

Essay - Reducing Your Carbon Footprint

Task

Your class has recently taken part in a debate on ways individual citizens can reduce their carbon footprints in order to combat climate change. Below are three of the methods discussed and some quotes from people who took part in the debate.

- Changing our diets
- Changing travel habits
- Changing our shopping habits

Comments:

“Going vegetarian or vegan would be so hard for me, I couldn’t live without meat or cheese!”

“Airplanes and cars pollute so much, I cycle to work and try not to fly too often.”

“Fast fashion is terrible for the planet, people buy cheap clothes and sometimes don’t even wear them!”

Write an essay discussing **two** of the methods in your notes. You should **explain which method you think is most realistic for most people** and **give reasons to support your argument**.

You may, if you wish, make use of the opinions expressed in the debate but you **should use your own words** as far as possible. Write your essay in **220-260 words** in an **appropriate style**.

Model Text

Hardly a week goes by without another news report about the recent dramatic increase in online shopping. The decline of the high street shop **is undoubtedly a major issue in this day and age**. However, which aspect of shopping has the biggest influence on where people shop?

The first area to take into account is convenience. **It is undoubtedly the case that** shopping online is much more convenient than shopping on the high street. **Not only** can you make a purchase with the click of a button, but also you can do it from the comfort of your sofa without setting foot outside your door. **In addition**, the goods are delivered directly to your door whereas when you shop in physical shops you have to carry it home yourself.

Another aspect to consider is cost. **There are those who argue that** cost has the biggest impact on where people decide to shop. **This is illustrated by the fact that** during the sales many people buy things in shops they would not normally enter. **Nevertheless**, for some people the cost is not an issue, they buy what they want to buy no matter the price.

In light of the above, weighing up all the evidence, it is probably true to say that cost does indeed have the biggest influence on where people decide to shop **due to the fact that** most of the time, if you cannot afford something then you will not be able to buy it.

(247 words)