

Focus: Speaking

Instructions

- You have received two topics. You have **five to eight minutes** to prepare.
- Read through both topics and write down keywords.
- Decide which topic to start with. The person most responsible for this topic should begin by briefly giving his/her reaction to it. Then discuss the topic together, as fully as you can, trying to take different perspectives into account.
- Do the same with the second topic.
- Remember to show what you are capable of when it comes to range of vocabulary, sentence construction, etc. Make sure both of you have a proper chance to express your opinions in order to have a fruitful discussion. Think of this as a formal situation and adapt your vocabulary accordingly.
- Note that it is not the number of points you discuss that matters, but how well you try to develop them. You have **15 minutes** to discuss both topics.

(Un)Selfish consumption

As consumers in a growing world economy, many of us have an insatiable appetite for the latest electronic gadgets or for cheap clothes. But can we buy cheap imported products without exploiting someone in the supply chain? People in low-income countries, for example mining for metals or sewing clothes, often work under terrible conditions, while estimates have shown that ensuring fair working conditions might add as little as €5 onto the retail price of a pair of jeans.

Whose responsibility is it to make sure the rich world doesn't exploit people at the bottom of the chain?

What can governments do? Manufacturers? Consumers?

You may also want to consider the following ideas:

- Use consumer power
- Job opportunities in poor countries
- Are we willing to pay?