) _____ materials such as non-plastic products and biodegradable shopping bags.

Single-use plastics are one of the world's (7) _____ plastic pollution. They have become a (8) _____ daily life and a part of our throwaway culture. The Chinese authorities set a goal of reducing the "intensity of consumption" in order to (9) _____ on single-use plastics. Previous regulations to curb plastic use, in 2008, led to an estimated cut in plastic bag production of 67 billion bags. The United Nations said it is (10) _____ countries adopt policies similar to those China is introducing. It said: "We are already (11) _____ with the amount of plastic (12) _____, unless we rethink the way we manufacture, use and manage plastics."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

1. What has China done to ambitious plans to reduce single-use plastics?
2. What is China doing to measures to slash the production of plastic bags?
3. By when will non-biodegradable plastic bags be banned in supermarkets?
4. What will takeaways not be able to use besides plastic straws and bags?
5. What is China encouraging the use of besides non-plastic products?
6. What adjective described how much plastics are part of our life?
7. What kind of culture did the article say single-use plastics were part of?
8. What did China say we needed to reverse?
9. What did the UN say it was urgent for other countries to adopt?
10. What did the UN say we were unable to cope with?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

- 1) What has China done to ambitious plans to reduce single-use plastics?
 - a) recycled them
 - b) unveiled them
 - c) downgraded them
 - d) lost them
- 2) What is China doing to measures to slash the production of plastic bags?
 - a) using a big knife
 - b) using an incinerator
 - c) ticking them quickly
 - d) fast-tracking them
- 3) By when will non-biodegradable plastic bags be banned in supermarkets?
 - a) by late 2021
 - b) by mid-century
 - c) by the end of 2020
 - d) around mid-to-late 2025
- 4) What will takeaways not be able to use besides plastic straws and bags?
 - a) single-use cutlery
 - b) single use tables
 - c) single use oil for frying
 - d) single use kids' toys
- 5) What is China encouraging the use of besides non-plastic products?
 - a) the Internet
 - b) biodegradable shopping bags
 - c) their feet
 - d) multi-purpose plastic trays
- 6) What adjective described how much plastics are part of our life?
 - a) ubiquitous
 - b) rambunctious
 - c) fictitious
 - d) fractious
- 7) What kind of culture did the article say single-use plastics were part of?
 - a) an ancient culture
 - b) a pop culture
 - c) a throwaway culture
 - d) an emerging culture
- 8) What did China say we needed to reverse?
 - a) our reliance on single-use plastics
 - b) climate change
 - c) our use of oil
 - d) our thinking
- 9) What did the UN say it was urgent for other countries to adopt?
 - a) stricter laws
 - b) bamboo products
 - c) laws to end the use of oil
 - d) policies similar to China's
- 10) What did the UN say we were unable to cope with?
 - a) change
 - b) global warming
 - c) the amount of plastic we generate
 - d) our throwaway culture

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

Role A – Micro-plastics in Food Chain

You think Micro-plastics in the food chain is the biggest problem with plastics. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their problems aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the most manageable of these (and why): plastics in whales' stomachs, ocean garbage patches or littered streets.

Role B – Plastics in whales' stomachs

You think plastics in whales' stomachs is the biggest problem with plastics. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their problems aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the most manageable of these (and why): micro-plastics in the food chain, ocean garbage patches or littered streets.

Role C – Ocean garbage patches

You think ocean garbage patches is the biggest problem with plastics. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their problems aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the most manageable of these (and why): plastics in whales' stomachs, micro-plastics in the food chain or littered streets.

Role D – Littered streets

You think littered streets is the biggest problem with plastics. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their problems aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the most manageable of these (and why): plastics in whales' stomachs, ocean garbage patches or micro-plastics in the food chain.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'single' and 'plastic'.

single	plastic
---------------	----------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• drastically• number• slash• major• cutlery• alternative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• sources• part• goal• curb• adopt• cope
--	---

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

Write five GOOD questions about single-use plastics in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'plastic'?
3. What do you think of plastic?
4. How many of the things you have are made of plastic?
5. What do you think of China's plans?
6. How can you reduce the amount of plastic you use?
7. Should all supermarkets ban plastic bags?
8. How bad are plastic straws and cutlery?
9. What happens to all the plastic we throw away?
10. What harm does plastic trash do to the environment?

