

How environmental – friendly  
are the textbook and exercise  
book arrangements in  
secondary schools in Hong  
Kong?

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# Video

今時今日既香港

# Importance of Trees

- **Absorb carbon dioxide**
- **Improve air quality**
- **Adjust the temperature of the earth**

# Research objective

Opinions of teachers, parents and students towards the arrangement nowadays

Study the arrangement in foreign countries

The possibility of adopting the policy carried out by foreign countries in secondary schools

Solutions to solve the problems of too many exercise books

Opinions of teachers, parents, students and publishers towards the new arrangement of both textbooks and exercise books

# Research method

## **(1) Archival study**

**Background information of the arrangement in Hong Kong and foreign countries.**

e.g. Internet

Newspaper

## (2) Interview

- Teacher
- Assistant Principal
- Publisher

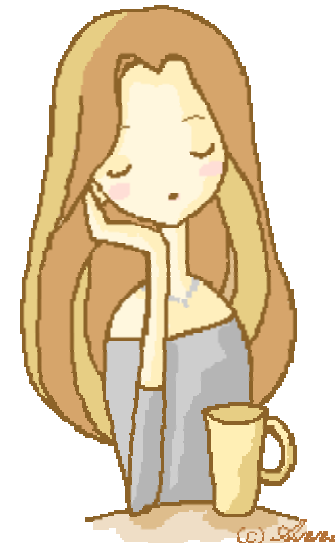
**Miss Tam Chee Yan**



**Mr. Yau Hing Fai**



**Miss Yip Wing Kwan**



## **(3) Questionnaire**

**Students ----- 114**

**Parents ----- 25**

**Teachers ----- 15**



# Findings

# Printing of Textbook...

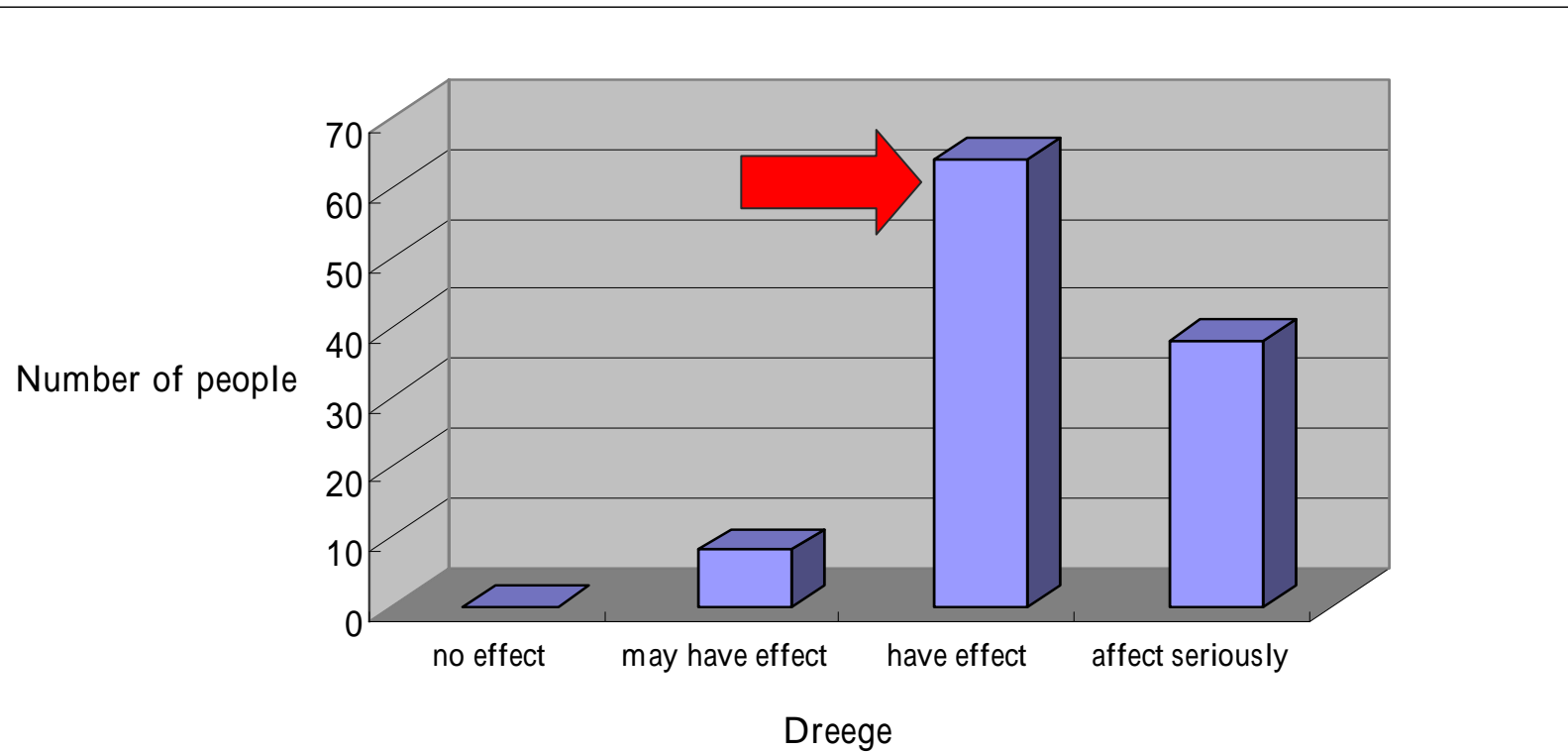


Figure 3 The opinions of students about how printing of textbooks affects the environment

