

Adult 4 Planet A

Only One Earth ...so don't waste it!

Information and Support Package

Prepared by **Phil Smith** and **Sarwat Jahan**



NetWaste

Adults 4 Planet A
... because there ain't no Planet B

NSW 2022

Only One Earth ...so don't waste it!

Information and Support Package



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Adults 4 Planet A NSW 2022

Competition Summary

The inaugural Adults 4 Planet A 2022 competition will be held online for adults and community organisations in the NetWaste region. This Support Package provides details about the competition, about the categories, and about how to submit your entry. It also contains the judging criteria and some links to articles relevant to the theme. Here's a summary of the competition. Please see fuller details further inside the package.

1. The topic for the online competition is **Only One Earth...so don't waste it**. All submissions must be based on this topic. **All must include a focus on waste.**
2. All entries are to be submitted through the competition portal.
3. The submission portal on the S4P website opens on **Friday 1 July 2022** and closes on **Friday 29 July 2022**.
4. There are four competition categories: Speaking, Art, Writing, Drama.
5. Participation: Adults (over 18 yrs old) throughout the NetWaste region are invited to participate.
6. All participants are strongly encouraged to research the topic.
7. Participants are also invited to be quirky, original, divergent in their thinking and presentation.
8. By submitting the items, participants give permission for the submissions to be placed on the Speaking 4 the Planet website and/or used on the Speaking 4 the Planet YouTube channel. They may also be placed on websites of sponsor councils. They may also be used for future marketing purposes.
9. Please note that no feedback will be given to individual submissions.
10. All entrants will receive certificates.
11. Prizes will be awarded to winners in each category.



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Prepared by **Phil Smith** and **Sarwat Jahan**

With support from



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1. Purpose of this package

This information and support package is designed to help participants prepare quality entries for the competition. It provides:

- Information on Adults 4 Planet A (Speaking 4 the Planet) and the competition categories
- Links to relevant websites
- Judging criteria
- Tips for speaking and writing.

The links in the package are a start. All participants are encouraged to research widely and build evidence-based, powerful, and personal messages.

2. Speaking 4 the Planet / Adults 4 Planet A

Speaking 4 the Planet is an arts-based competition for young people. Since its origins in 2013, S4P has enabled many young people to find a voice, to ponder different kinds of futures, and to honour ways of being in our world that are respectful and inclusive. S4P competitions have included a range of arts categories, including speaking, writing, art, drama, video, meme, and poetry.

Here's an article that says more about S4P: <https://newbushtelegraph.org.au/speaking-4-the-planet-changing-the-world-one-presentation-at-a-time/>

And here's a short video on S4P: https://drive.google.com/file/d/12ooL9a_zvUpFGChBu9ho_7HDxRhM0z8l/view

Until now, the competitions have been for school and university students. This NetWaste Adults 4 Planet A competition is the first ever event for adults and community organisations.

Here's the link to the competition page and submission portal. <https://speaking4theplanet.org.au/netwaste-adults-4-planet-a/>

