



● **ethical consumer** (ethical consumers) N-COUNT
Consumers who choose not to buy products from certain companies for moral reasons, for example because a company harms the environment or uses child labour, are sometimes called **ethical consumers**.

A passionate supporter of animal welfare, she too refuses to purchase anything that could possibly be connected with cruelty. Both are examples of a burgeoning group – ethical consumers.

● **business ethics** N-PLURAL

Business ethics are the moral beliefs and rules about right and wrong that are involved in business.

Business ethics are coming to the forefront of the agenda. Companies are seeing that their activities have important social and ethical implications.

● **social responsibility** N-UNCOUNT

Social responsibility is the duty that some people feel companies have to behave in a correct and proper way, for example towards their workers and the local community.

All businesses have a wider social responsibility and are answerable to more than just their shareholders.

● **co-operative** (co-operatives) N-COUNT

A **co-operative** is a business or organization run by the people who work for it, or owned by the people who use it. These people share its benefits and profits.

The restaurant is run as a co-operative. Oxfam aids small farming co-operatives to improve their yields significantly.

Common Collocations

a **housing** co-operative a **workers'** co-operative
a co-operative **society** a co-operative **movement**

● **sweatshop** (sweatshops) N-COUNT

If you describe a small factory as a **sweatshop**, you mean that many people work there in poor conditions for low pay.

*...the dingy, hidden world of garment sweatshops.
...a product that was made with child labor or in a sweatshop.*

● **child labour** N-UNCOUNT

Child labour is the use of children as workers in industry.

*Past attempts to ban child labour in various industries have not worked.
... a boycott of goods made with child labour.*

● **developed** ADJ

First World N-PROPER

If you talk about **developed** countries or the **developed** world, you mean the countries or the parts of the world that are wealthy and have many industries. The most prosperous and industrialized parts of the world are sometimes referred to as the **First World**.

*Life expectancy in the developed world has doubled. Although South Africa has many of the attributes of the first world – some good infrastructure, millions of rich people, and a few world-class companies, hospitals and universities – it is still not part of that world.
...wealthy First World countries.*

● **developing** ADJ

Third World N-PROPER

If you talk about **developing** countries or the **developing** world, you mean the countries or the parts of the world that are poor and have few industries. Together the countries of Africa, Asia, and South America are sometimes referred to as the **Third World**, especially those parts that are poor, do not have much power, and are not considered to be highly developed.

In the developing world cigarette consumption is increasing. The only developing country with large foreign reserves is Taiwan.

*As the cities of the Third World expand, there is little hope that their governments' public health systems can cope.
...a campaign to cancel Third World debt.*

● **GDP** (GDPs) N-VAR

In economics, a country's **GDP** is the total value of goods and services produced within a country in a year, not including its income from investments in other countries. **GDP** is an abbreviation for 'gross domestic product'.

He said that in time the UK would match the European average spend on health which is 8 per cent of GDP.

● **per capita**

ADJ

The **per capita** amount of something is the total amount of it in a country or area divided by the number of people in that country or area. **Per capita** means 'per person'.

*They have the world's largest per capita income.
Per capita GDP in the richer economies is 74 times that of the poorest.*

ADV

If something occurs at a certain rate **per capita**, it occurs at a rate calculated by dividing the total number of times it occurs in a particular country or area by the number of people in that country or area. **Per capita** means 'per person'.

Ethiopia has almost the lowest oil consumption per capita in the world.

This year Americans will eat about 40% more fresh apples per capita than the Japanese.

Common Collocations

per capita **spending** per capita **consumption**
to do something **on a per capita basis**

GNP: Topic 4.5

PRACTISE YOUR VOCABULARY

1 Match two pairs of words that have the same meaning.

- a First World b developing countries c Third World d developed countries

2 Look at the list of countries and answer the questions that follow.

- a Bangladesh c France e Nepal g Ethiopia
b New Zealand d Singapore f Sudan h Japan

- i Which of these countries are examples of developed countries/developing countries?
ii Which ones are more likely to have high levels of gross domestic product (GDP)?
iii Which ones are more likely to operate sweatshops?
iv Which ones are likely to have the lowest per capita income?

3 Which of the following do ethical businesses or ethical consumers prioritize?

- a values c wealth e morality g personal happiness
b profit d beliefs f greed h social responsibility

4 Which of these four people can be described as ethical consumers?



Keith: 'I don't buy products that I know have been made by child workers.'



Steve: 'I choose investment companies that don't do business with firms that have connections with dictatorships.'



Eric: 'We buy the cheapest coffee beans for our café.'



Brian: 'I invest my money in firms that are likely to make the biggest profits.'

5 Are these statements true or false?

- a GDP measures the total value of a country's manufacturing industry.
b Sweatshops are retail outlets selling sports clothing.
c Sweatshops do not exist only in Third World countries.
d Child labour exists only in Third World countries.
e Ethical consumers buy goods produced in Third World countries.
f Ethics are usually the main guiding principle in business.

	True	False
a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6 Look at the list of courses of action for a retail business operating in a competitive environment. Which courses of action do you think might be priorities for a co-operative retail society, and which for an ordinary retail company? Complete the table.

	co-operative retail society	ordinary retail company
a providing a service to the local community by keeping poorly-performing branches open		
b involving staff in all decision-making		
c internal democratic organization		
d education of workers and customers		
e beating the competition		