# Producing 1 ton of paper...

**20 trees**

**100 tones of water**

**600 voltage of electricity**

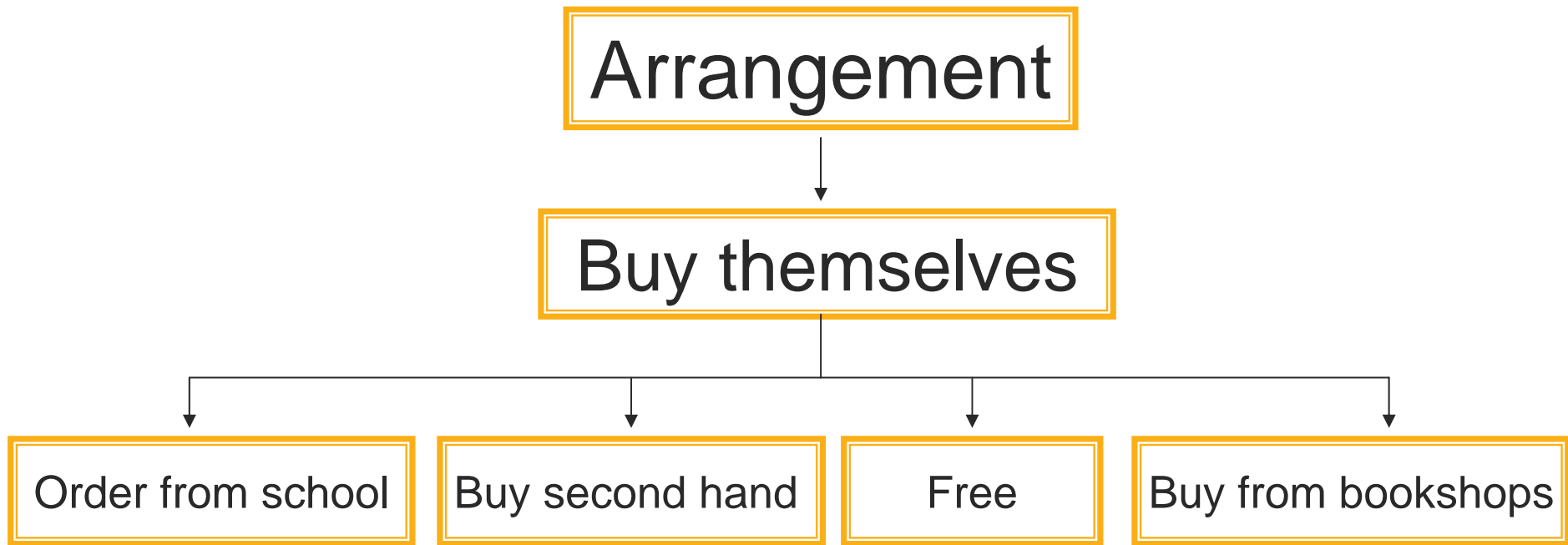
**1.2 ton of coal**

**300 kg industrial chemicals**

**10 tons of carbon dioxide**



# Current arrangement



# [ Non Environmental Problems ]

- Buy low usage Textbook
- Textbook print new edition frequently



# Buy Low Usage Textbooks

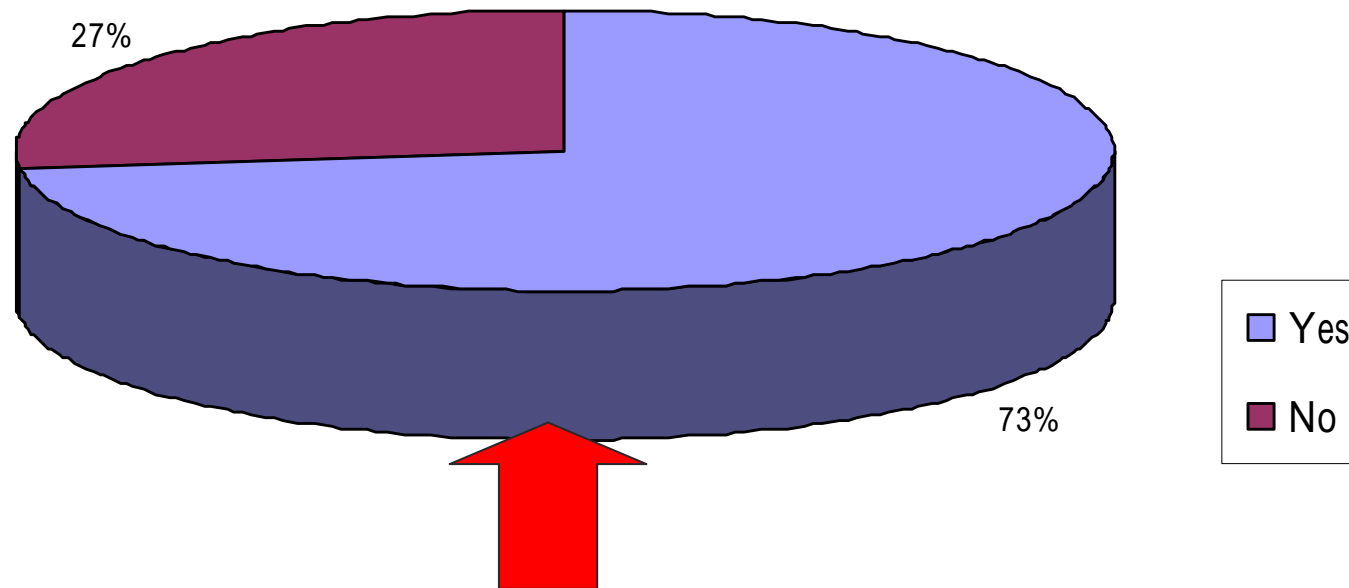


Figure2. The rate of buying low usage textbook of students

## The low usage textbooks

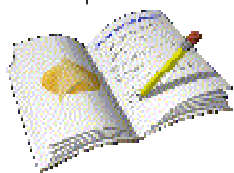
Textbooks	Number of people
<b>Music textbook</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Home Economics textbook</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>中國歷史地圖集(參考用書)</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>同班系列</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Mathematic textbook</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Computer learning textbook</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Others</b>	<b>1</b>



A junior form student



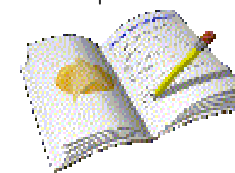
Music textbook



中國歷史地圖集



同班系列



Home Economics textbook

415 paper

300000 paper

[ \_\_\_\_\_ ]

# Worth It?



## Problem 2: Publishers always print new edition

<b>Opinion</b>	<b>Number of people</b>	<b>They get the idea from:</b>	<b>Number of people</b>
<b>Frequently</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Media e.g. Newspaper</b>	<b>5</b>
		<b>Experience</b>	<b>14</b>
		<b>Others</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Not frequently</b>	<b>2</b>		

