KS3 Geography
Knowledge Organiser

Year 7 – Processes & Society

How should Consumerism Change?

Lesson 1 – Why is Consumerism a Problem?

1. Consumerism is the desire to consume and keep **consuming resources**. It is the drive to buy and own more stuff or **define one's identity** through what they own.
2. **A number of stakeholders influence what we consume MNCs, National Governments, Consumers.**
3. **Impact of consumerism include economic inequality, wars over non-renewable resources, pollutant emissions, deforestation and climate breakdown, extinction of animals waste and microplastics.**
4. **Governments influence us through tax and education**
5. **TNC are influenced by protest, laws and regulations**

Homelearning on the Ramada Plaza Disaster

Ramda Plaza disaster in Bangladesh is another example of how MNC have pursued profit with no regard to people. A poorly built clothes factory collapsed killing a number of employees

Key Terms:

MNC - a company operating in several countries
Globalisation – Increasing interconnectedness of the world
Tax evasion – Avoiding paying taxes

Lesson 4 – How have MNCs changed consumption?

1. **Online shopping has improved convenience and choice. But our towns centres are struggling as a result**
2. **TNC such as Amazon are dominating the market and there is a lack of competition.**
3. **Often MNC have economies of scale so products are cheap but tax evasion is a common issue.**

Lesson 2 – What are the Impacts of Fast Fashion?

1. **TNC have supported** a business model where clothing is produced quickly and sold at low prices to replicate the latest trends.
2. **Aral Sea (Kazakhstan) is an example of an TNC causing an environmental disaster in another country. Over extraction of water from the Aral Sea to support the farming of cotton growth resulted in the sea shrinking dramatically.**
3. **Impacts include health issues and the destruction of the fishing industry**

Lesson 3 – How should the manufacture of products change?

1. Many clothes are made in factories where workers earn low wages in unsafe conditions.
2. Instead of 'Take-Make-Waste', we need a **Circular System** to design clothes meant to be repaired, reused, or recycled
3. Brands must ensure factory transparency and pay fair wages.Consumers should prioritize buying fewer, higher-quality items.

Lesson 5 –What should we do about plastic waste?

1. **In theory, many commonly used plastics can be recycled but** only about **1%** is. It is **cheaper to just make a new plastic** product.
2. **We need a circular economy where things are not thrown away. Use alternatives to plastic like aluminum and clean up the plastic polluting our air, sea and land.**