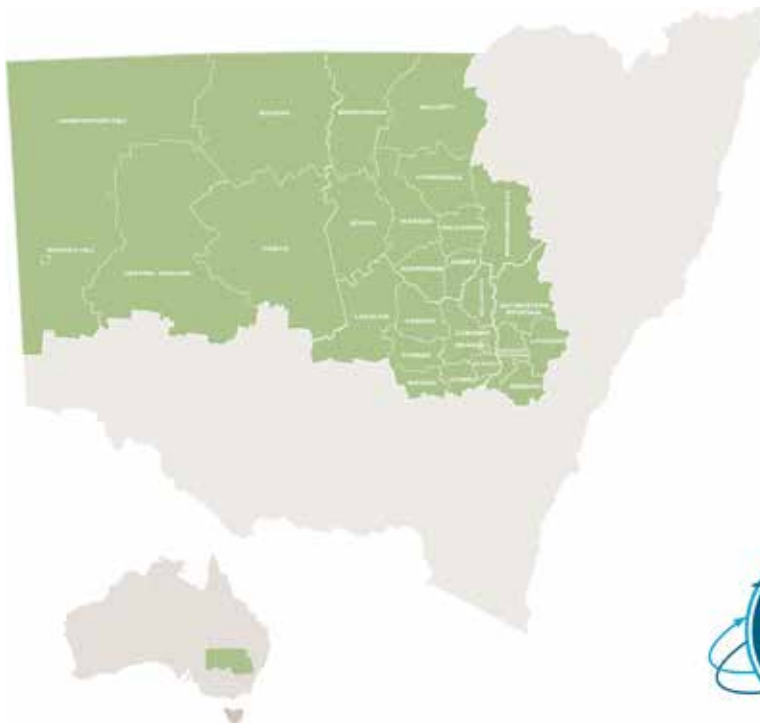


NETWASTE #2022

Netwaste is a voluntary regional waste group formed in 1995 to provide collaborative approaches to waste and resource management. The organisation is funded primarily through the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA).

During the past two decades, our focus has evolved. Our initial aims were to ensure the essential waste service requirements were met and to deliver service efficiencies through regional contracts. NetWaste now delivers outcomes beyond regional service arrangements – through targeted waste management projects, education and community engagement programs, and member Council enablement.

Covering almost 40% of the state, Netwaste delivers benefits to its 26 member councils in regional NSW including Bathurst, Blayney, Blue Mountains, Bogan, Bourke, Brewarrina, Broken Hill, Cabonne, Central Darling, Cobar, Coonamble, Cowra, Dubbo Regional, Forbes, Gilgandra, Lachlan, Lithgow, Midwestern, Narromine, Oberon, Orange, Parkes, Walgett, Warren, Warrumbungle & Weddin.

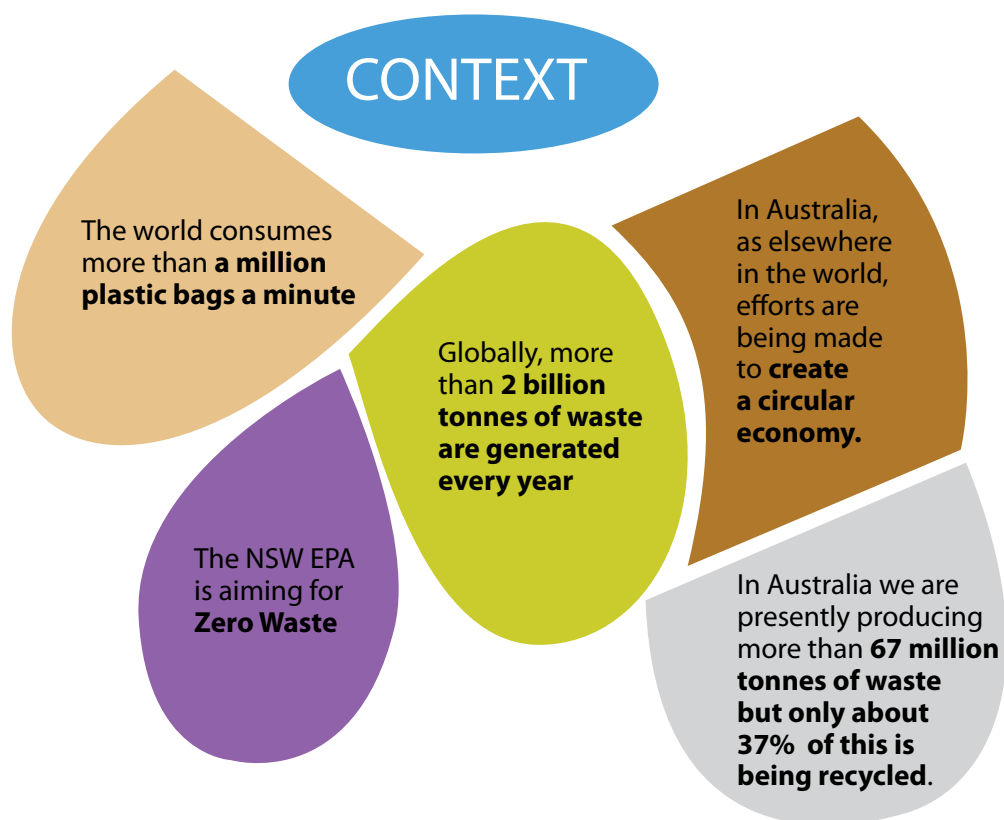


Message from Sue Clarke, Environmental Learning Adviser with NetWaste

OUR BACKYARD. OUR STUFF. OUR RESPONSIBILITY.