**68% parents think the publishers print new edition frequently**

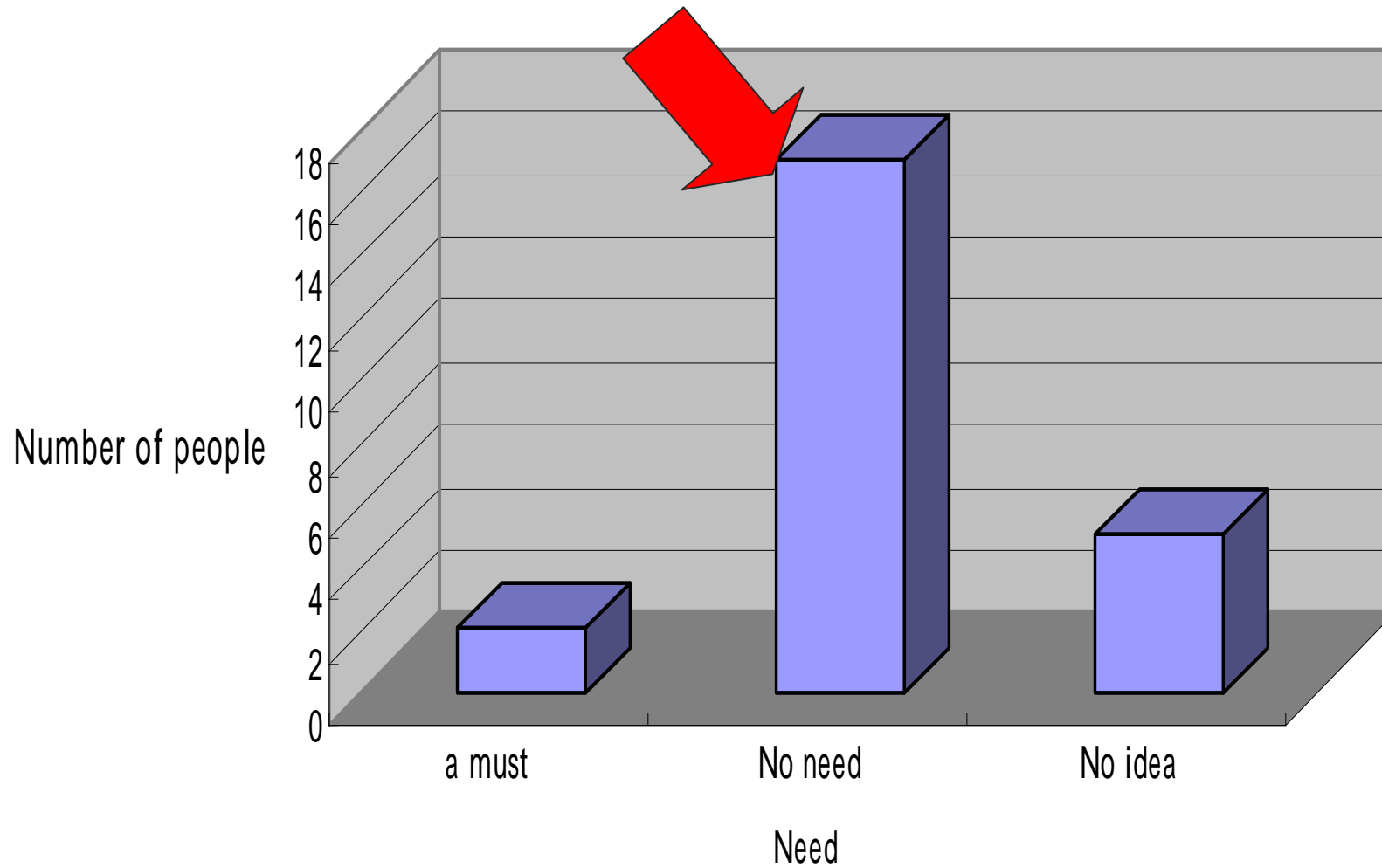
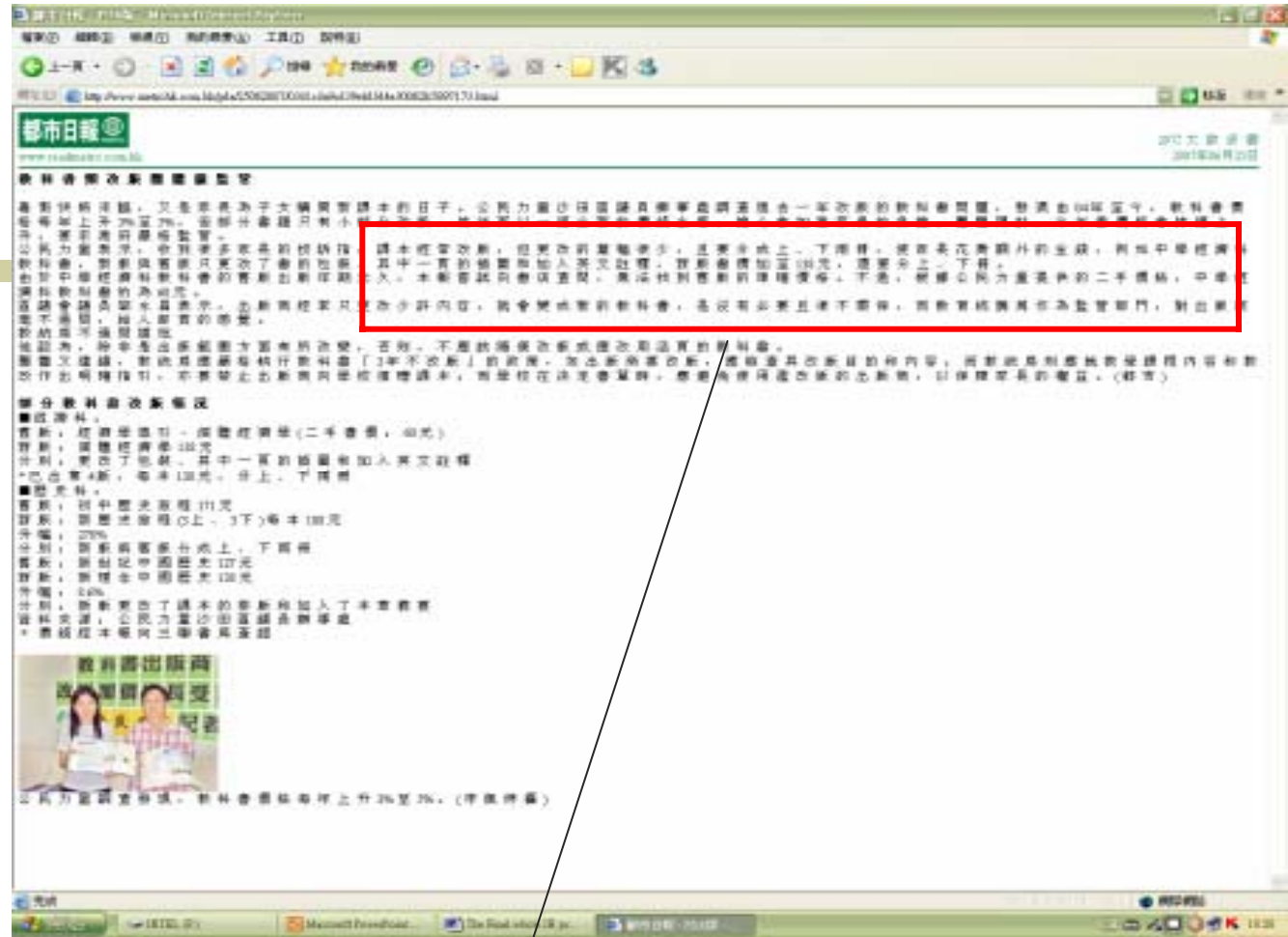
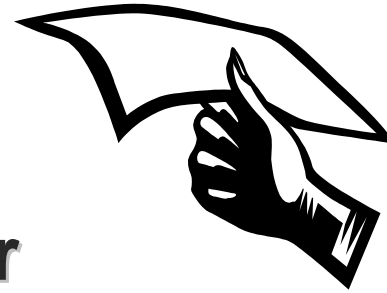