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SINGLE-USE PLASTICS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'bags'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Can we live without plastic?
15. How much of a throwaway culture do we live in?
16. Why do we consume so much stuff these days?
17. What will happen if we do not cut down on plastic?
18. How can we re-use a plastic bottle, straw and cutlery?
19. Would it be easy for you to rethink your use of plastic?
20. What questions would you like to ask a plastic manufacturer?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

China has unveiled ambitious plans to (1) _____ reduce single-use plastics by 2025. China's National Development and Reform Commission is fast-tracking a number of measures designed to (2) _____ the production and use of plastics over the next five years. It announced that by the end of 2020, non-biodegradable plastic bags will be (3) _____ in supermarkets and shopping malls in major cities. The ban will also (4) _____ to food delivery services, which use vast amounts of the plastics. Single-use plastic straws and (5) _____ used by food takeaway services will be banned nationwide by the end of this year. China will encourage the use of (6) _____ materials such as non-plastic products and biodegradable shopping bags.

Single-use plastics are one of the world's biggest (7) _____ of plastic pollution. They have become a (8) _____ part of daily life and a part of our throwaway culture. The Chinese authorities set a goal of reducing the "intensity of consumption" in order to (9) _____ our reliance on single-use plastics. Previous regulations to (10) _____ plastic use, in 2008, led to an estimated cut in plastic bag production of 67 billion bags. The United Nations said it is (11) _____ that all countries adopt policies similar to those China is introducing. It said: "We are already unable to (12) _____ with the amount of plastic waste we generate, unless we rethink the way we manufacture, use and manage plastics."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) caustically | (b) drastically | (c) critically | (d) dually |
| 2. | (a) stash | (b) slash | (c) slosh | (d) swash |
| 3. | (a) band | (b) bond | (c) binned | (d) banned |
| 4. | (a) reply | (b) apply | (c) supply | (d) comply |
| 5. | (a) pottery | (b) cutlery | (c) sorcery | (d) jewellery |
| 6. | (a) choosing | (b) option | (c) alternative | (d) selects |
| 7. | (a) sachets | (b) saucers | (c) sauces | (d) sources |
| 8. | (a) ubiquitous | (b) epoch | (c) opposition | (d) yearning |
| 9. | (a) verse | (b) reverse | (c) server | (d) reserve |
| 10. | (a) base | (b) drag | (c) curb | (d) task |
| 11. | (a) cogent | (b) regent | (c) urgent | (d) diligent |
| 12. | (a) dope | (b) cope | (c) mope | (d) nope |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

Paragraph 1

1. China has unveiled siiamobtu plans
2. diclatlrysa reduce single-use plastics
3. fast-tracking a number of euasrmse
4. earbdoldaebgi plastic bags
5. plastic straws and ltuycer
6. the use of tiaantvelre materials

Paragraph 2

7. the world's biggest coserus of plastic
8. a itisbuuuoq part of daily life
9. the netyitnis of consumption
10. our ecilnrae on single-use plastics
11. iუსlgotraen to curb plastic use
12. rethink the way we menutacufar

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () of plastics over the next five years. It announced that by the end of 2020, non-biodegradable plastic
- () cutlery used by food takeaway services will be banned nationwide by the end of this year. China will encourage the use
- () Single-use plastics are one of the world's biggest sources of plastic pollution. They have become a ubiquitous
- () we rethink the way we manufacture, use and manage plastics."
- () of alternative materials such as non-plastic products and biodegradable shopping bags.
- () of consumption" in order to reverse our reliance on single-use plastics. Previous regulations to
- (**1**) China has unveiled ambitious plans to drastically reduce single-use plastics by 2025. China's National Development and
- () are already unable to cope with the amount of plastic waste we generate, unless
- () Reform Commission is fast-tracking a number of measures designed to slash the production and use
- () curb plastic use, in 2008, led to an estimated cut in plastic bag production of 67 billion bags. The United Nations
- () delivery services, which use vast amounts of the plastics. Single-use plastic straws and
- () bags will be banned in supermarkets and shopping malls in major cities. The ban will also apply to food
- () said it is urgent that all countries adopt policies similar to those China is introducing. It said: "We
- () part of daily life and a part of our throwaway culture. The Chinese authorities set a goal of reducing the "intensity

