

UNIT 1

1. Read the article about consumer societies. Notice the words in bold.

What is a Consumer Society?

A *consumer* is a person who buys things, and a *consumer society* is a society that pushes people to buy and use goods.(1) Some people think that a consumer society gives people a **better** life. People in consumer societies tend to live more comfortably. They eat a **wider** variety of food. They go to restaurants more often. They also buy a lot of products, maybe **more than** they need.

Products such as TVs, mobile phones, and computers used to be luxuries.(2) Today people can buy these things more easily than ever before. The market for these goods is growing **faster** all the time. Consumer societies make people buy **bigger** and **better** products. For example, “smarter” phones come out every year. In a consumer society, people are often buying **newer** and **more advanced** products. This creates a lot of waste. Nowadays, many people are thinking **more seriously** about the effects of consumer societies on the environment, and they are trying to become **more responsible** consumers.

(1) goods: items that can be bought or sold

(2) luxury: something that is expensive but not necessary

**2. Read each statement. Circle T for *true* and F for *false*.**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Everyone agrees that consumer products improve their lives. | T | F |
| 2. These days, consumer goods are hard to find.                | T | F |
| 3. Many people want luxury products these days.                | T | F |
| 4. Consumer societies help the environment.                    | T | F |

**3. Look at the bold phrases in the reading from exercise 1. Then write three more examples in each column of the chart.**

Adjectives with <i>-ER /-EST</i>	Adjectives with <i>MORE/ MOST</i>

**4. Use the words in parentheses to complete the conversation with comparative adjectives or adverbs. Add *than* where necessary. In some cases, more than one answer is possible.**

**Matt:** My phone is working (1) worse than (badly) ever! And it's(2) \_\_\_\_\_ (old) all the other phones I see, too. I want a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (modern) phone.

**Lara:** Take a look at my phone. It was (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (cheap) my last phone, and I'm much (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (happy) with it. When I'm travelling, I listen to music (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (often) than I do when I'm at home, so I wanted a phone with a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (big) memory card.

**Matt:** Wow, it's much (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (nice) mine! The screen is a lot (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (large), too. I want one like that!

**Lara:** Yeah, you need a big screen, because you watch videos on your phone(10) \_\_\_\_\_ (frequently) like I do.

**5. Use the words to make comparisons with *as... as*.**

1. Desktop computers / be / popular / laptops

*Desktop computers are as popular as laptops (are) .*

2. Microwave ovens / work / well / regular ovens.

.....

3. Motorcycles / go / fast / cars.

.....

4. This hotel room / be / big / my apartment.

.....

5. A smartphone / send messages / quickly / a laptop.

.....

6. My mother / speak English / well / my father.

.....

7. Gabi / go shopping / often / Linda.

.....

8. Trains / be / comfortable / airplanes.

.....

**6. Complete the sentences with the superlative form of the adjective or adverb in parentheses.**

1. The biggest (big) piles of trash on Mount Everest are on the lower areas.

2. Trash is one of \_\_\_\_\_ (bad) problems on Mount Everest now.

3. Many climbers consider K2, a mountain between Pakistan and China, to be \_\_\_\_\_ (difficult) mountain to climb, not Mount Everest.
4. Ted was \_\_\_\_\_ (experienced) climber on the expedition.
5. Which climber is \_\_\_\_\_ (far) from the top?
6. That was \_\_\_\_\_ (easy) mountain I've ever climbed.
7. Danny climbs \_\_\_\_\_ (quickly) out of all of us.
8. Mount Everest is \_\_\_\_\_ (high) mountain on Earth.
9. That company has \_\_\_\_\_ (good) guides.
10. Climbing Mount Everest in a snowstorm is one of \_\_\_\_\_ (stupid) things you can do. It's extremely dangerous!

**LISTENING**

**Platform listening.**

**7. There are six questions in this part. For each question there are three pictures. Choose the correct picture and put a tick (✓) in the box.**

1. What is Martin showing Jane?



2. How long has Martin had it?



3. What is the worst feature of it?



4. What does Martin do with it?



5. Why does Martin need to be careful?



6. What did Martin buy for one dollar fifty?

