



# COCA-COLA TO PRODUCE PAPER BOTTLES



Source: Reuters



Scan to review worksheet

Expemo code:  
19SI-Z63A-SSTE

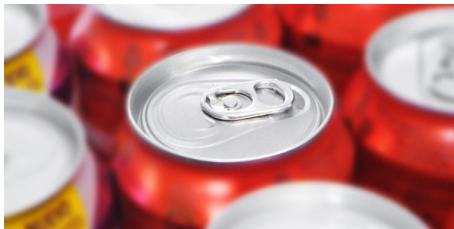
## 1 Warm up

Quick survey: How much waste do people in the class create? Work out the totals for the class.

How many of the following do you use in a typical week?

cans	
plastic bottles	
plastic bags	
wrappers (for sweets, crisps, etc.)	

1. Do you do anything to reduce your waste?
2. Are there recycling schemes in your country? What do people do with their plastic waste?





## 2 Vocabulary in context

Look at the words in bold in the following sentences. Choose which option (a-c) is closest to the meaning.

1. Their **ultimate aim** is to have zero plastic waste by 2050.
  - a. main goal
  - b. primary motivation
  - c. best hope
2. They have a working **prototype** which they are showing to investors.
  - a. computer design
  - b. model
  - c. idea
3. The government has been **under fire** for its poor record on the environment.
  - a. in a dangerous situation
  - b. physically attacked
  - c. heavily criticised
4. Reusable chop sticks could replace **disposable** knives and forks entirely.
  - a. easy to use again
  - b. something to throw away after you've used it once
  - c. stronger than others of its kind
5. We are focused on completely **eliminating** waste from our factories.
  - a. getting rid of entirely
  - b. reducing considerably
  - c. beginning to stop
6. In an attempt to **clean up its image**, the company has begun several environmental projects.
  - a. review the situation for employees
  - b. improve their reputation
  - c. reduce illness





## 3

**Prediction**

Why do you think the following things are mentioned?

1. number one plastic polluter
2. a Danish business
3. a fruit drink
4. a beer company

Now listen to the recording to check your predictions.

## 4

**Comprehension**

Decide if the following statements about the listening are True or False.

1. The new prototype is entirely made of paper.
2. A charity stated that Coca-Cola created more plastic pollution than anyone else.
3. "Paboco" is an abbreviation of a Danish company name.
4. Coca-Cola plan to stop selling bottles and cans before 2030.
5. The pressure used in making fizzy drinks is a problem for the designers of the new bottle.
6. There are more difficulties ahead before we have a bottle which is completely free of plastic.

## 5

**Focus on vocabulary**

Part A: Write the words next to the correct definitions.

additive	exponentially	fund	inhabitant
notoriously	pass away	pioneer	unrecognisable

1. in a manner that is famous for being bad \_\_\_\_\_
2. a substance which is put in something, often food, in order to make it better, stronger, tastier or last longer \_\_\_\_\_
3. to die \_\_\_\_\_
4. to give money to an organisation or a person so that it can operate \_\_\_\_\_
5. in a way that gets faster and faster \_\_\_\_\_
6. so different from what is familiar that you don't know what it is \_\_\_\_\_
7. to do something for the first time \_\_\_\_\_
8. someone who lives in a certain place \_\_\_\_\_

**Part B: Underline the correct form from the same word family as the words in Part A.**

1. The company achieved **notoriously/notoriety/notorious** for its poor environmental practices.
2. Extravagant funerals are often held in the Toraja Highlands in Indonesia when a family member **passed/passing/passes** away.
3. Norwegian, Roald Amundsen was a true **pioneer/pioneering/pioneered** of Polar exploration.
4. The charity was forced to close down due to lack of **fund/funding/funded**.
5. The Ocean Cleanup organisation is a real **exponential/exponentially/exponent** of recyclable plastic.
6. There was a complete lack of **recognise/recognition/recognisable** of her abilities by her superiors.
7. The project required **additive/additional/addition** support from investors during the pandemic.
8. The islands were popular with wildlife as they were completely **inhabited/habitable/uninhabited** by humans.

**Now answer these questions.**

1. How important is it to you whether or not your food has **additives** in it? Why?
2. What usually happens in your culture when someone **passes away**?
3. Are you **unrecognisable** now compared to how you were as a child? Why/Why not?
4. If you had plenty of money, what projects would you like to **fund**?
5. Is there something you would like to **pioneer**? What is it?
6. If you could be an **inhabitant** of any country outside of your own, where would it be?

**6****Scanning for details**

Look at the following numbers. Quickly scan through the text on the next page and find what they relate to.