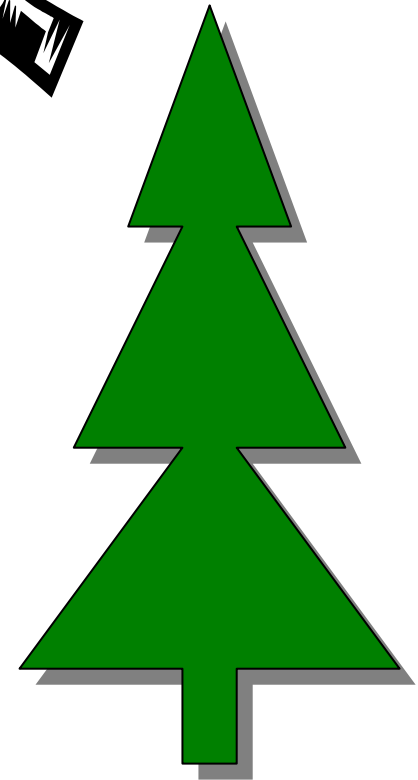
Figure15. The opinion of parents towards the printing of new edition textbooks



課本經常改版，但更改的篇幅很少.....例如中學經濟科教科書，新版與舊版只更改了書的包裝、其中一頁的插圖和加入英文註釋...還要分上、下冊...區議會議員鄧永昌表示，**出版商經常只更改少許內容，就會變成新的教科書，是沒有必要且很不環保**



- **Terrible Waste of paper**
- **Waste of Resources**
- **Increase solid waste**



A decorative graphic consisting of a horizontal line with a gradient from light green to yellow. On the left side, there is a black left square bracket. On the right side, there is a yellow right square bracket.

Do we have other  
environmental methods?

**Yes!!**

# [The system “Recycling textbooks”]

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- adopted in many foreign countries
- parents and students do not need to buy textbooks
- students borrow the textbooks from schools
- students return the textbooks at the end of the year
- textbooks will be used next year
- if the textbooks are not clean or damaged, students need to pay for it

# Interview of Miss Tam

***convenient***

***environmentally-friendly***

***Reuse for 3-4 years***



**studied in Canada from primary school until she finished her whole study.**



**The possibility of adopting  
the system of textbook  
recycling in Hong Kong**

**Part 2**在國外,有些學校正實行「教科書輪用」的制度,即是課本屬於學校財產,學生不用購買課本,學校於學期初把課本借給學生,並於學期末歸還,然後由下一屆學生接著使用。學生不能隨意塗寫。

請就以上資料與你對「教科書輪用」的制度的認識,回答第10-12題!

9/ 你認為這是一個保護環境的好方法嗎?

a是 b不是

10/ 你歡迎這個制度在本港實施嗎?

**a歡迎**

為什麼? (可選擇多於一個答案)

A環保

B省錢

C方便

D可以加強同學的環保意識

E其他 \_\_\_\_\_

**b不歡迎**

為什麼? (可選擇多於一個答案)

