

What's the problem?

ACTIVITY SHEET 2A

THE PRICE OF A T-SHIRT - KS2

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Who is involved in making my t-shirt?



1. I'm the factory worker.

I make the t-shirt. I cut, sew, iron or pack. I work very long hours, with few breaks and do the same thing every day.

2. I'm the factory manager.

I supervise the workers. I pay the workers and all the costs of running the factory. I need to make sure the t-shirts are made on time and are good quality.

3. I'm the brand.

I decide how the t-shirt should look. I pay for the design and advertising. I also have to transport it from the factory to the shop, which can be a long journey crossing different countries.

4. I'm the buyer. I decide which country the t-shirt should be made in, who should make it and how long it should take. I need to find all the materials and pay for them.

5. I'm the shop (retailer). I sell the t-shirt. I need to buy or rent a shop. I have to make it a nice place for people to shop in. I have to employ people to work in my shop. I need to make sure people know about my shop through advertising.

Role play!

The t-shirt was sold for £29.99. How much of this money should you get?

Each person or group needs to pretend to be one of the five people above. Prepare your arguments. Let each person/group spokesperson speak in turn, e.g.

"I'm the factory worker and I should getThis is because.....".

Can you agree on how to divide the money up fairly?

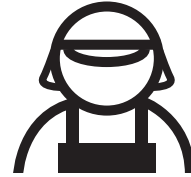
ACTIVITY SHEET 2B

THE PRICE OF A T-SHIRT - KS3

Here are some of the people involved in making, selling and buying a t-shirt. They are all part of a 'global supply chain' that can stretch all over the world.

The factory worker

Factory workers are the people who make the t-shirts. They might be involved in cutting the pieces of the t-shirt, sewing them together, ironing them or packing them. They often work very long hours in difficult conditions. They need to earn enough money to pay for food, shelter, transport, clothes and medicines and have some to spare.



The factory manager

Factory managers supervise the workers to make the t-shirts. They work with the buyer to agree a production schedule. They agree the number of t-shirts they are going to make and the quality of the t-shirts. To get the work they may be required to make and deliver the t-shirts extremely quickly. They need to pay the workers and all the costs of running the factory.



The buyer

The buyer is involved in the production process for the t-shirts. They decide where to get the t-shirts made, who is going to make them and how long this should take. They also need to find all the materials and pay for them. Buyers often want to get the t-shirts made as quickly and cheaply as possible.



The brand

Brands decide how they want the t-shirts to look. They pay for the design of the t-shirts and for advertising them (for example on posters or TV). They also pay for the t-shirts to be transported from the factory to the shop.



The retailer (shop)

Retailers sell the t-shirts to people. They might need to buy or rent a shop. They need to make it a pleasant place for people to come to. They also have to employ staff to work in the shop. They might also pay to advertise their shop to customers.



The consumer

This is the person who buys the t-shirt. For example, you!



ACTIVITY SHEET 2B

THE PRICE OF A T-SHIRT - KS3



Who gets what? You decide!

The consumer paid £29.99 for this t-shirt.

- How much should each person in the global supply chain get?
- What would be fair?
- Divide the £29.99 into five amounts.
- Why did you decide to divide the money in this way? Give reasons.

Role play!

You could do this exercise as a role play. One person could play the worker, one the manager and so on.

- How much of the £29.99 should you get?
- Argue your point of view and try and reach a consensus decision.

What's the problem?

ACTIVITY SHEET 4A

RIGHTS AT WORK - KS3

When you start working, here are some of the rights you should expect in the workplace. Which do you think are the most important and why? Are there any missing?

Rights at work

1. To earn a living wage

This means earning enough to pay for food, shelter, transport and healthcare with some left over to spend on other things you may need.

2. Working hours that are set by rules and are not excessive

You should not be forced to work more than the hours stated in a regulation. In the UK this is set by European rules and is 48 hours a week for most workers. Overtime should not be required on a regular basis, as everyone has the right to rest.

3. To work in safe and healthy conditions

For example, if you are working in a factory with chemicals, you should be provided with protective clothing and gloves.

4. Freedom from discrimination

You should not be discriminated against at work, for example because of your age, religion or gender.

5. A contract of employment

A contract proves that you are being employed by someone else. It should set out your responsibilities, working hours and benefits, like maternity/paternity cover, sick leave, paid holiday entitlement.