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

1. to plans drastically plastics . reduce single-use Ambitious
2. to designed of production . number slash A measures
3. plastic bags Non-biodegradable banned be supermarkets . in will
4. cutlery by used food services . and takeaway Straws
5. China encourage the will of materials . alternative use
6. of pollution . of world's sources the biggest One
7. They part a ubiquitous of have become life .
8. is countries adopt that It all urgent policies .
9. waste . amount the Unable of cope with to
10. way we rethink we plastics . the Unless manufacture

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

China has unveiled *ambitious / ambitions* plans to drastically reduce single-use plastics by 2025. China's National Development and Reform Commission is fast-tracking a *number / numeral* of measures designed to *slosh / slash* the production and use of plastics *over / under* the next five years. It announced that by the end of 2020, non-biodegradable plastic bags will be *banned / binned* in supermarkets and shopping malls in major cities. The ban will also *apply / reply* to food delivery services, which use *fast / vast* amounts of the plastics. Single-use plastic straws and cutlery *users / used* by food takeaway services will be banned nationwide by the end of *that / this* year. China will encourage the use of *alternative / alternatively* materials such as non-plastic products and biodegradable shopping bags.

Single-use plastics are *one / two* of the world's biggest *sources / sauces* of plastic pollution. They have become a *ubiquity / ubiquitous* part of daily life and a part of our throwaway *cultured / culture*. The Chinese authorities set a goal of reducing the "intensity of consumption" in order to *reserve / reverse* our reliance on single-use plastics. Previous regulations to *carb / curb* plastic use, in 2008, led to an estimated cut in plastic bag production of 67 billion bags. The United Nations said it is *urgency / urgent* that all countries adopt policies *similarly / similar* to those China is introducing. It said: "We are already unable to *cope / cop* with the amount of plastic waste we generate, unless we rethink the *weigh / way* we manufacture, use and manage plastics."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

C h_n_ h_s _n v__ l_d _m b_t___s p l_n s t_ d r_s
t_c_l_l_y r_d_c_ s_n g_l_-_s_ p l_s t_c s b y 2 0 2 5 .
C h_n_'s N_t__ n_l D_v_l_p m_n t _n d R_f_r m C_m
m_s s__ n _s f_s t - t_r_c k_n g _ n_m b_r _f m__
s_r_s d_s_g n_d t_ s l_s h t h_ p r_d_c t__ n _n d
s _f p l_s t_c s _v_r t h_ n_x t f_v_ y__ r_s . I t
_n n__ n c_d t h_t b y t h_ _n d _f 2 0 2 0 , n_n -
b__ d_g r_d_b l_ p l_s t_c b_g s w_l l b_ b_n n_d _n
s_p_r m_r k_t s _n d s h_p p_n g m_l l_s _n m_j_r
c_t__ s . T h_ b_n w_l l _l_s_ _p p_l y t_ f__ d
d_l_v_r y s_r v_c_s , w h_c h _s_ v_s t _m__ n_t s _f
t h_ p l_s t_c s . S_n g_l_-_s_ p l_s t_c s t_r_w_s _n d
c_t_l_r y _s_d b y f__ d t_k__ w_y s_r v_c_s w_l l
b_ b_n n_d n_t__ n_w_d_ b y t h_ _n d _f t h_s y__
r . C h_n_ w_l l _n c__ r_g_ t h_ _s_ _f _l_t_r n_t_v_
m_t_r__ l_s s_c h _s_ n_n - p l_s t_c p r_d_c t_s _n d
b__ d_g r_d_b l_ s h_p p_n g b_g s .

S_n g_l_-_s_ p l_s t_c s _r_ _n_ _f t h_ w_r l_d 's b_g
g_s t s__ r_c_s _f p l_s t_c p_l l_t__ n . T h_y h_v_
b_c_m_ _ _b_q__ t__ s p_r t _f d__ l_y l_f_ _n d _
p_r t _f __ r t h_r_w_w_y c_l_t_r_ . T h_ C h_n_s_ __ t
h_r_t__ s s_t _ g__ l _f r_d_c_n g t h_ " _n t_n s_t y
_f c_n s_m p_t__ n " _n _r d_r t_ r_v_r_s_ __ r r_l__
n c_ _n s_n g_l_-_s_ p l_s t_c s . P_r_v___s r_g_l_t__ n
s t_ c_r b p l_s t_c _s_ , _n 2 0 0 8 , l_d t_ _n _s
t_m_t_d c_t _n p l_s t_c b_g p r_d_c t__ n _f 6 7
b_l l__ n b_g s . T h_ U_n_t_d N_t__ n_s s__ d _t _s
_r g_n t t h_t _l l c__ n t_r__ s _d_p t p_l_c__ s
s_m_l_r t_ t h_s_ C h_n_s_ _n t_r_d_c_n g . I t s__ d
: " W_ _r_ _l_r__ d_y _n_b l_ t_ c_p_ w_t h t h_ _m__
n_t _f p l_s t_c w_s t_ w_ g_n_r_t_ , _n l_s s w_ r_t
h_n k t h_ w_y w_ m_n_f_c_t_r_ , _s_ _n d m_n_g_ p
l_s t_c s . "