A不喜歡用舊書

B不可以在書上寫筆記

C衛生問題

D不利於日後復習

E會影響你的學習情緒

F其他 \_\_\_\_\_

**Questionnaire**

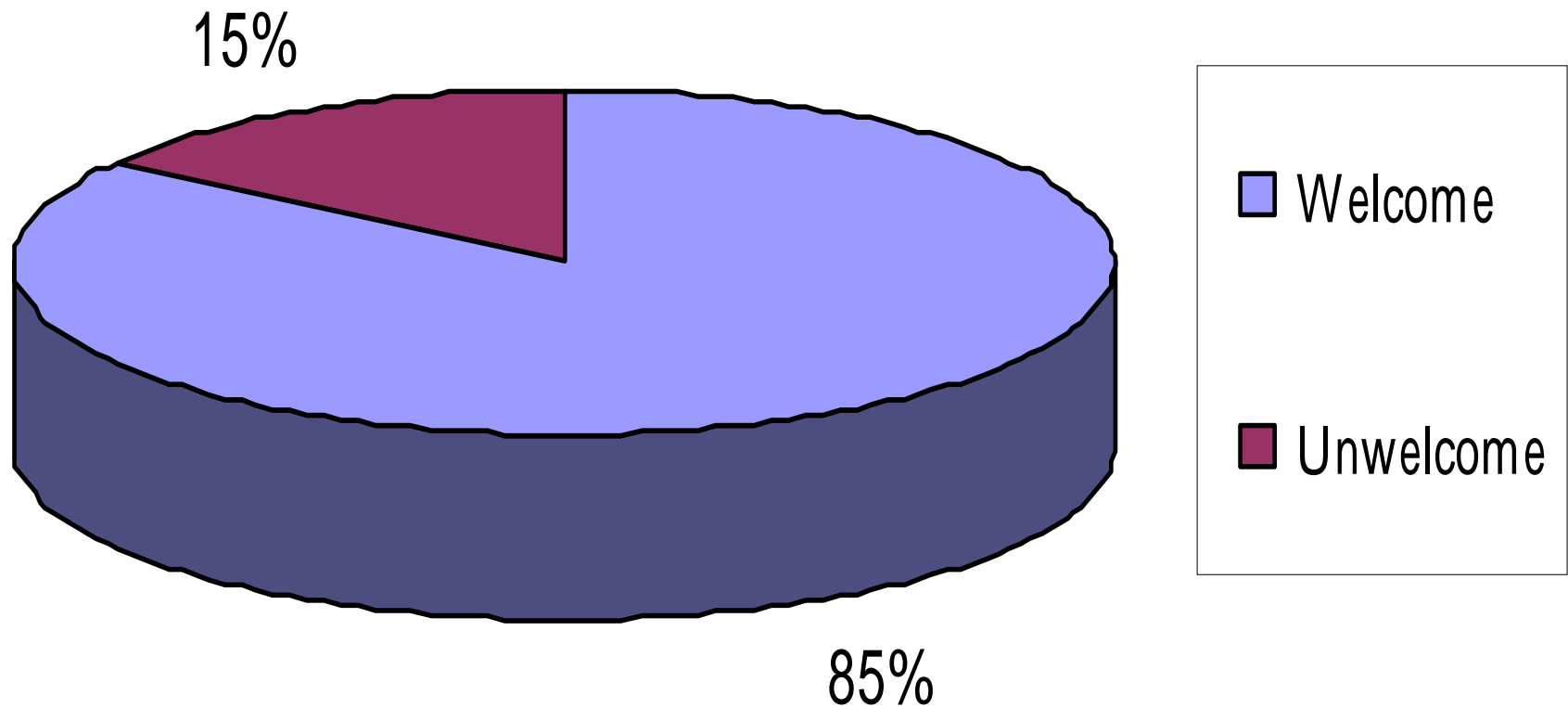


Figure25. The opinion of parents about adopting the system of textbook recycling in Hong Kong

# Not all students welcome the system of recycling textbook...

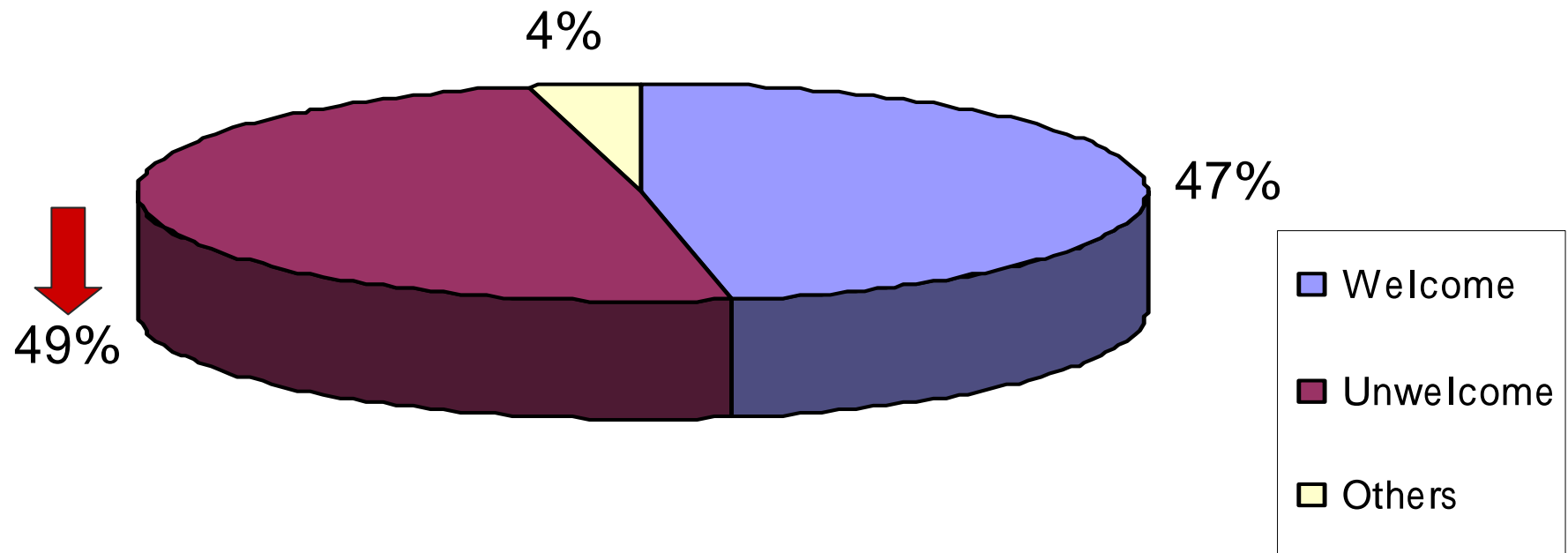


Figure12. The opinion of students about adopting "Recycling textbooks" in Hong Kong

# Reasons...

- Traditional learning habits and mode**
- Writing notes**
- Education policies of foreign countries are different from Hong Kong.**

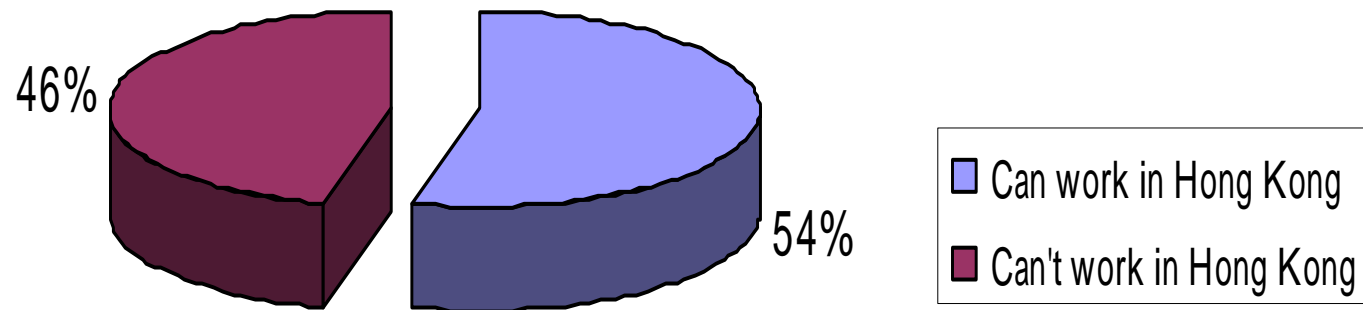


Figure 40 The opinion of teacher about the adoption of recycling Textbook system in HK

