

## Coca-Cola tests a paper bottle

17th March, 2021



Plastic is a big problem for the world. It is causing a lot of damage to our environment. It is polluting rivers and oceans and harming and killing wildlife. Plastic is a growing problem because it takes hundreds of years to break down.

Many companies around the world are trying to replace plastic with other things. Coca-Cola has teamed up with a Danish start-up called the Paper Bottle Company ("Paboco" for short) to make a paper bottle. Coca-Cola hopes to completely stop using plastic for its drinks bottles. It was ranked as the world's number one plastic polluter in 2019. In one year, it uses around three million tons of plastic packaging. A lot of this is not recycled.

Paboco asked us to: "Imagine that all plastic packaging in your store has disappeared." Coca-Cola executives are imagining this. One Coca-Cola exec. said: "Our vision is to create a paper bottle that can be recycled like any other type of paper. A paper bottle opens up a whole new world of packaging possibilities. We are convinced that paper packaging has a role to play in the future." He added that he hopes Coca-Cola will one day use only packaging from renewable sources that are recyclable. He said: "This is all part of our journey to find the most sustainable packaging solutions for people to enjoy our drinks in a way that is right for them, and that is right for our planet."

Sources: [bbc.com](http://bbc.com) / [coca-colacompany.com](http://coca-colacompany.com) / [fastcompany.com](http://fastcompany.com)

### Writing

Humans cannot live without plastic. Discuss.

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

problem / damage / wildlife / hundreds of years / plastic / paper / bottle / recycled / store / vision / type / possibilities / role / renewable / sources / packaging / planet

### True / False

- a) The article says plastic isn't a problem everywhere in the world. T / F
- b) The article says plastic takes thousands of years to break down. T / F
- c) The name "Paboco" is short for Paper Bottle Company. T / F
- d) Coca-Cola is the world's number one plastic polluter. T / F
- e) Coca-Cola has a vision to make bottles that are recycled like paper. T / F
- f) A Coca-Cola executive said paper packaging has no role in the future. T / F
- g) A Coca-Cola executive wants to journey to a packaging factory. T / F
- h) A Coca-Cola executive wants people to enjoy drinks in the right way. T / F

### Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| <b>1. problem</b>     | a. decompose  |
| <b>2. harming</b>     | b. dream      |
| <b>3. break down</b>  | c. totally    |
| <b>4. completely</b>  | d. vanished   |
| <b>5. recycled</b>    | e. damaging   |
| <b>6. disappeared</b> | f. answers    |
| <b>7. vision</b>      | g. good       |
| <b>8. role</b>        | h. difficulty |
| <b>9. solutions</b>   | i. part       |
| <b>10. right</b>      | j. reused     |

### Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about Coca-Cola?
- b) How serious is the plastic pollution problem?
- c) How can we live without plastic?
- d) What do you think of paper bottles?
- e) How much extra would you pay for a paper bottle?
- f) Should Coca-Cola have to pay a plastic tax?
- g) What happens to plastic in the environment?
- h) What do you think when you see plastic on beaches?

## Phrase Match

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. It is causing a lot                   | a. packaging possibilities |
| 2. it takes hundreds of years            | b. with other things       |
| 3. trying to replace plastic             | c. type of paper           |
| 4. Coca-Cola hopes to completely         | d. store has disappeared   |
| 5. ranked as the world's number          | e. of damage               |
| 6. all plastic packaging in your         | f. has a role to play      |
| 7. recycled like any other               | g. one plastic polluter    |
| 8. opens up a whole new world of         | h. to break down           |
| 9. We are convinced that paper packaging | i. solutions               |
| 10. find the most sustainable packaging  | j. stop using plastic      |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you think of Coca-Cola?
- What can we use instead of plastic?
- What future does paper packaging have?
- Which is better, Coke or Pepsi?
- Will you stop buying plastic bottles from now?
- What things do you have that are made of plastic?
- What questions would you like to ask Coca-Cola?

## Spelling

- causing a lot of aamdge
- It is polluting rivers and ceaons
- eplrcae plastic with other things
- narked as the world's number one
- tons of plastic acapigkng
- A lot of this is not crceyled
- Coca-Cola ectueixevs
- Our isvojn is to create a paper bottle
- nrawebele sources
- This is all part of our ourjeny
- find the most unasitasble
- that is right for our neaplt

### Answers – Synonym Match

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

## Role Play

### Role A – Pens

You think pens are the best plastic products. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their plastic products. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): bottles, bags or masks.

### Role B – Bottles

You think bottles are the best plastic products. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their plastic products. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): pens, bags or masks.

### Role C – Bags

You think bags are the best plastic products. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their plastic products. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): bottles, pens or masks.

### Role D – Masks

You think masks are the best plastic products. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their plastic products. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): bottles, bags or pens.

## Speaking – Plastic products

Rank these with your partner. Put the most useful plastic products at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |             |           |
|-------------|-----------|
| • Bags      | • Bottles |
| • Cutlery   | • Pens    |
| • Furniture | • Plates  |
| • Masks     | • Toys    |

### Answers – True False

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