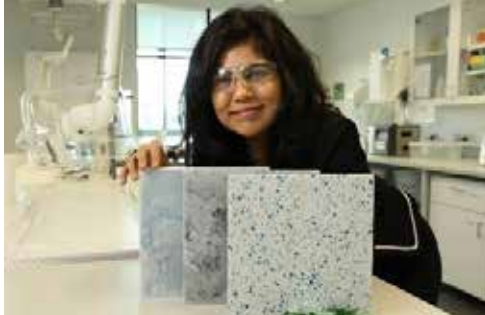
NetWaste Education Strategy 2022 – 2027.

NetWaste has recently completed an updated Waste Education Strategy. We wanted to get a clear picture of what has gone before and what's happening now in order to create a new benchmark about what people are doing, what they know, what they need and what motivates them. During the consultation phase for this education strategy update, we spoke to approximately 300 community members through conversations or survey and it became very clear that people know that something needs to be done to improve the waste situation in their communities and beyond, and they believe education and engagement are vital to bringing about the changes required.



I am really excited to support this first Adults 4 Planet A Competition. Thanks for getting involved and helping to get powerful waste messages out there ...**because there ain't no Planet B!**

The possibilities are endless, and your imagination is the only thing that is going to limit the opportunities that we could create in the future for resource recovery.



Veena Sahajwalla with building materials made from recycled textiles. (Supplied: University Of New South Wales)

Have you watched any of the ABC War on Waste episodes? If not, take the time to look on ABC IVIEW. I guarantee you will be shocked by some of the facts highlighted during this program. One story that really made me sit up and listen was the story about the fastest growing waste problem in Australia: **FAST FASHION = FAST WASTE!** Series 1, Episode 3 told us that Australians spend \$5 million a year on fashion and that we throw away 6 tonnes of clothes every 10 minutes. It all goes to the landfill. Imagine how much we throw every 20 minutes or every hour! But wait. There's more: each time we throw away a cotton t-shirt we also throw away all the resources used to make it: cotton, water, and oil. According to WWF, it takes 2,700 litres of water to make 1 cotton t-shirt. That's enough drinking water to keep one person going for 900 days.

When it comes to waste there are a lot of challenges on the horizon, but it seems that the 'War on Waste' program raised much awareness and many people that hadn't really considered the amount of waste that we produce, were suddenly 'talking rubbish'. The reality is that Australia is one of the most wasteful countries in the developed world. Wow, this is not sustainable, and that is why NetWaste is proudly supporting this ADULTS 4 PLANET A Competition.

Please help us spread the word to other groups that may be interested and come on give it a go yourselves.

If you want to know more about the Waste Education programs that NetWaste offers please give the Environmental Learning Adviser a call on 0400336508 or email ela@netwaste.com.au

3. Competition categories and judging criteria

There are four categories in this competition.

SPEAKING

Participants submit a video of themselves giving a speech of no more than 3 minutes. Speeches that go over time will not be considered.

Speakers will need to clearly state the problem or issue being addressed. They will need to make links between problems and solutions. Use techniques of persuasion that can shift the way the audience thinks and feels about the issues. The time limit is important. Please avoid reading your speech. When you are videoing yourself speaking, be at eye-level with the camera and look into the camera as you speak. Check the *Tips for Improving your Public Speaking* in Appendix A.

Note that the top 5 speakers will be invited to do their talks live online. A small panel of judges will use the following criteria to judge the speeches and find a winner.

Judging criteria

Your speech will be judged against these criteria. You should use them in your preparation.

- **Idea**

Originality of idea

How the idea is developed

Encourages audience to think or act

- **Content**

Clear communication of problem and solution that the idea is trying to address

Structure – coherent, logical, clear

- **Choice of style**

Engaging

Persuasive techniques

Body language appropriate to the speech

WRITING

This category requires you to write no more than 30 words on the competition topic. The writing must be prose. Submissions that exceed 30 words will not be considered.

Be sure to include your name, age and location at the top of your piece of writing. Check out the *Tips for Better Writing* in Appendix B of this package.

Judging criteria

A small panel of judges will use the following criteria to judge your writing submission. Your speech will be judged against these criteria. You should use them in your preparation.