# Suggestion

- Start from cultural subjects
- Start from lower form

**E.g. Class:3A Students: 44 Subject: Home Economics**

**1.Class teacher give the books to the students**

**2.Students go to the hall and return the books at post exam periods**

**\* If textbooks are printed in new edition, teachers can just copy pages as supplementary sheets.**

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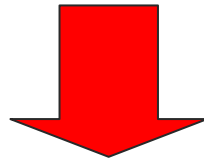
# Exercise Book

# Current arrangement

Arrangement



School forces students to buy



Students leave a lot of exercise books

# Students buy too many exercise books

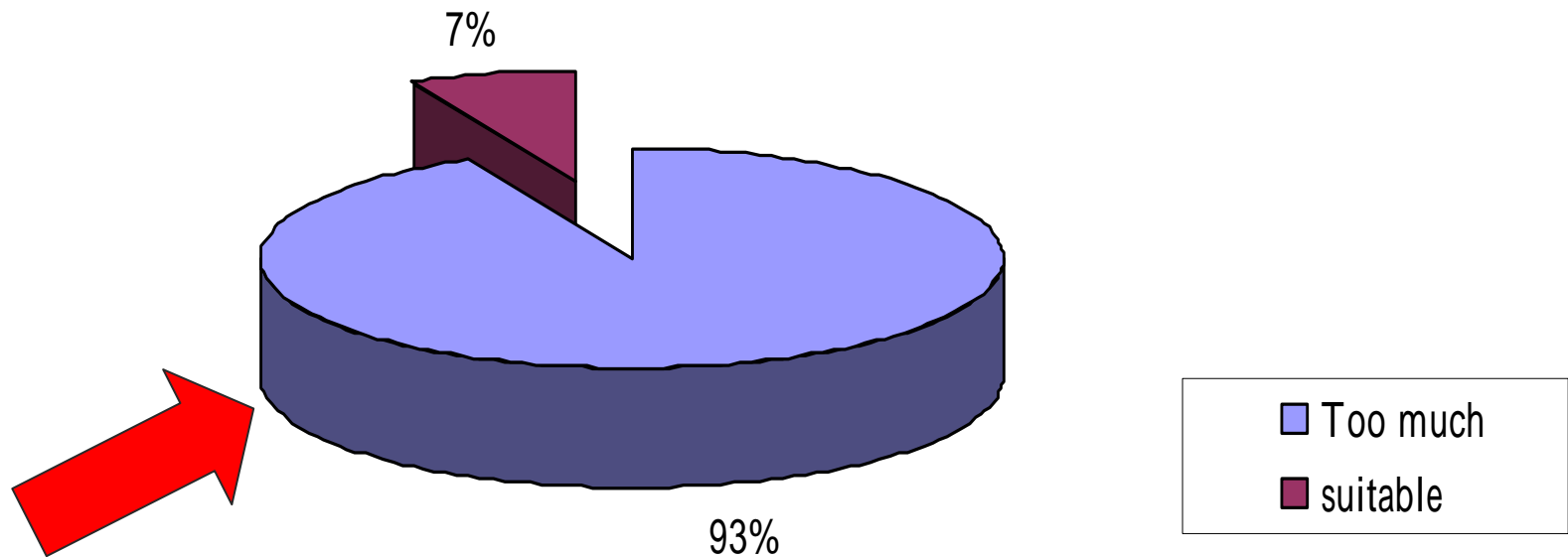


Figure 31 The opinion of teachers if the amount of exercise books which decided by teachers for students to buy every year would be too much

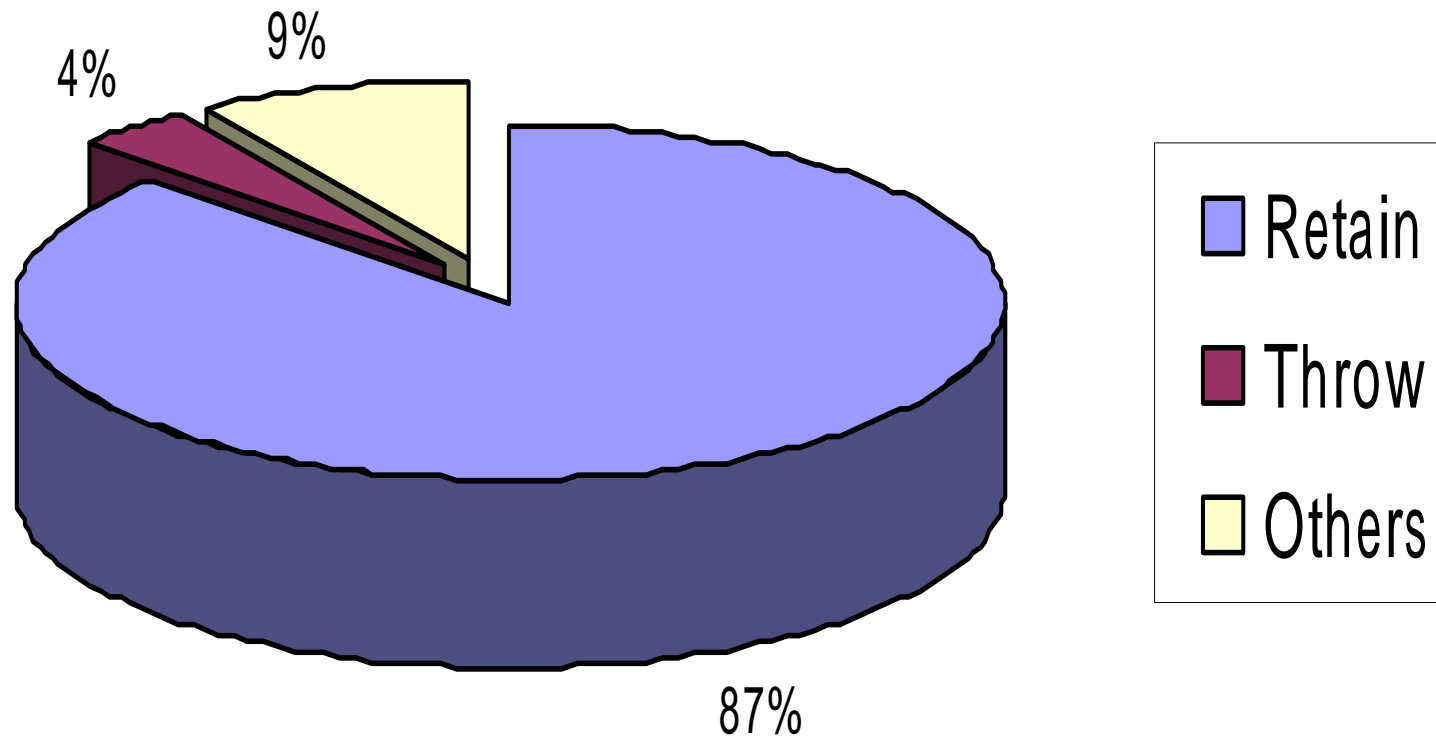


Figure 8. The remaining exercise book arrangement of students

The remaining exercise books  
cause waste of paper

**Store at home**

**Keep buying  
every year**

**Too many  
Useless exercise books**

# [ School as a stationery shop ]

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- There are exercise books stored at school
- Students buy the exercise books by themselves when they need

