Warmer: UK charities

Look at the names of some UK charities in the box below. With a partner, discuss what you think each charity does.

Task 1: Creating a mind map

What do you already know about charity shops? Discuss the following questions in your group and add your ideas to the mind map below:

1. What is their purpose?
2. Who works in them?
3. What kinds of things do they sell?
4. Where do they get their stock from?
5. How expensive is it to shop there?
**Task 2: Video about Octavia Foundation charity shops. Gist understanding**

You will watch a video [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c98j5e6h788](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c98j5e6h788) about Octavia Foundation, a small London-based charity. This charity supports local people during times of personal difficulty or crisis. As you watch for the first time, answer questions A and B.

A. What are two positive effects of the Octavia charity shops?
   
   i. ________________________________________________________________
   
   ii. ________________________________________________________________

B. What is the main purpose of this video?

   i. to advertise the things Octavia Foundation’s shops sell
   
   ii. to encourage people to volunteer to work in Octavia Foundation’s shops
   
   iii. to explain how Octavia Foundation spends the money raised in its shops

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**Task 3: Video about Octavia Foundation charity shops. Detailed understanding**

Charity shops are often staffed by volunteers. Listen to what the two Octavia volunteers, Emily and Annie, say about their roles and reasons for volunteering. Fill in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Emily</th>
<th>Annie</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reason for volunteering</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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Task 4: Vocabulary collocations

A ‘collocation’ is two or more words that are commonly used together, such as ‘shop assistant’.

a. Your teacher will give you a word on a card. Find a student in your class who has a word which is commonly used with your word.

b. Sit down together and make notes on what you think your collocation means.

c. Now use the following words to fill the gaps in the text below:

Charity shops are run by charities to (1)__________ money for their causes. They usually sell used goods which have been (2)__________ by members of the public, and they tend to be staffed by (3)__________. This helps them to keep their prices low, which makes them popular with (4)__________ hunters. However, some people think that these low prices may take customers away from other local (5)__________.

Nevertheless, (6)__________ of charity shops argue that they do indeed benefit their local areas. They give people a way of recycling their unwanted (7)__________. This decreases the amount of waste going to (8)__________ sites. In addition, items are usually donated by people who live locally, which reduces the carbon (9)__________ of the goods. Yet, despite these advantages, some people are still not keen on the idea of wearing second-hand clothes.
Task 5: Discussing advantages and disadvantages of charity shops

A. Look at the text in Task 4 above. Find the advantages and disadvantages of charity shops which are mentioned in the text, and note them down in the grid below.

B. Now talk to your partner and note down any other advantages and disadvantages you can think of.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Disadvantages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</table>
Cooler: Group discussion

Look at the comments about charity shops below. In your group, discuss what you think about each one.

a. I wouldn't want to buy from a charity shop because I don't like the idea of wearing something that someone else has worn.

b. Buying clothes from charity shops is a great way to save money.

c. I've found some real gems in charity shops – good-quality second-hand designer clothes at very reasonable prices! I wouldn't be able to afford to buy these from regular high street shops.

d. Why would anyone buy second-hand clothes from a charity shop when there are so many shops that sell cheap clothes on the high street nowadays?