

# Reduce single-use plastic at school



Your team name:

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## > Your mission: Eliminate 3 types of single-use plastic from your school.

### What to do

1. You're going to work as a team to persuade your headteacher to ban 3 types of single-use plastic from your school.
2. Follow the steps set out in this workbook. They will guide you through the tasks you need to carry out for your mission.
3. Use your powers of persuasion. Use facts and evidence to convince your headteacher of your point of view.
4. Be a positive team member – listen to others, be supportive and keep an open mind.
5. Have fun!

### 1 What single-use plastic do you want to target?

In the box below, write down the three single-use plastic items that you'd like to ban from your school.

1.

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2.

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3.

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## 2 How can people Refuse plastic?

Write down alternatives for each of the plastic items you have selected in the table below.

What could people use instead? Think of as many ideas as you can.

Plastic item	What could people use instead?

### 3 Why should school ban this single-use plastic?

If you want people to change their behaviour, you need to explain the reasons *why* it's important.

Think about everything you've learnt about the impact of plastic on the ocean and write down 3 reasons why people should be banned from your school.

**We should ban this single-use plastic because...**

1.

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2.

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3.

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Now write down two amazing facts about the ocean to help people understand why we should protect it.

**We should protect the ocean because...**

1.

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2.

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## 4 Plan your argument

**Opening statement: What do you want your headteacher to do?**

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**Why do you think the 3 plastic items should be banned?**

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***First point: A fact or some evidence to support your argument.***

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***Second point: A fact or some evidence to support your argument.***

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***Third point: A fact or some evidence to support your argument.***

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**Conclusion: Sum up why your school should ban the plastic items.**

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## 5 Improve your argument

Think of persuasive words and phrases you can use to improve your argument.

**List imperative verbs you could use to start sentences:**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Write down 3 expanded noun phrases describing plastic:**

_____
_____
_____

**List useful connectives and conjunctions:**

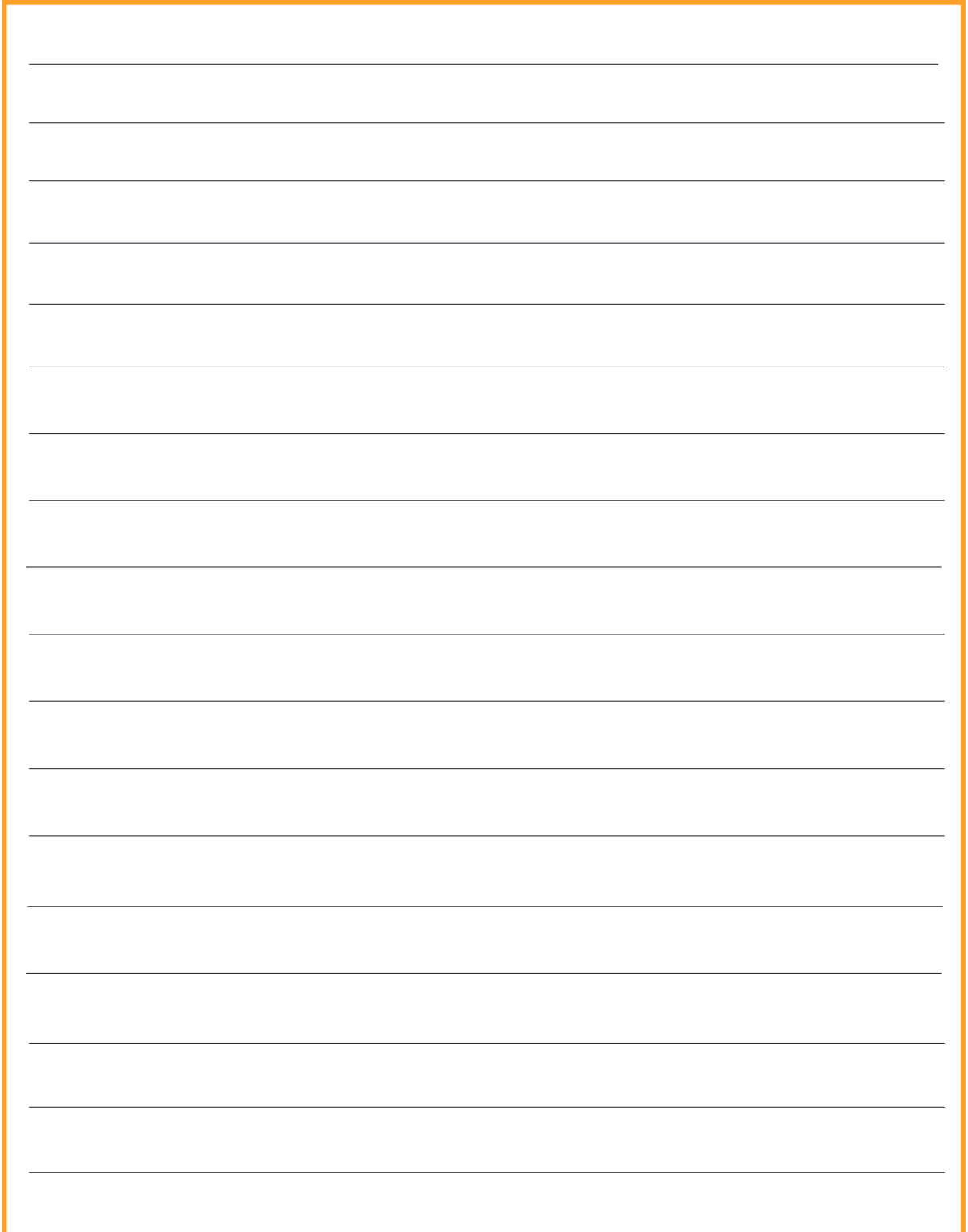
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Write down rhetorical questions you could include:**