# Advantages

- Don't need to spend too much money on exercise books
- Environmental friendly



# Interview of Mr. Yau Hing Fai



**Mr. Yau Hing Fai**

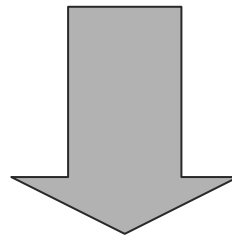
- Disagree to the arrangement
- Reasons
  1. The operation becomes complicated
  2. Hard for the printing factory to cooperate
  3. Exercise books become old

[ It is possible ! ]

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Reasons:

1. complicated is unavoidable if it is environmentally -friendly
2. It can be carried out well if the school is willing to do so.

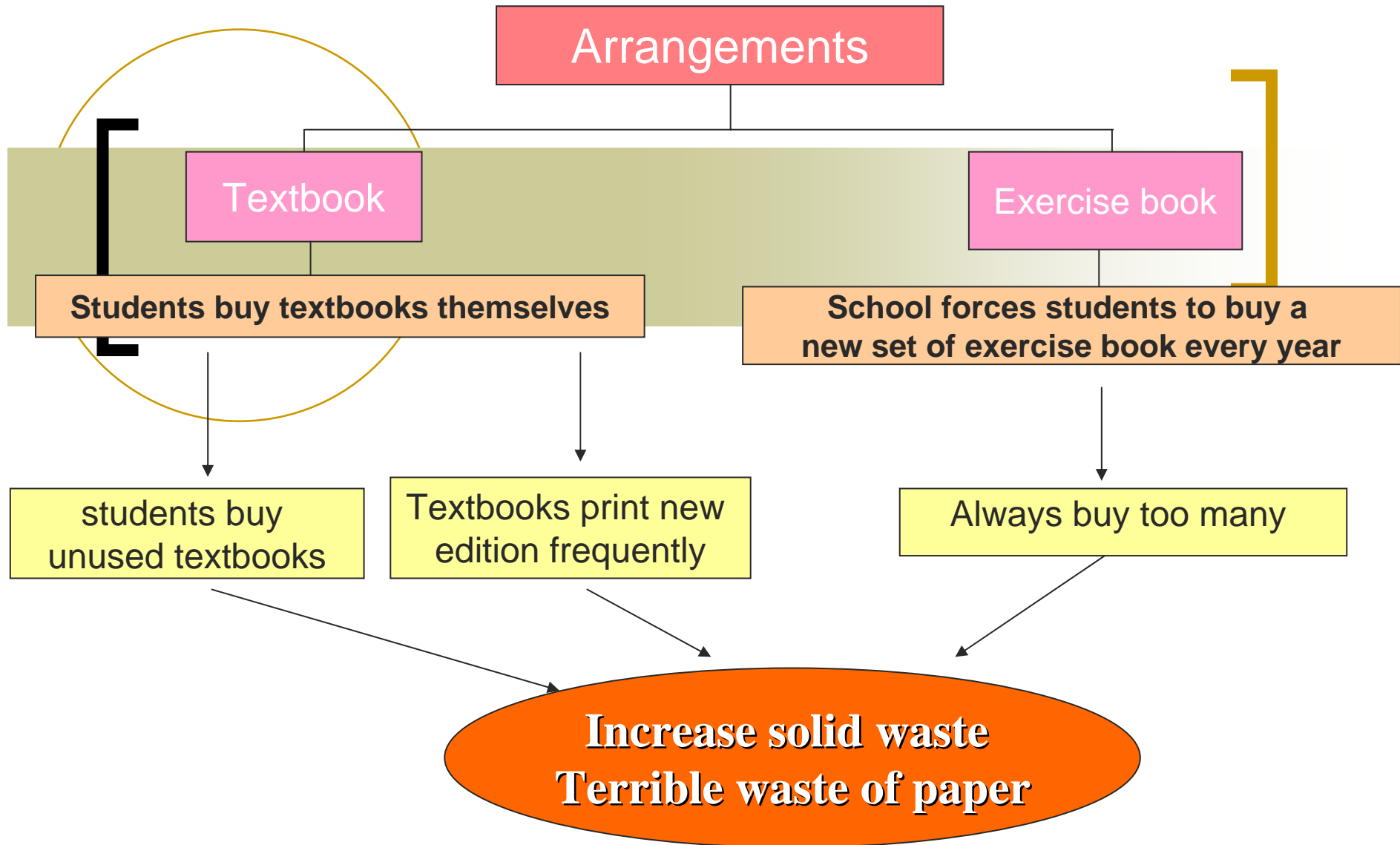


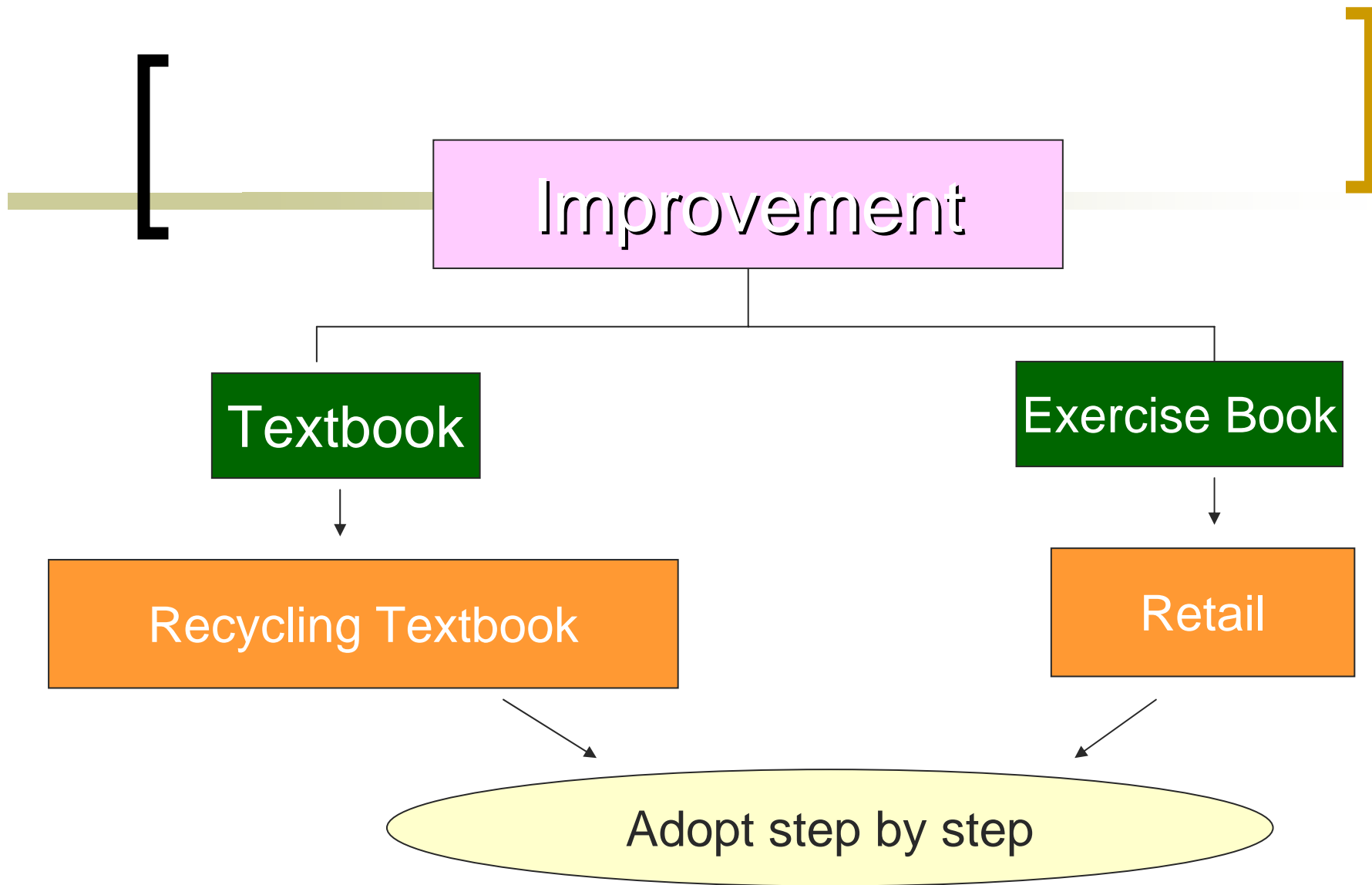
**It can be carried out !!**




Conclusion

