### BBC LEARNING ENGLISH Take Away English 随身英语 Sustainable fabrics of the future 既环保又耐用的未来服装面料



### Vocabulary: fashion 词汇:时尚

Choosing what to wear can be a tricky problem, especially if you're a **fashion victim**. Trying to keep up with the latest **styles** involves regular visits to the shops and sometimes **forking out** for expensive **designer** clothes. But when the fashion changes, these clothes languish in the back of cupboards gathering dust, or just get thrown away.

There are many stores that now offer cheap '**fast fashion**' – low-price items that imitate the styles of more expensive designer brands. Environmentalists are angered by the amount of energy involved in making these clothes and that many of them are made from non-recyclable **materials**. This means that items are just **incinerated** or go into **landfill**.

Writing about this for the BBC, Eleanor Lawrie says that people in the UK are the worst in Europe for doing this - with a million tonnes of unwanted **textiles** a year being **discarded**. And she says "on top of often poor labour conditions for **garment workers**, the fashion industry is responsible for 20% of the world's waste water, and 10% of carbon emissions."

This is something the fashion industry is becoming more aware of and has led to a new crop of **biomaterials** that replace wasteful textiles like **cotton** and **leather**. Examples include **Piñatex**, a leather-like substance made from discarded pineapple leaves. It's been used in **collections** by Hugo Boss and H&M. And there's mycelium, the root structure of mushrooms, that's being used to create food, packaging and textiles.

Cotton is a very resource-intense crop to grow. Eleanor Lawrie says "about 15,000 litres of water [are] required to make one pair of jeans." So, buying **organic** cotton is a better choice. And there is also **Tencel**, also known as **Lyocell**, a natural product that's now growing in popularity. It's made by extracting **cellulose fibre** from trees; its manufacture is thought to use 95% less water than cotton processing.

But creating **sustainable** textiles is only part of the battle – buying **ethically**, buying second hand and buying fewer clothes are the obvious environmentally friendly choices. Dr Richard Blackburn from Leeds School of Design told the BBC that "I don't think you should consider buying any item of clothing unless you commit to 30 wears. Unless you can do that you're not even starting to be sustainable."

### 词汇表

fashion victim	盲目追求时尚的人		
style	(服装)风格,流行式样		
fork out	(不情愿地)付钱		
designer	出自著名设计师的,名牌的		
fast fashion	"快时尚",指更新频率高、价格低廉、紧跟时 尚风潮的服装		
material	材料		
incinerate	焚烧		
landfill	垃圾填埋场		
textile	纺织品		
discarded	被丢弃的		
garment worker	服装工人		
biomaterial	生物材料		
cotton			
leather	皮革		
Piñatex	"菠萝皮革",用菠萝叶制成的替代皮革面料		
collection	(服装品牌推出的)时装系列		
organic	有机的		
Tencel	"天丝绒"		
Lyocell	莱赛尔纤维		
cellulose fibre	再生纤维素纤维		
sustainable	可持续的		
ethically	符合道德准则地		

#### 测验与练习

I. 阅读课文并回答问题。

I. What happens to many of the clothes that can't be recycled?

2. Which European country is the worst for throwing away unwanted clothes?

3. True or false? Using the natural product Tencel as an alternative to cotton, uses 15,000 litres less water to make one pair of jeans.

4. What does Richard Blackburn, from Leeds School of Design, recommend committing to when buying an item of clothing?

5. Which word used in the article means: 'exist in an unwanted situation for a long time'.

**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。

I. Going to university can be expensive – I'm always \_\_\_\_\_ for text books, pens, food and going out every night!

fork out	forking out	out forking	forking up

2. I went to a great fashion show where they showed lots of the latest \_\_\_\_\_ clothes – but I couldn't afford to buy them.

style	collection	designer	ethically

3. My boyfriend bought me a t-shirt made from hemp. I feel good wearing something made from a material that will help the environment.

sustainable ethically	cotton	substance
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4. I went to a party and saw my boss wearing a silly dress made from feathers - she is obviously a

fashion victims	fashionable victim	fashions victim	fashion victim

5. The car was completely \_\_\_\_\_\_ when it caught fire after the engine over-heated.

sustainable	substance	carbon emissions	incinerated

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#### 测验与练习

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I. What happens to many of the clothes that can't be recycled?

#### Many items are just incinerated (burned) or go into landfill.

2. Which European country is the worst for throwing away unwanted clothes?

### The **BBC**'s Eleanor Lawrie says that people in the UK are the worst in Europe. A million tonnes of unwanted textiles a year are discarded.

3. True or false? Using the natural product Tencel as an alternative to cotton, uses 15,000 litres less water to make one pair of jeans.

### False. About 15,000 litres of water [are] required to make one pair of jeans with cotton but Tencel is thought to use 95% less water than cotton processing.

4. What does Richard Blackburn, from Leeds School of Design, recommend committing to when buying an item of clothing?

## Richard Blackburn, from Leeds School of Design, told the BBC that "I don't think you should consider buying any item of clothing unless you commit to 30 wears."

5. Which word used in the article means: 'exist in an unwanted situation for a long time'.

## Languish. (When the fashion changes, these clothes languish in the back of cupboards gathering dust or just get thrown away.)

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3. My boyfriend bought me a t-shirt made from hemp. I feel good wearing something made from a **sustainable** material that will help the environment.

4. I went to a party and saw my boss wearing a silly dress made from feathers – she is obviously a **fashion victim**.

5. The car was completely **incinerated** when it caught fire after the engine over-heated.