

# ZERO WASTE PROJECT

## From Old to New

Shopping for clothes is easy today. They're often cheap, so people sometimes wear clothing items once or twice. Then they throw them in the rubbish and buy something new. Every year in Britain, people throw about 1.5 million tons of clothes in the rubbish!

Britain recently started projects to recycle clothes. Some shops collect clothes for recycling, and schools are also helping. In the city of Bournemouth, there's a competition for schools called Rags to Riches. To win the competition, students bring old shirts, dresses, trousers, shoes and other textiles to their school. In 2012, schools got £250 for every ton of textiles and the winning school got £1,000. Twelve schools entered the competition. At the end of the year, there were over ten tons of clothing and textiles for recycling. A recycling company made new things from some of the items, but about 90% of the textiles went to other countries for people to use again.



### 1. Read the text. Then match A to B.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| a) In the rubbish in Britain, you can find... | ... some British shops.                      |
| b) People can take their old clothes to...    | ... about 10% of the textiles.               |
| c) The project in Bournemouth is for...       | ... about ten tons of textiles.              |
| d) In 2012, the project recycled...           | ... over one million tons of clothes a year. |
| e) A recycling company used...                | ... students.                                |

## 2. Choose the correct answer.

1. According to the text, shopping for clothes isn't hard because...

- a. we can make clothes very quickly.
- b. we don't like our clothes.
- c. they aren't expensive.



2. The problem in Britain is...

- a. cheap clothes.
- b. the clothes in the rubbish.
- c. going shopping.

3. Rags to Riches is...

- a. a shop for recycling clothes.
- b. a competition.
- c. a school in Bournemouth.

4. When a school collected one ton of textiles, it got...

- a. £250.
- b. £1,000.
- c. 90% of the textiles.

5. Clothes from Rags to Riches are for...

- a. people in other countries.
- b. students in Bournemouth.
- c. 12 schools.



**3. Getting to know more. Check the colored words to get more information about the text and answer the following questions.**

- a. “Rags to riches” is an idiom (fixed expression in English). Can you write down its definition and an example where we can use it?
- b. Where is Bournemouth? Can you locate it in a map?
- c. When did the “Rags to Riches” competition take place?
- d. What are the objectives (aims) of the competition?
- e. Which was the winning school in 2012?
- f. Which countries where the clothes sent to?
- g. What items do schools collect? Which items are not accepted?

**4. Let’s discuss.**

- a. What do you think of this competition?
- b. Would you like to take part of it?
- c. Have you ever taken part in a similar competition?

What was it about?



