c Go through questions 1–6 from page 14 again to read Extract B critically.

Extract B

Consumer culture

We cannot ignore the disadvantages of a consumer society. The freedom of the individual consumer has limited the freedom of the community. The society that has fed, clothed, and housed people has also damaged the environment and created more trash than any other society in history. Perhaps the most worrying aspect of a consumer society is that our options for addressing its problems seem to be narrowing. Most people, for example, are deeply concerned about the ecological damage caused by consumption, but the response to it has been channelled into individual consumer choices. People do not agonize over different government and community-based solutions; instead, they agonize over whether they should use paper or plastic bags at the grocery store. The truth is that neither choice makes much difference given the current institutional structures, but the consumer approach to solving problems cannot change institutional structures or even talk about communal solutions.

Goodman, D. J. (2004). *Consumer culture*. Santa Barbara, CA.: ABC-CLIO.

1.3 Is it necessary to read all academic texts critically? What text types do you <u>not</u> need to read critically? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

2   Preparing to read

An abstract is a short summary of a journal article, thesis, etc. found at the beginning.

2.1 You are going to read an extract from a journal article. Before you do, read the first line of its abstract below. What do you think are the aims of the research reported in the article?

Abstract

Many school districts are implementing media-literacy programs in high schools that teach about the advertising production process and introduce students to techniques for critically analyzing media messages.

3   Note-taking

> **Study tip**
> There are a number of common note types: tabular notes (notes organised in a table); diagrammatic notes (notes connected by lines – key words may be put in boxes); and linear notes (notes written as ordinary text – underlining, etc. may be used to show text organisation, key words, and so on). Choose the most useful type for each text you read.

3.1 Read the extract on page 16 and add to these notes.