

# **DT: Funky Furnishings**

**17.1.22**

**Can I understand fast fashion and  
why we have this industry?**

## **Where are your clothes from?**

**Did you buy them?**

**Is there a brand you prefer?**

**Were you given them having already been used by a friend or family member?**

When do you think you need to buy new clothes?

Is there a difference between need and want?  
Can you explain it?



**What happens to the clothing you've grown out of, is damaged or you don't want to wear any more?**



How many times would you say you wear something before you get rid of it?



Where does it go?

Our attitude to clothing has changed a lot over the past 100 years. Clothing was not always as easily available as it is now and would have been more expensive. However it was made to last. Many people would make their own clothing, sewing and mending their clothes to make them last as long as possible or even making them into other useful items.



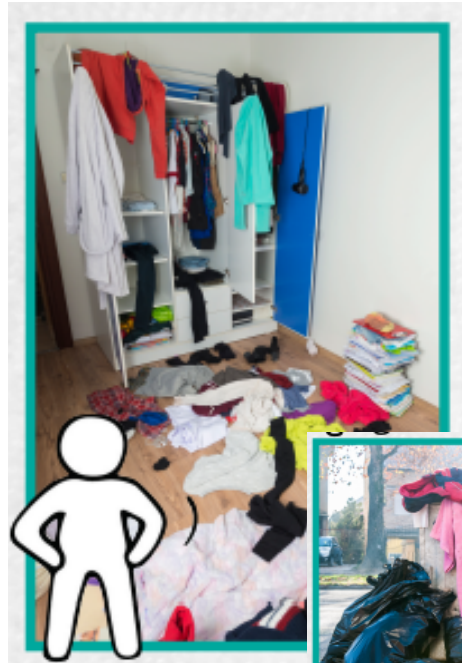
Did you know that clothing was rationed during WW2? You would have been given enough tokens for one new outfit a year! Could you do that now?



Today we live in a culture  
of  
**Fast Fashion.**

This is a large part of the fashion industry that produces new clothing very quickly and at a lower price. It means the clothing brands and stores can bring out new styles rapidly so they can keep up with the latest popular trends. There will often be new clothing in stores every week!

Is fast fashion  
a good or a  
bad thing?  
Can you  
explain why  
you think  
that?



Making clothes quickly means they're not as high quality as they could be. They are designed not to last long (which means we buy more). Because the clothing is so cheap, it creates a belief that clothing is disposable and we take less care of it. Not looking after our clothes and the lower quality of them means they are torn or damaged more often. We don't fix our clothes like we used to and often they just get thrown away



Is fast fashion a good or a bad thing?  
Can you explain why you think that?

An item of clothing is used on average for two years before the consumer gets rid of it.

What are some ways you might get rid of an item of clothing?



## Did you think of any of these ideas?

- Put it in the rubbish to be taken to landfill.
- Donate it to a charity shop.
- Give it away as a hand-me-down.
- Re-purpose it into something else e.g. cushions, bags or rags.
- Recycled.

Unfortunately it is all too easy to throw away cheap clothing. In the UK in 2016, about 235 million items of clothing were sent to landfill instead of being recycled or re-used. Cotton and other natural fibres can take from 5 months to 5 years to decompose, and synthetic materials may take up to 200 years to decompose fully



On your sheet of paper, create a diamond nine, what are the positives - good things-(start it at the top) moving down to the most negative consequences of Fast Fashion.

People are buying more clothing than ever before.	People keep their clothes for a shorter length of time and only wear them a few times.	There are new styles and products in shops every week.
Clothing is available at a lower price.	Cheaper clothing is of a lower quality and falls apart more easily.	More clothing and textiles are ending up in landfill sites.
People are less likely to look after cheaper clothes.	Advertisements encourage people to buy more things than they need.	The high demand for cheap clothing needs more resources e.g. cotton, plastic and water.