- **Clarity of purpose**
- **Accuracy**

Spelling, grammar, sentence structure

- **Impact**

Does the piece move the mind or imagination of the reader and prompt a response?

ART

Artworks need to be related to the competition topic. Artworks can be paintings or drawings. Paint, charcoal, ink, graphite, pen, etc. may be used. Students are asked to submit three (3) photos of their artworks – from different angles.

Please submit high-res publication-quality images. They must represent the work in its entirety and convey the manner in which the work is to be displayed. The digital image must be submitted in high-res JPEG format, 300dpi 2-3MB.

Read the article on the S4P website about how art can change the world: <https://speaking4thepoint.org.au/thoughts-on-the-role-of-art-in-society/>

Judging criteria

A small panel of judges will use the following criteria to judge your artwork. It will be judged against these criteria. You should use them in your preparation.

- **Concept**

Visually engaging
Imaginative qualities evident
Theme confidently investigated.

- **Material Practice**

Technically accomplished
Skilful interpretation via a selected medium.

- **Resolution**

Successfully resolved
Clear communication of ideas
Creativity evident in finished artwork.

ECO-DRAMA

Each drama team may include up to 5 actors. The performance will be 3 - 5 minutes. It must be related to the competition theme.

Judging criteria

- **Time (3-5mins)**
- **Link to topic**
- **Performance skills: voice, movement, timing, use of space, ability to realise and sustain a role or character**
- **Message and meaning: clear, dramatic, quirky**
- **Originality**
- **Team work: all performers contributing, capacity to work as a team**
- **Audience engagement: entertained, challenged in thinking/feeling**

Prizes provided by



4. Submission Details

All submissions are to be made through the following portal. Click on the link – it will take to you a page with questions about name, age, etc., and it will ask you to upload the video of your speech or the document with your writing.

To submit your speech items as a URL, you must create a channel in YouTube.

- You can sign in with your Gmail account and click on the user icon at the top right of the screen
- Click on the gear icon to get to your account's YouTube Settings
- Click on Create a new channel

Upload your video in the channel **and keep in as public or unlisted**. Do not use background music as it may lead to copyright violations.

- After logging into YouTube, click on the 'create a video or post' button in the top right corner of the page.



- From the drop-down menu, select the 'Upload video' option to be taken to the upload page.

While choosing a privacy setting option, select the option of "Unlisted" or "Public". Once the uploading completed, add a title and a short description of your video.

After finalising the video, send the URL to us: phil@speaking4theplanet.org.au

5. Competition topic: Only One Earth

Last time we looked, there was only one Earth. So, we have to take care of it!

This Crazy Wombat says it clearly: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n0TSLwlqOZE>



The competition topic, Only One Earth...so don't waste it, gives a waste flavour to the UN's 2022 World Environment Day theme,. Only one Earth. These three words remind us to look after the only planet we have. From personal choices and actions to national and international policies, decisions must take us in the direction of sustainability. And away from trashing the only planet we have!

Sustainability is about relationships. With each other; with things; with the past, present and future; with ideas; with challenges and differences and conflicts; with trees and soils and water and air and other species and with the rest of nature. It's also about our relationship with stuff. We need a healthy relationship with the materials we purchase and use.

Clean air, healthy foods, clean water, healthy soils all matter. Biodiversity matters. How we use resources and what we do with our waste matters. A healthy planet is vital for healthy humanity; healthy people and societies are vital for a healthy planet. People and the planet are inextricably linked.

One planet. One Earth. This is where we live.



As you research and reflect in your preparation, think about concepts of responsibility and health and human choices; think about your lifestyle and expectations and priorities; and think about your personal relationship with the natural world; think about what's fair for you and others. Investigate the Sustainability Development Goals – goals which form a universal call to action for protecting the Earth and all its species.

At the heart of achieving the SDGs are us. Our personal actions, our choices, and our support for sustainability policies at local and national levels can make positive contributions to achieving each of the 17 Goals.



<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html>

6. Prompts and resources

Participants will find their own relevant articles, examples, and stories. Below are a few prompts and links that could be useful.

World Environment Day 2022

The S4P topic takes its lead from the 2022 World Environment Day theme, Only One Earth. This year, WED is being hosted by Sweden. The focus is on greener lifestyles.