_____
_____

## 6 Write your persuasive argument

You're ready! It's time to write your argument. Use extra paper if needed.)



A large rectangular box with an orange border, containing 20 horizontal lines for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the box, providing a template for a persuasive argument.

## 6 Final checklist

Once you've written your argument, check you have included:

- A clear opening statement setting out what you want.
- Suggestions for alternatives to the chosen single-use plastic items.
- Facts and evidence to support your argument.
- Connectives and conjunctions to make your argument flow.
- Expanded noun phrases to make your argument interesting.
- Rhetorical questions to capture the attention of the listener.
- A final summary of your point of view to conclude your argument.

## 7 Make your presentation

Your teacher will decide how you make your presentation.

Every group might present their argument, or you might choose one group to represent your class.

**Good luck! Remember that every piece of single-use plastic we Refuse helps clean up our seas! Your school can make a big difference.**



# Plastic and the ocean



## Why is single-use plastic a problem?

Plastic is incredibly useful – flexible, lightweight, durable and hygienic – but it lasts forever.

It doesn't biodegrade, but breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces. Too much plastic has short-term uses but long-term impacts on the planet. Did you know that 80% of the litter in the ocean is plastic?

### How does plastic reach the ocean from the land?

- Littered – When people drop litter it can be washed or blown into drains and rivers and from there, travel to the sea.
- Left on beaches – Rubbish that is left on a beach can be washed directly into the sea and items placed into an overflowing bin can be blown into the sea.
- Blown from refuse trucks or off landfill sites – Plastic put in the bin ends up in landfill. Because it's light it can be blown into drains and rivers and into the sea.

### What about recycling?

The government's statistics on waste in 2020 showed that only 47% of household plastic packaging was recycled.

Not everyone recycles (only about half of UK households), not all plastics can be recycled, and even plastic put into recycling bins may not be recycled due to problems experienced in the recycling process.

### Solutions

No matter where you live, the plastic you throw away could end up in the sea.

Reducing plastic use is the only way to prevent it from ending up in our ocean.