

## Discount for bringing own cup to Starbucks

22nd March, 2016



The international coffee shop chain Starbucks will start giving customers a discount if they bring their own cups. The discount is part of a two-month trial in

cafes in England. Starbucks said it wants to reduce the amount of waste and recycle more. The vice president of Starbucks UK said: "Starbucks is committed to increasing recycling rates and reusable cups are a key part of our overall waste reduction strategy." Bosses will look at the success of the trial and then decide if they will continue it. The company wants to cut down on the huge number of paper cups that are put in the trash. Customers who bring their own mugs will get a discount on all drinks, except for the cafe's cheaper filter coffee.

The issue of disposable paper cups has been in the news in England a lot recently. Around 2.5 billion of them are thrown away every year – that's about seven million cups every day. Journalists have said that some coffee chains lie about how many paper cups they recycle. The journalists say the companies do not recycle as many cups as they say they do. This means customers wrongly believe that a coffee shop is environmentally friendly. A recycling service in the UK said that fewer than one in 400 paper cups at coffee shop chains are recycled. One coffee drinker said she would now bring her own cup. She said: "I am disappointed that cafes recycle so little. I thought they were more responsible."

Sources: [standard.co.uk](http://standard.co.uk) / [telegraph.co.uk](http://telegraph.co.uk) / [independent](http://independent.co.uk)

## Writing

All disposable cups should be banned in cafes and restaurants. Discuss.

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

*international / coffee shop / discount / waste / recycling / strategy / success / trial / disposable / journalists / customers / environmentally friendly / disappointed / cup*

## True / False

- The discount is part of a two-month trial. T / F
- Reusable cups are not a part of the cafe's waste reduction strategy. T / F
- Bosses will decide the future of the discounts after the trial finishes. T / F
- Starbucks customers will get a discount on the cheapest filter coffee. T / F
- Around 2.5 million paper cups are thrown away each year. T / F
- Journalists say some cafes lie about the amount they recycle. T / F
- A recycling service said coffee shops recycle one in 400 paper cups. T / F
- A coffee drinker was very happy with how cafes recycle. T / F

## Synonym Match

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. international | a. very large  |
| 2. trial         | b. topic       |
| 3. huge          | c. apart from  |
| 4. trash         | d. trustworthy |
| 5. except for    | e. rubbish     |
| 6. issue         | f. throwaway   |
| 7. disposable    | g. global      |
| 8. thrown away   | h. saddened    |
| 9. disappointed  | i. disposed of |
| 10. responsible  | j. experiment  |

## Discussion – Student A

- What is your favourite cafe and why?
- What do you think of the number of paper cups that are thrown away?
- Do you believe what companies say about their recycling?
- How environmentally friendly do you think Starbucks is?
- How bad is it that only one in 400 paper cups are recycled?
- Is a coffee at home better than a coffee in a cafe?
- Would you stop going to cafes if they were not environmentally friendly?
- What questions would you like to ask the Starbucks CEO?

## Phrase Match

- |                                       |                           |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. part of a two-                     | a. paper cups             |
| 2. it wants to reduce the amount of   | b. are put in the trash   |
| 3. a key part of our overall waste    | c. in 400 paper cups      |
| 4. the huge number of paper cups that | d. every day              |
| 5. except for the cafe's              | e. reduction strategy     |
| 6. disposable                         | f. month trial            |
| 7. that's about seven million cups    | g. friendly               |
| 8. environmentally                    | h. cheaper filter coffee  |
| 9. fewer than one                     | i. recycle so little      |
| 10. I am disappointed that cafes      | j. waste and recycle more |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you think of Starbucks?
- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you think of the idea of a discount for bringing your own cup?
- Should cafes and restaurants stop using disposable cups?
- What other things can cafes do to recycle things?
- What things could you recycle more often?
- What can fast food restaurants recycle more of?
- Would you take your own mug to a cafe to get a discount?

## Spelling

- The international coffee shop acihn
- part of a two-month rtali
- reduce the oamunt of waste
- committed to isiaerncgn recycling rates
- decide if they will utoceinn it
- rfltie coffee
- isbpoeldas paper cups
- in the news in England a lot lynerect
- tsirsajnoul say the companies do not recycle
- customers ywngorl believe that
- weefr than one in 400 paper cups
- I thought they were more isprslnoebe

### Answers – Synonym Match

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

## Role Play

### Role A – Paper cups

You think paper cups are the most important thing to recycle. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important to recycle. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): plastic bottles, mobile phones or clothes.

### Role B – Plastic bottles

You think plastic bottles are the most important thing to recycle. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important to recycle. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): paper cups, mobile phones or clothes.

### Role C – Mobile phones

You think mobile phones are the most important thing to recycle. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important to recycle. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): plastic bottles, paper cups or clothes.

### Role D – Clothes

You think clothes are the most important thing to recycle. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important to recycle. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): plastic bottles, mobile phones or paper cups.

## Speaking – Recycling

Rank these with your partner. Put the most important things to recycle at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |                 |                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| • chopsticks    | • paper cups            |
| • mobile phones | • plastic bottles       |
| • light bulbs   | • batteries             |
| • clothes       | • plastic shopping bags |

### Answers – True False

a	T	b	F	c	F	d	F	e	T	f	T	g	T	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.