<https://www.government.se/press-releases/2021/11/greener-lifestyles-the-focus-when-sweden-hosts-world-environment-day-2022/>

<https://www.worldenvironmentday.global>



3 Seconds Prince Ea

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sacc_x- XB1Y



"It's good to be smart, but not too smart for your own good."

Sustainability and our connection to nature

<https://ideas4sustainability.wordpress.com/2011/08/22/sustainability-and-our-connection-to-nature/>



The world counts

https://www.theworldcounts.com/stories/amazing_environmental_facts



How to Take Care of the Environment - 10 Ways to Take Care of the Environment

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X2YgM1Zw4_E

5 Reasons Why We Should Teach Our Kids to Take Care of the Earth

<https://www.theindusparent.com/5-things-must-teach-children-earth-day>

Still Only One Earth: Lessons from 50 years of UN sustainable development policy

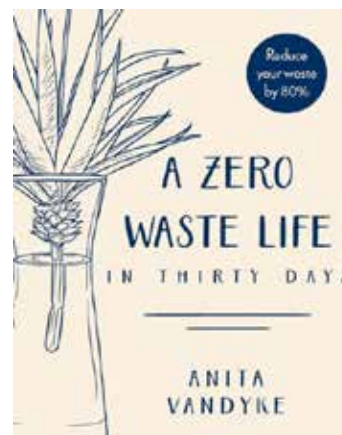
<https://www.iisd.org/projects/still-only-one-earth-lessons-50-years-un-sustainable-development-policy>

Good360 – Goods for the Greater Good

In Australia, we have charities connecting food to people in need, but where do all the other good things go?

In 2012, our founder Alison Covington discovered Good360USA had been operating in the USA and was amazed by the scale and efficiency. Over 35 years Good360USA, has distributed USD\$9billion of brand-new non-perishable goods to 80,000 Not for Profits thanks to 400+ corporate partners including Walmart, HP, GAP, 3M, NIKE & The Home Depot. Alison immediately knew that Australia needed Good360!

<https://good360.org.au/our-story/>



The Story of Stuff

<https://www.storyofstuff.org>

The Story of Stuff is a collection of short documentaries about the lifecycle of material goods. The documentary is critical of excessive consumerism; it promotes more sustainable use of materials.

Videos on re-use

Items you are throwing away that you could re-use! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vm-KHAb9cn0>

5 Useful things to do at home from waste materials <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y3qM9WQH30U>

[These are the plastic items that most kill whales, dolphins, turtles and seabirds](#)



Some plastics are deadlier than others. In 2016, experts identified four main items they considered to be most deadly to wildlife: fishing debris, plastic bags, balloons and plastic utensils.

[Think all your plastic is being recycled? New research shows it can end up in the ocean](#)



The War on Waste

[A TV Series on WAR ON WASTE.](#)

Appendix A › Tips for Improving your Public Speaking

De Bono, one of the world's most renowned critical and creative thinkers, says, 'There's the car, and there's how you drive it.' For the Speaking 4 the Planet competition, we can say, 'There's the speech and there's how you deliver it.'

Content and delivery matter. Evidence and expression matter. Argument and performance matter. Good public speakers are convincing with the power of their material and the manner in which they present it.

S4P encourages you to research your material thoroughly. If you have good ideas relevant to the topic, research them – see what you can find. High quality content matters. And when you have put the words together, practise them. Ask others to listen to you. Get feedback on the written and spoken words. Refine what you say and how you say it.

Please remember that reading a speech aloud is not giving a speech. You may want to use cue cards. If you do, treat them as prompts – don't have the whole speech written on them!

In opening the Armidale Speaking 4 the Planet event in 2016, Dr Ian Tiley, the Administrator of the newly amalgamated councils, said, 'Good speeches are succinct and original, and they contain viewpoints substantiated with evidence.' He also observed that good speakers are prepared even though they might be nervous. It's good to be nervous because nerves can keep you focused.

Here are some hints on improving public speaking.

10 Tips for Improving Public Speaking

1. Nervousness Is Normal. Practice and Prepare!

All people feel some physiological reactions like pounding hearts and trembling hands. Do not associate these feelings with the sense that you will perform poorly or make a fool of yourself. Some nerves are good. The adrenaline rush that makes you sweat also makes you more alert and ready to give your best performance.

