

Fashion revolutionaries: Katharine Hamnett

Have you heard of British fashion designer Katharine Hamnett? Watch her talking about sustainable fashion in this video.

Tasks

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

Vocabulary

1. to campaign
2. to be on a roll
3. to cut to the kill
4. raw materials
5. an impact
6. organic
7. sustainable
8. to prove

Definition

- a. grown or produced without using chemicals or anything artificial
- b. the basic resources a produce is made from
- c. to show that something is true or real
- d. a powerful effect that something has on a situation
- e. causing little or no damage to the environment
- f. to talk about the most important points of a subject, without wasting time
- g. to organise activities to achieve a social or political goal
- h. to be doing something continuously and well

Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

	Answer	
1. Katharine Hamnett started campaigning on sustainability recently.	True	False
2. Her business was doing badly in the 1980s.	True	False
3. She discovered that the raw materials she was using were bad for the environment.	True	False
4. At that time, many fashion designers preferred organic cotton.	True	False
5. She puts important messages on the T-shirts she designs.	True	False
6. She successfully found a material to use instead of fur.	True	False

Task 2

Complete the sentences from the video.

campaigning	Clothes	fashion designer	impact
prove	raw material	recycled	sustainable

1. My name's Katharine Hamnett. I'm a
2. I've been on sustainability for the last 30 years.
3. Every single was having a horrendous
on the environment.
4. have got to be desirable. They can't just be
5. This coat is polyester.
6. I think it's important to actually that it can be done.

Discussion

Katharine Hamnett says clothes must be both desirable and sustainable. What do you think?
What is important for you when you buy clothes?

Answers

Preparation task

1. g
2. h
3. f
4. b
5. d
6. a
7. e
8. c

Task 1

1. False
2. False
3. True
4. False
5. True
6. True

Task 2

1. fashion designer
2. campaigning
3. raw material | impact
4. Clothes | sustainable
5. recycled
6. prove