

## Can we swap?



**What happens to the things we don't need anymore? We throw away lots of things. But I've heard that people can use the internet to recycle. Can anyone tell me how it works?**

**webmate**

It's easy! You make a list of things you don't want on a swap website. There are lots of them. On swap sites, you can swap your old things for something else you want. Remember you only pay for posting your old things.

**slimjim**

I agree with slimjim. Swap sites are great for DVDs and CDs. I go to swap sites to get presents for my friends, but not for myself. I pay for my music and films online. It's cheaper than posting. I haven't bought music CDs for years.

**amazona**

Swap sites are good, but give-away sites are better. People list the things that are too good to throw away. It's usually when they're moving house. My brother got a bed and an armchair for his new apartment – absolutely free! I haven't got a lot of money, so I'm looking at give-away sites for musical instruments.

**saxpoet**

The trouble is nobody likes to give away expensive things. I collect cameras. I've found several on swap sites. But there isn't any choice on give-away sites. I've only found one.

**clickmaster**

Hi clickmaster. You should only use sites that have a 'wish list' - you say what you want and wait for people to contact you! I collect comic books. I've put my information on lots of wish lists, so I don't have to look anymore. People find me with their free things!

**woody**

Hi woody, I've got two old comic books.

My rubbish = your treasure? Are you interested? ☺

**reptile**





## Reading

**1a** Read the web page. Then match the names to the sentences.

amazona slimjim webmate woody  
saxpoet ~~clickmaster~~ reptile

- 1 clickmaster finds old cameras online.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ uses wish lists to collect comic books.
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ hasn't got a lot of money.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ gets presents on swap sites.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ explains how swap sites work.
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ asks a question about recycling on the internet.
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ is giving away two comic books.

**1b** Look at the web page again and decide if the sentences are true (T) or false (F). Correct the false sentences.

- 1 People can use the internet to recycle their old things. T
- 2 There aren't many swap sites.
- 3 On swap sites you only pay for posting your old things.
- 4 Give-away sites are very expensive.
- 5 People usually like giving away expensive things for free.
- 6 Woody waits for people to contact him.

**1c** Answer the questions. Find the answers in the text.

- 1 What happens to things we don't need?  
We throw them away or recycle them.
- 2 What is a swap website?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Where does amazona get music from?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 What did saxpoet's brother get for free?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5 What is woody's hobby?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 6 How do people find woody?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Writing: Over to you...

**2a** Write the questions to complete the conversation with *Reptile*.

What is a wish list?  
~~What is a swap site?~~  
Why is your name 'reptile'?  
What is the difference between swap sites and give-away sites?  
What have you given away?

**You** <sup>1</sup> What is a swap site?

**Reptile** It's easy - you tell people about the things you don't want any more. People swap the things they don't want for your old things. And it's free!

**You** <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

**Reptile** A give-away site is similar. But you don't swap - you just give the things you don't want to other people.

**You** <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

**Reptile** It's a part of the website. You write the things you would like. Then people contact you to give you their things!

**You** <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

**Reptile** I've given away lots of clothes, games and old footballs.

**You** <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

**Reptile** Because I love snakes!

**2b** Imagine you are using these websites.

Write a short text (30 – 50 words) about what you want to give and what you want to get.

- what you want to swap (for a swap site) and what you want to give away (for a give-away site)
- what you would like (from slimjim, amazona, saxpoet, clickmaster, woody or reptile)
- what is on your wish list (for a give-away site)