

For and Against Paper Statement Cards



Organise pupils into groups and hand out the relevant number of statements, ensuring a balance of for and against statements in each group. Depending on the group sizes, pupils might have two or three statements each.

8 Statements in Favour of Paper Use (Pro-Paper):

1. "Paper is made from trees, but new ones are planted to replace the ones that are used."
2. "Paper is one of the most recycled materials in Europe. It can be recycled up to seven times."
3. "Forests in Europe are actually growing, not shrinking."
4. "Paper can be reused, recycled, or even composted."
5. "Using paper is better for the planet than using plastic."
6. "The paper industry in Europe has low carbon emissions."
7. "Sustainably managed forests, where trees used to make paper grow, provide habitats for plants and animals."
8. "Reading on paper helps some people concentrate better than reading on screens."
9. "Forests are essential for keeping the air clean – absorbing carbon dioxide and creating oxygen."
10. "Most of the water used to make paper is cleaned and returned to rivers or lakes."
11. "Paper is a natural material, so it breaks down more easily than plastic."
12. "Sustainably managed forests used for paper provide many jobs for local people."

8 Statements Against Paper Use (Anti-Paper):

1. "Cutting down trees for paper is destroying forests."
2. "Making paper uses energy, which harms the planet."
3. "Most paper ends up in the bin and gets wasted."
4. "If we stopped using paper, we could save more trees."
5. "Digital devices are better than using paper — it's faster and easier."
6. "The paper industry pollutes the environment."
7. "We use too much paper in schools and offices — it's unnecessary."
8. "Using recycled paper still harms the planet."
9. "Using paper is old-fashioned — we should be going paperless."
10. "A lot of water is used – and wasted – when making paper."
11. "Forests are shrinking because of paper production."
12. "Most paper ends up in landfill."

Paper is made from trees, but new ones are planted to replace the ones that are used.	Paper is one of the most recycled materials in Europe. It can be recycled up to seven times.
Forests in Europe are actually growing, not shrinking.	Paper can be reused, recycled, or even composted.
Using paper for packaging is better for the planet than using plastic.	The paper industry in Europe has low carbon emissions as most energy used is renewable.
Sustainably managed forests, where trees used to make paper grow, provide habitats for plants and animals.	Reading on paper helps some people concentrate better than reading on screens.
Forests are essential for keeping the air clean – absorbing carbon dioxide and creating oxygen.	Paper is a natural material, so it breaks down more easily than plastic.
Most of the water used to make paper is cleaned and returned to rivers or lakes.	Sustainably managed forests used for paper provide many jobs for local people.

Cutting down trees for paper is destroying forests.	Making paper uses energy, which harms the planet.
Most paper ends up in the bin and gets wasted.	If we stopped using paper, we could save more trees.
Digital devices are better than using paper — it's faster and easier.	The paper industry pollutes the environment.
We use too much paper in schools and offices — it's unnecessary.	Using recycled paper still harms the planet.
Using paper is old-fashioned — we should be going paperless.	A lot of water is used — and wasted — when making paper.
Forests are shrinking because of paper production.	Most paper ends up in landfill.