The best way to overcome anxiety is to prepare, prepare, and prepare some more. Take the time to go over your notes several times. Once you have become comfortable with the material, practice – a lot. Videotape yourself or get a friend to critique your performance.

2. Know Your Audience. Your Speech Is About Them, Not You.

Before you begin to craft your message, consider who the message is intended for. Learn as much about your listeners as you can. This will help you determine your choice of words, level of information, organization pattern, and motivational statement



3. Organize Your Material in the Most Effective Manner to Attain Your Purpose.

Create the framework for your speech. Write down the topic, general purpose, specific purpose, central idea, and main points. Make sure to grab the audience's attention in the first 30 seconds.

4. Watch for Feedback and Adapt to It.

Keep the focus on the audience. Gauge their reactions, adjust your message, and stay flexible. Delivering a canned speech will guarantee that you lose the attention of or confuse even the most devoted listeners.

5. Let Your Personality Come Through.

Be yourself, don't become a talking head—in any type of communication. You will establish better credibility if your personality shines through, and your audience will trust what you have to say if they can see you as a real person.

6. Use Humour, Tell Stories, and Use Effective Language.

Inject a funny anecdote in your presentation, and you will certainly grab your audience's attention. Audiences generally like a personal touch in a speech. A story can provide that.

7. Don't Read Unless You Have to. Work from an Outline.

Reading from a script or slide fractures the interpersonal connection. By maintaining eye contact with the audience, you keep the focus on yourself and your message. A brief outline can serve to jog your memory and keep you on task.

8. Use Your Voice and Hands Effectively. Omit Nervous Gestures.

Nonverbal communication carries most of the message. Good delivery does not call attention to itself but instead conveys the speaker's ideas clearly and without distraction.

9. Grab Attention at the Beginning, and Close with a Dynamic End.

Do you enjoy hearing a speech start with "Today I'm going to talk to you about X"? Most people don't. Instead, use a startling statistic, an interesting anecdote, or concise quotation. Conclude your speech with a summary and a strong statement that your audience is sure to remember.

10. Use Audio-visual Aids Wisely.

Too many can break the direct connection to the audience, so use them sparingly. They should enhance or clarify your content, or capture and maintain your audience's attention.



Appendix B › Tips for Better Writing

To be a better writer, you need to know how to be direct and clear, while also putting your own stamp on your writing. Here are some tips on how you can improve your writing.

1. **Be direct** in your writing. Good writing is clear and concise. Filler words, like unnecessary adverbs and prepositional phrases, take up space and weigh a sentence down. Say exactly what you mean in the most direct way.
2. **Choose your words wisely.** There are many ways to write a sentence, and there are different words you can choose to convey the same idea. Always choose the simpler of two words. Use familiar vocabulary instead of lofty words. Simple words are more direct and easier for all readers to understand. Use a thesaurus if you need a little help finding a replacement or an easier way to say something.
3. **Short sentences** are more powerful than long sentences. A story loses energy with wordiness. Short sentences are easier to comprehend – something that readers appreciate. Avoid trying to pack too much into a line. Every sentence should contain one thought or idea.
4. Write **short paragraphs.** Keep your paragraphs short and manageable. Each one should consist of sentences that support the same idea. Short paragraphs are easier to digest. They also create a more visually appealing layout on the page.
5. Always use the **active voice.** Use the active voice and adhere to subject-verb-object sentence structure. It's the most direct path to making your point. (With the active voice, the subject is doing something, which is more exciting than the passive voice in which something is being done to the subject.)
6. **Review and edit** your work. Proofreading your first draft should be the first step in your editing process. Edit for these four elements:
 - Accuracy in spelling, grammar, sentence structure
 - Clarity of meaning in sentences and paragraphs
 - Structure and flow of the writing
 - Coherence of the overall piece.

Tighten your writing, check your word choice and sentence structure, and hone your voice to improve your style.

The art of writing is in the re-writing. Bob Walshe, author, historian, environmentalist.

7. Use a **natural, conversational tone.** Your writing style relies on your own, unique voice. Communicate in your comfort zone. In other words, write like you converse. Shape ideas with your original thoughts and voice and do your best to avoid clichés. Your writing style should reflect your personality.



