



Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

The Cost of Consumerism

An activity of "Packaging from online shopping creates a big headache"

Read **"Packaging from online shopping creates a big headache"** (page 19, *What's Up* May 2019). In our world today, we have almost everything delivered to our doorsteps. Any item that we desire is just one click away.

Many people devote a great deal of time, energy, and money to "consuming" — buying more and more things. Advertisements flood our screens every day, making viewers desire certain clothes or gadgets in order to feel good about themselves.

1. In small groups, consider the topic more deeply. Discuss:

- What kinds of values are promoted by this culture of consumerism?
- How might a child be affected, growing up in a household that constantly buys things that may not be needed?
- What does the culture of consumerism do to:
 - the consumer?
 - businesses and companies?
 - recycling plants and waste disposal centres?
 - society as a whole?
- What can we do about it?

2. As you discuss, jot down your thoughts and observations here, in any order:

When your group is done, share your group's thoughts with the other groups. As a whole class, summarise the key points shared by all the groups.