1. 15 years
2. 448 million tons
3. 40%
4. 400 years
5. 50,000 kilogrammes



## 7

**Synonyms**

Skim through the text to find words which mean the same as the following.

1. formed (para. 1) \_\_\_\_\_
2. projected (para. 1) \_\_\_\_\_
3. discarded (para. 2) \_\_\_\_\_
4. reinforce (para. 2) \_\_\_\_\_
5. approaches (para. 3) \_\_\_\_\_
6. stops (para. 3) \_\_\_\_\_
7. polluted (para. 3) \_\_\_\_\_
8. reduce (para. 4) \_\_\_\_\_

## Disposable plastic

### The problem and the solutions

1. Life without plastics would be **unrecognisable** today. Phones, computers, cars, headphones, packaging, bike helmets, medical equipment, even landing on Mars: none of it would be possible without plastic. In addition, the speed at which we produce it is increasing **exponentially**. 50% of all the plastic we have ever made was created in the last 15 years. In 1950, the world produced 2.3 million tons of plastic; in 2015, it was 448 million tons. By 2050, that number is expected to have doubled.
2. Not only this, but we've created a monster. Of the plastic we produce each year, 40% of it is used once, and then thrown away. Can you imagine going to a beach and looking at where the sea meets the sand? Now imagine seeing 5 full rubbish bags on each foot of space on that line. Looks disgusting, doesn't it? Now imagine that same scene on every single place where the land meets the sea in the world. That is how much plastic gets into our oceans. Every. Single. Year. Also, the **additives** they put in plastic to strengthen it, means that it could take 400 years for those plastics to disappear. Long after you've **passed away**, your great-great grandchildren, and their children, could be dealing with the plastic that you throw away.
3. However, there is hope. Organisations around the world are acting to deal with the problem, such as Dutch charity - The Ocean Cleanup. They are **pioneering** technology which will collect plastic in the ocean into one area using the ocean's natural currents. Using these methods, they predict that they will have cleaned 50% of the Great Pacific Garbage patch (a **notoriously** large island of plastic waste floating between Hawaii and California) in the next five years. They have already used plastic they took away to create recyclable sunglasses which they sell to **fund** their continued efforts. They have also invented The Interceptor, a solar-powered water vehicle, which prevents plastics from rivers entering the oceans. Each Interceptor can remove up to 50,000 kilogrammes of plastic in a day, with twice that being possible in particularly contaminated areas.
4. If we work together to diminish the amount of plastic we use, and to clean up the mess we have already created, the environment could still be beautiful for future **inhabitants** of our planet.

Sources: National Geographic, the Ocean Cleanup



## 8

**Comprehension**

Complete the following sentences using no more than three words from the text.

1. If it weren't for plastic and its various uses, modern life as we know it would not \_\_\_\_\_ .
2. Plastic is produced at a \_\_\_\_\_ which constantly increases.
3. Enough plastic goes into the sea each year for 5 sacks of discarded plastic to occupy \_\_\_\_\_ of shoreline in every country around the world.
4. Without cleaning up, it's likely your \_\_\_\_\_ will be living in a world with plastic you have thrown away.
5. The Ocean Cleanup is one of the \_\_\_\_\_ which is finding solutions to the problem we have all created.
6. One of their methods will involve using the \_\_\_\_\_ to help them collect large amounts of plastic into one place.
7. They have already used plastic reclaimed from the Great Pacific Garbage patch to make \_\_\_\_\_ , the sales of which help them financially.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ we have collectively made could be cleared up by working together to reduce the number of single-use plastics, and removing plastic which has been thrown away into the oceans.

## 9

**Talking point**

In pairs, answer the following questions.

1. Would you use a paper bottle to drink carbonated drinks? Or would you prefer to stick to the traditional packaging? Why?
2. What do you think the plastic problem will be like in 100 years from now?
3. Do people use too much plastic in your country? What steps are being taken to reduce it?
4. Do you know of any other companies or organisations that are taking action to fight plastic pollution? What are they doing?
5. Look at the website for Ocean Cleanup. Is there any information in there which surprises you?