8. **Read famous authors** of fiction and non-fiction. Notice not just what they say but *how* they say it. Notice their style – try to feel their personality coming through the text. Look at the overall structure and flow. Reflect on your own writing.
9. **Practice.** Keep writing. We learn to write by writing.
10. **Read** about how to improve your writing. There's a wealth of information out there!



Appendix C › Our everyday choices matter

Everyone can be a changemaker... What is your anatomy of action?

By 2050, the world's population will reach a whopping 10 billion people, and with more people comes more consumption – of food, fashion, travel... In a world stretched thin for resources and under the threat of global climate change, it is high time we, as individuals, make choices that move us away from a take-make-waste economy.

The future is made up of the cumulative outcomes of our actions today. The way we move, what food we eat and how we treat our clothes are all crucial to determining the impact we have on the planet. We are all citizen designers, with the power to effect positive change through our everyday actions, no matter who we are, or where we live.

But how do we know which actions to focus on? Individuals can make more sustainable choices in everyday decisions while asking governments and companies for more information and options. With 2 to 3 billion new consumers coming online in the near future – most of them young and in urban contexts – harnessing the power of today's trendsetters and tomorrow's decision-makers could be the game-changer.

Activate your anatomy of an action

An initiative of the UN Environment Programme and the [UnSchool of Disruptive Design](#) – and a contribution to the [One Planet Network's Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme](#) – the anatomy of action is a pathway for individuals to combat climate change and build a more sustainable world by swapping their current behaviours to more sustainable, planet-friendly ones.

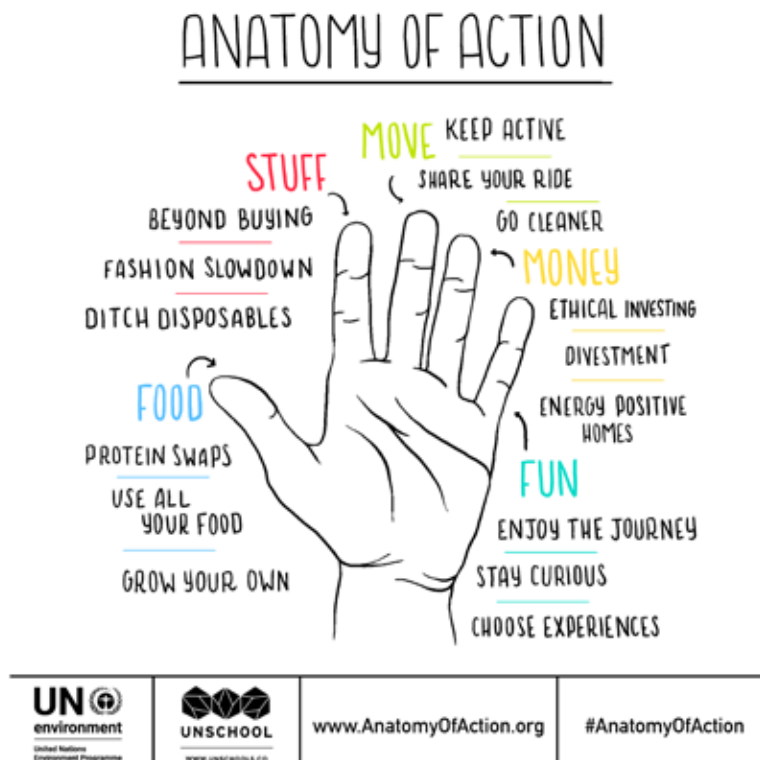
The initiative highlights five key lifestyle domains where any individual can make top-level changes to contribute to the global shift towards sustainability: **food, stuff, move, money and fun**. Under each domain, the anatomy of action outlines three evidence-based actions with how-to's.

Examples include buying food with no or little packaging; buy from companies that provide spare parts for repair, take-back options, or use recycled materials in production; cycle, walk or use electric vehicles for getting around.

Until 30 September, take the action challenge and join our lead challenge activators who are making lifestyle changes in the areas of food (@sibamtongana), stuff (@katherine_ormerod), move (@luislarrain), money (@lk_laurent and @brycelangston), and fun (@ihssanebenalluch).



What action will you commit to? Share your #AnatomyOfAction and challenge 3 friends!