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

China has unveiled ambitious plans to drastically reduce single-use plastics by 2025. China's National Development and Reform Commission is fast-tracking a number of measures designed to slash the production and use of plastics over the next five years. It announced that by the end of 2020, nonbiodegradable plastic bags will be banned in supermarkets and shopping malls. In major cities, the ban will also apply to food delivery services which use vast amounts of the plastics. Single-use plastic straws and cutlery used by food takeaway services will be banned nationwide by the end of this year. China will encourage the use of alternative materials such as nonplastic products and biodegradable shopping bags.

Single-use plastics are one of the world's biggest sources of plastic pollution. They have become a ubiquitous part of daily life and a part of our throwaway culture. The Chinese authorities set a goal of reducing the intensity of consumption in order to reverse our reliance on single-use plastics. Previous regulations to curb plastic use in 2008 led to an estimated cut in plastic bag production of 67 billion bags. The United Nations said it is urgent that all countries adopt policies similar to those China is introducing. It said we are already unable to cope with the amount of plastic waste we generate unless we rethink the way we manufacture, use and manage plastics.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200122-single-use-plastics.html>

China has unveiled an ambitious plan to drastically reduce single-use plastics by 2025. China's National Development and Reform Commission is fast-tracking a number of measures designed to slash the production and use of plastic over the next five years. It announced that by the end of 2020, non-biodegradable plastic bags will be banned in supermarkets and shopping malls in major cities. The ban will also apply to food delivery services, which use vast amounts of the plastics. Single-use plastic straws and cutlery used by food takeaway services will be banned nationwide by the end of this year. China will encourage the use of alternative materials such as non-plastic products and biodegradable shopping bags. Single-use plastics are one of the world's biggest sources of plastic pollution. They have become a ubiquitous part of daily life and a part of our throwaway culture. The Chinese authorities set a goal of reducing the "intensity of consumption" in order to reverse our reliance on single-use plastics. Previous regulations to curb plastic use, in 2008, led to an estimated cut in plastic bag production of 67 billion bags. The United Nations said it is urgent that all countries adopt policies similar to those China is introducing. It said: "We are already unable to cope with the amount of plastic waste we generate, unless we rethink the way we manufacture, use and manage plastics."

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. SINGLE-USE PLASTICS: Make a poster about single-use plastics. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. BAN: Write a magazine article about banning all plastics worldwide. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on single-use plastics. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how we can cut our use of all plastics. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c 2. e 3. f 4. a 5. b 6. g 7. d
8. i 9. j 10. m 11. l 12. k 13. n 14. h

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a F b F c F d T e T f T g T h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. h	2. d	3. j	4. b	5. g
6. i	7. a	8. f	9. e	10. c

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Unveiled them
- Fast-tracking them
- By the end of 2020
- Single-use cutlery
- Biodegradable shopping bags
- Ubiquitous
- A throwaway culture
- Our reliance on single-use plastics
- Policies similar to China's
- The amount of plastic waste we generate

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

- Ambitious plans to drastically reduce single-use plastics.
- A number of measures designed to slash production.
- Non-biodegradable plastic bags will be banned in supermarkets.
- Straws and cutlery used by food takeaway services.
- China will encourage the use of alternative materials.
- One of the world's biggest sources of pollution.
- They have become a ubiquitous part of life.
- It is urgent that all countries adopt policies.
- Unable to cope with the amount of waste.
- Unless we rethink the way we manufacture plastics.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. a 2. c 3. b 4. d 5. a 6. d 7. b 8. d 9. c 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)