# **Environmental Issues**

Name:

## Key Words

**Sustainable-** not causing permanent damage to the environment and not using up finite resources.

**Moral and Ethical-** What people see as being right or wrong. **Cultural-** Particular groups of people. Such as religion and language.

**Global warming-** a gradual increase in the overall temperature of the earth's atmosphere generally credited to the greenhouse effect caused by increased levels of carbon dioxide and other pollutants.

## 6R's

- Recycling- the action or process of converting waste into reusable material.
- **Reduce-** manufactures can reduce waste when making and consumers can cut down on the amount of products they buy.
- **Refuse-** to buy products that damage the environment.
- **Repair-** fix products that are broken.
- **Reuse** passing on a product to charity or friends. Making the product into another product.
- **Rethink** designers can think about how they can make their product in a different way so it is better for the environment.

#### Environmental

**Fairtrade-** This is when designers pay workers in developing countries a fair wage and working conditions for the products they sell.

**Organic-** These are fabrics that are grown without the use of Toxic chemicals or pesticides. Meaning that workers are safe and the soil does not get damaged around crops.

**Biodegradable-** Is an item that can break down into natural materials in the environment without causing harm.

**Carbon Footprint-** is the amount of greenhouse gases (e.g. carbon dioxide and methane) released into the atmosphere by making, using and eventually reusing, recycling or disposing of something at the end of it's lifetime. The bigger the products carbon footprint is, the larger it's contribution to global warming.



**Renewable energy-** Is energy that can be sourced from the earth and is better for the environment. Wind, Solar, Water.

Non-Renewable (finite)- Is energy that will eventually run out and damages the environment. Gas, Oil, /nuclear.



# Social, moral, cultural and ethical design-

As a designer you must take into account peoples religion, beliefs, language and moral beliefs. You do not want to offend cultures by the designs that you produce or manufacture. For example using animal products could offend Vegans. Using a symbol such as the cross could offend Christians. Using offensive language or offensive imagery could offend a wide range of consumers. You need to design products that are age appropriate. **Social Footprint-** The designing and manufacture of products also have an impact on people.

Working conditions- Firms have a legal and moral responsibility to provide safe working conditions for their employees. Personal protective equipment (PPE) needs to be provided as well as safe working conditions. This may also include Fair Trade.

Health conditions- Making products can release pollution or harmful chemicals into the atmosphere and oceans. These chemicals are highly toxic for both humans and animals. Reducing pollution is important and designers need to make an effort to reduce this effect on the environment.

**Child labour and slave labour**- Some manufacturing companies will pay workers a poor wage or make them work in poor or unsafe conditions (slave labour). Also they may use child labour. This is seen as unethical in society and companies such as Fair Trade are trying to eliminate this.

**Textiles products** and factories can generate a lot of waste (e.g. the packaging and often the clothes themselves) which will end up in land fill sites and take 100s of years to decompose.

### What designers do to be more environmentally friendly.

- Think about using renewable energy sources during production.
- Use Organic or Fairtrade.
- Think about the life cycle of the product and reduce the effect on the environment where possible.
- Use recycled materials.
- Make products that will last a long time and will not go out of fashion quickly.
- Reduce waste produced in the making process.
- Reduce packaging.
- Don't use animal products, such as fur, use fake fur instead.
- Complete risk assessments so that workers are safe.
- Use local products to reduce carbon footprint.
- Use less toxic chemicals.

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What designers do to be **Key Words** Social Footprint-Environmental **Renewable energy**more environmentally friendly. Fairtrade-Sustainable-Non-Renewable (finite)-Working conditions-Moral and Ethical-**Cultural**-Organic-NATURAL RESOURCES Renewable **Global warming-**A naturally occurring naturally occurring OIL resource which can be replaced in a esource that canno be replaced in a short period of time. short period of fm Health conditions-Biodegradable-NOCKSAND / 6R's • Recycling-Social, moral, cultural and **Carbon Footprint**ethical design-• Reduce-Child labour and slave labour- Refuse-• Repair-• Reuse-**Textiles products** Robink Reuse Rethink-T M 1 100% ORGANIC Ratura -AIRTRADE Recycle