[We are all connected, and the choices we make impact many lives](#)

[We are defined by our choices](#)

[How Small Choices You Make on a Daily Basis Impact Global Environment](#)

It may be hard to believe that small choices you make on a daily basis, such as how you commute to work, what you eat, how long your shower time is, or where you travel to on holidays, can actually have a significant impact on global environmental issues. This way of thinking is an illustration of the concept of “The Tragedy of the Commons”: If each person believes that his/her consumption of resources cannot possibly affect the planet – and there are 7.5 billion of us sharing finite resources and thinking in the same way – the collective impact of our careless consumption becomes enormous! The “tragedy” is that this way of thinking works against the common good of humanity and, ultimately, your own. In this age of constant inundation by bad news and media-led fearmongering, it’s also easy to feel overwhelmed and hopeless about environmental issues, perhaps reaching a degree of deliberate indifference for the sake of self-preservation and peace of mind. But the truth is that there is a lot that each of us can do every day to help slow down and eventually stop the demise of our planet. Many of these Earth-friendly choices, with time, simply become habits that you don’t have to think about all the time, and so, you will suffer no constant anxiety or inconvenience. Living an environmentally conscious life will simply become second nature.



Appendix D › Essay: Art can Change the World

Art does not stand apart from the society in which it is created. Art emerges directly from the time and culture, the priorities and expectations, the challenges and opportunities, and the changes and experiences of the surrounding society. It mirrors these things for that society – sometimes in supportive ways, sometimes in critical ways. Art invites – and occasionally forces – reflection about values, beauty, directions, lifestyles and achievements. Minds and hearts are touched by art. Change may follow as a result.

Art has the capacity to uplift and provoke. Art is an expression of passion. We live and breathe inside art, whether it's an item of clothing, a dance, the design of an old steam engine, or a well-composed photograph. Art is a frontier of free expression – about what's happening in our world and what needs to happen. Art crosses linguistic and cultural boundaries because it can speak to the soul and inspire change.

Artists question everything. They help us visit places unknown. Artists rather than politicians lead some of the most important discussions about the state of the world. As an example, cartoonists poke fun and simultaneously point in new directions. Artists challenge us to re-evaluate and reinterpret social, historical and political events. They invite us to reshape society.

Here's what a few artists have said about the role of art in society.

The artist records history for future generations, art reaches out & touches people around the world, it can lift people when they are down or create controversy, art is a very important part of society.
Pearl Rogers, Australia

Artists see things in a totally different way; they challenge the boundaries of rules, society and imagination yet also keep us in touch with the past. Linda Hoey, UK

Art takes us out of ourselves. It allows us to address the big questions in life. It makes us think of ourselves and mortality. Alice Helwig, Canada

Art has always embodied the relationship between humans and the natural environment. Artists address concerns about the way we interact with nature. In the 21st century – as in other times – art can and must play a role in focusing humanity on social and environmental issues and on dealing with the sustainability problems of our time. It can and must encourage discussion about community concerns, how we relate with the planet and each other, and possible solutions to sustainability problems.

Art is a compulsory subject in Australian schools. It plays an important role in deepening students' engagement with learning. Through engaging in productive art lessons children develop high order skills of analysis, synthesis and evaluation as well as critical thinking, problem-solving and decision making. Art also enhances literacy and numeracy skills in children. Art allows children to grasp and appreciate not only their culture but other cultures and traditions. It exposes children to different societies and beliefs. Children learn to respect and appreciate diversity and become more tolerant of different cultures, all through art.

Phil Smith



[A TEDx talk by Katerina Gregos](#)

This talk was given at a local TEDx event, produced independently of the TED Conferences. Katerina Gregos is convinced that contemporary art has an important role to play in society, as one of the last frontiers of free expression. Today, artists and cultural practitioners, rather than politicians, are leading some of the key discussions about the state of the world. Contemporary artists challenge each and every one of us to reinterpret social and political events, and crack cemented opinions as well as dominant narratives propagated by the media and those in power. As an internationally respected curator, Katerina has curated a number of exhibitions dedicated to exploring the relationship between art, politics, democracy, the new global production circuits, and human rights. Let yourself be inspired by Katerina's talk at TEDxGhent 2014, and find out what contemporary art can contribute to society.



*Let's make a difference!
Before it's too late...*



Phil Smith
Speaking 4 the Planet
phil@speaking4theplanet.org.au