6. The right to join a trade union

People at work can join together in trade unions, giving them a collective and independent voice in the workplace. As members of a trade union, workers have more power together than they do as individuals. This helps them negotiate better pay and working conditions with their employers.



Clean Clothes Campaign

Your task

Read *Life in sporting goods factories* (Activity sheet 4b)

- Which rights are/are not being respected in these stories?
- Collect evidence by picking out key words or phrases.
- Why do you think rights at work are important?
- When workers are denied their rights, how could this affect them and their families?
- Why might respecting workplace rights be important for eliminating poverty?
- Why do you think workers who join a union might be intimidated by their employer?

ACTIVITY SHEET 4B

LIFE IN SPORTING GOODS FACTORIES - KS3

Many sportswear products and goods are made in developing countries like Indonesia, Cambodia and Sri Lanka. Some will end up in our shops. Millions of young women and men work in factories to produce these products. Here are some of their stories...

I worked from early in the morning until 2 a.m. the next day... I was so exhausted, but I was still required to go to work as usual the next day.

13-year-old girl making stationery for the Beijing Olympics in China

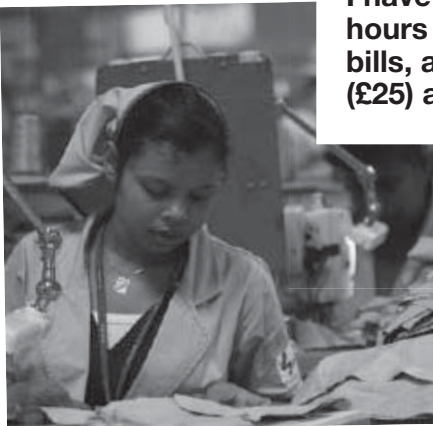
None of us have time to go to the toilet or drink water. Even so, we are working without rest and are always afraid of not working fast enough to supply soles to the next production line. The supervisors are pressuring and nagging us all the time.

Worker making New Balance shoes, Dongguan, China

Sheran works as a dispatch operator for a Nike supplier in Sri Lanka. His job is to check the cutting of the fabric and quantities are accurate.

Sheran is employed on a permanent contract and his employer has provided training on health and safety.

I get 14 days paid leave in a year, but no paid sick leave. I definitely can't survive on my basic wage of Rs.11,000 (£64) a month. I have to work overtime. I work about 60 hours a week. Accommodation, excluding bills, and childcare alone costs Rs.4,500 (£25) a month.



Clean Clothes Campaign

My wage is conditional. If I don't complete my daily target within the regular working hours, I have to work overtime without pay to finish my target.

Garment worker on a temporary contract in a factory supplying Nike, Adidas and Fila in Indonesia

ACTIVITY SHEET 4B

LIFE IN SPORTING GOODS FACTORIES - KS3

I work in a factory producing a famous brand of sports shoes in an industrial district of Indonesia, not far from the capital Jakarta. To begin with I was working in the sewing section, I found my work manageable. But since the time I participated in a small demonstration to ask for better wages I have been treated harshly by factory management.

My boss treats me like I'm of no value. Every day I am moved between work stations and if opportunities for better work arise I am never offered the chance to take them. It makes me feel tired and depressed. As a worker on a low wage, sometimes I get scared when I imagine my future.

Sewani, aged 24, Indonesia

Sandamalee, aged 26, works as a machine operator in Sri Lanka. She makes Adidas t-shirts and trousers.

Sandamalee works from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. She is allowed a 10 minute tea break in the morning and afternoon, and half an hour for lunch. She says that she spends a lot of time standing in her job. In the factory there is air-conditioning, but dust from the fabric circulates and she ends up breathing this in.

When Sandamalee gets home she washes some clothes, cleans her room and cooks herself dinner. She usually eats rice with vegetables. Once a week she treats herself to fish or meat.

Sandamalee cannot afford to live on her basic wage so she works overtime to make ends meet. Even so, she is not able to see her family often. They live in a village over 300km from her boarding house. Her father is a farmer and she has three sisters and three brothers. Every month she sends home Rs.5,000 (£28) to support them.

Sandamalee has a written contract with her employer, which has been explained to her and which she has signed.

I am always alone. Not a single worker or any of the union members dares to talk to me either in the workplace or in the canteen.

Waraporn Rakthai, union president in a sportswear factory, Thailand