# Current textbook and exercise book arrangement







**To increase the amount of trees is good to the environment, to reduce the waste of paper will save the environment of the future of the world so **the change of the exercise books and textbook are extremely necessary.****

[ ]

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Promotion and education are important.



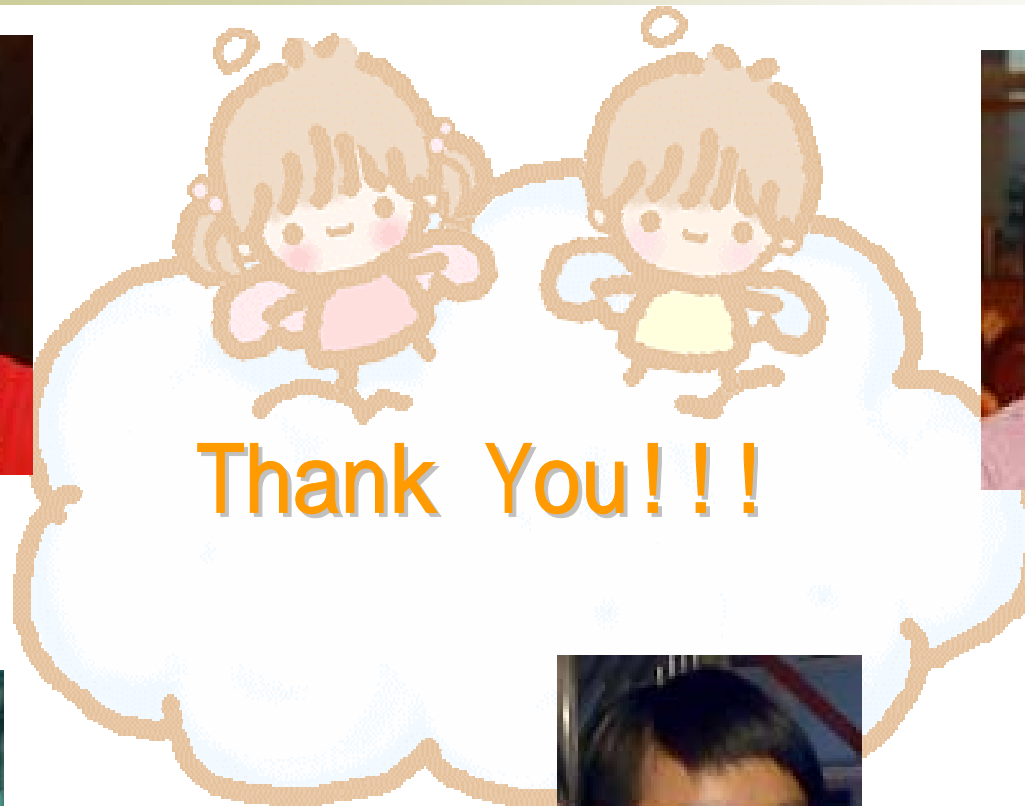
# Acknowledgement



Miss Kam



Miss Wu



Lee Wai Kiu



Chan Ka Kwan

[ Source of the information in the video clip ]

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<http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/~jourtyb/news/news59.html>

<http://www.tvb.com>

[http://www.haoting.com/musiclist/ht\\_efd330dd694a83a5.htm](http://www.haoting.com/musiclist/ht_efd330dd694a83a5.htm)

(何韻詩 木紋)



The End