

Discount for bringing own cup to Starbucks

The international coffee shop chain Starbucks will start giving customers a discount if they bring their own cups. The discount is part of a two-month trial in cafes in England. Starbucks said it wants to reduce the amount of waste and recycle more. The vice president of Starbucks UK said: "Starbucks is committed to increasing recycling rates and reusable cups are a key part of our waste reduction strategy." Bosses will look at the success of the trial and then decide if they will continue it. The company wants to cut down on the huge number of paper cups that are put in the trash. Customers who bring their own mugs will get a discount on all drinks, except for the cafe's cheaper filter coffee.

The issue of disposable paper cups has been in the news in England a lot recently. Around 2.5 billion of them are thrown away every year – that's about seven million cups every day. Journalists have said that some coffee chains lie about how many paper cups they recycle. The journalists say the companies do not recycle as many cups as they say they do. This means customers wrongly believe that a coffee shop is environmentally friendly. A recycling service in the UK said that fewer than one in 400 paper cups at coffee shop chains are recycled. One coffee drinker said she would now bring her own cup. She said: "I am disappointed that cafes recycle so little. I thought they were more responsible."



Ex.1 Match these Polish words to their English equivalents:

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. rabat2. sieć3. próba4. ilość5. kluczowy6. śmieci7. kwestia8. jednorazowy9. rozczarowany10. odpowiedzialny	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• amount• chain• disappointed• discount• disposable• issue• key• responsible• trash• trial
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Ex.2 Complete the sentences with the words from the exercise above:

1. Do you ever use _____ cups and plates when you organize a party?
2. We were rather _____ by their reaction to our offer.
3. Who is _____ for cooperation with foreign subsidiaries?
4. Terrorism is probably the most important global _____ nowadays.
5. Before I got a full-time contract I had a 3-month _____ period.
6. Being detail-oriented is one of the _____ skills required in this job.
7. Because we are a very loyal customer they often offer us a _____.
8. After I came back from holiday I can't cope with the _____ of work I have.
9. My boss wasn't satisfied with my last report so it ended up in _____.
10. I don't like buying clothes in _____ stores – they all look similar.

I know English idioms!

In this lesson's text, we could read about cups of Starbucks' coffee and their recycling. While cups of coffee are not represented in idiomatic English, cups of tea are! Because, when we want to say that something is not what we like or feel good at, we can say: "It's not my cup of tea!" For example:

- I tried investing at the stock exchange, but it's not really my cup of tea...

Phrasals, phrasals...

The company wants to cut down on the huge number of paper cups that are put in the trash. *That's what reads one of the sentences from our text. It uses a phrasal verb: "to cut down on", which means "to reduce" or "to limit" something. Here are the most popular contexts we use it in:*

- I'm trying to cut down on the number of cigarettes I smoke a day.
- She used to work 50 hours a week, but has recently cut down on it.

Is there something you should cut down on? 😊

Grammar corner

Let's study this fragment from the text: "(...) Starbucks will start giving customers a discount if they bring their own cups." The structure used in the sentence is a conditional clause, so called type 1 - when we speak about a realistic situation. It is usually composed of "will" + infinitive and present simple verb after "if".

Using the pattern above complete these sentences:

- 1) If I (have) _____ time this afternoon, I (study) _____ English.
- 2) If she (get) _____ a big bonus, she (buy) _____ a new car.
- 3) If the weather (improve) _____, I (go) _____ away for the weekend.
- 4) I (tell) _____ you about it if you (promise) _____ not to tell anyone else.
- 5) I (be) _____ happy, if I (finish) _____ work earlier today.

GLOSSARY	
discount	rabat
cup	kubek (papierowy)
chain	sieć (sklepów)
trial	próba
to reduce	zmniejszyć
amount	ilość
waste	śmieci, odpady
to recycle	powtórnie przetwarzać
to be committed	być zobowiązanym
to increase	zwiększyć
reusable	do ponownego użytku
key part	kluczowa część
to cut down on	zmniejszyć
huge	olbrzymi
trash	śmieci
mug	kubek (np. ceramiczny)
except for	z wyjątkiem
issue	kwestia, problem
disposable	jednorazowy
to be in the news	być "na językach"
to throw away	wyrzucać
to lie	kłamać
environmentally friendly	przyjazny środowisku
disappointed	rozzarowany
responsible	odpowiedzialny

ANSWER KEY

Ex. 1

1. discount
2. chain
3. trial
4. amount
5. key
6. trash
7. issue
8. disposable
9. disappointed
10. responsible

Ex.2

1. disposable
2. disappointed
3. responsible
4. issue
5. trial
6. key
7. discount
8. amount
9. trash
10. chain

Ex. Grammar corner

1. have / will study
2. gets / will buy
3. improves / will go
4. will tell / promise
5. will be / finish