# Transcripts

## 3. Prediction

- Newsreader:** Positive news in the fight against plastics today as Coca-Cola begins tests on a newly-designed bottle made from paper. Their ultimate aim is to make a bottle that is completely recyclable and uses no plastic.
- Newsreader:** This prototype still contains a lining of plastic on the inside, but the majority of the design is created with a particularly strong paper.
- Newsreader:** Cola-Cola has previously been under fire for its creation of disposable plastics, and was given the title of the world's number one plastic polluter by Break-Free from Plastic, a charity group dedicated to eliminating plastic pollution.
- Newsreader:** In an attempt to clean up its image, Cola-Cola has partnered with the Danish business, Paper Bottle Company, or Paboco, for short.
- Newsreader:** As well as increasing their use of recycled materials, Coca-Cola intends to recycle a bottle or can for every one that they sell by 2030. The challenge for the new paper design is to contain the gas used in carbonated drinks which use pressure as part of the bottling process.
- Newsreader:** Using Coca Cola's fruit drink, Adez, Paboco will trial the paper bottle on around 2000 bottles. Absolut, the Vodka producer and Carlsberg, the beer company are also working on paper bottles for their products.
- Newsreader:** There are still obstacles to overcome in ensuring recyclable bottles are widely used and arriving at the final destination of a completely plastic-free package. But whoever manages to replace plastics first, the winner will be the environment.



# Key

## 1. Warm up

5 mins.

Tell the students they are going to be looking at a news story about a new form of packaging. Ask them to complete the short survey. This could either be done as a whole class activity or in groups. Try to come up with rough figures for each as a class. Ask them to discuss how or if materials are recycled in their home countries.

## 2. Vocabulary in context

5 mins.

Ask students to answer the multiple-choice questions. Ask them to complete the task without dictionaries or the Internet in the first instance, but allow lower-level students to reinforce their notes by checking sources if needed.

1. a      2. b      3. c      4. b      5. a      6. b

## 3. Prediction

5 mins.

Ask students to predict why each thing is mentioned and then discuss their ideas in pairs or groups.

1. Coca-Cola was named as this by charity group, Break Free From Plastic.
2. Paper Bottle Company, a Danish company, worked with Coca-Cola to create the bottle.
3. A fruit drink by Coca-Cola will be used to test the new bottle.
4. Carlsberg, a beer company, is also testing paper bottles.

## 4. Comprehension

10 mins.

Ask the students to listen to the recording and answer the questions. Before you start, ask the students to predict the answers to the questions. Then ask them to take notes while they listen to focus on the reasons for the answers. Lower-level students may require repeat listenings.

1. False. "This prototype still contains a lining of plastic on the inside, but the majority of the design is created with a particularly strong paper."
2. True. "Cola-Cola have previously been under fire for its creation of disposable plastics, and was given the title of the world's number one plastic polluter by Break-Free from Plastic, a charity group..."
3. True. "... the Danish business, Paper Bottle Company, or Paboco, for short"
4. False. "... Coca-Cola intends to recycle a bottle or can for every one that they sell by 2030."
5. True. "The challenge for the new paper design is to contain the gas used in carbonated drinks which use pressure as part of the bottling process."
6. True. "There are still obstacles to overcome in ensuring recyclable bottles are widely used and arriving at the final destination of a completely plastic-free package."

## 5. Focus on vocabulary

Part A:

5 mins.





Ask the students to complete this without using a dictionary or the Internet as far as possible. Then check answers using sources. Ensure students know how to pronounce target vocabulary.

- |                  |                   |              |               |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. notoriously   | 2. additive       | 3. pass away | 4. fund       |
| 5. exponentially | 6. unrecognisable | 7. pioneer   | 8. inhabitant |

Part B:

10 mins.

Ask students to complete the sentences and answer questions. You may want to ask students to identify the possible part of speech required for each gap before starting.

- |              |                |               |                |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. notoriety | 2. passes      | 3. pioneer    | 4. funding     |
| 5. exponent  | 6. recognition | 7. additional | 8. uninhabited |

## 6. Scanning for details

5 mins.

Set a strict time limit to encourage students to quickly scan for the answers rather than reading in detail.

1. The last 15 years was when 50% of plastic was made.
2. The amount of plastic made in 2015.
3. The percentage of plastic only used once.
4. The amount of time it can take for plastic to break down.
5. The amount of plastic The Interceptor can clean up in a day.

## 7. Synonyms

5 mins.

Ask students to skim through the relevant paragraph to find synonyms for the following. You may want to do this as a strictly-timed exercise or you may want to allow them more time depending on level.

- |            |             |                 |               |
|------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. created | 2. expected | 3. thrown away  | 4. strengthen |
| 5. methods | 6. prevents | 7. contaminated | 8. diminish   |

## 8. Comprehension

10 mins.

Ask students to fill the gaps with one, two or three words from the texts.

- |                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. be possible           | 2. speed                     |
| 3. each foot             | 4. great-great grandchildren |
| 5. organisations         | 6. ocean's natural currents  |
| 7. recyclable sunglasses | 8. The mess                  |

## 9. Talking point

10 mins.

Ask students to discuss the questions in pairs or small groups. You may want to point them to the website for The Ocean Cleanup <https://theoceancleanup.com>, which is very informative and ask them to write a short report on their activities.