

Plants and human beings



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Plants and humans are living things that constitute part of the environment. These two depend on each other for their survival. But as plants can live without humans, humans can not live for long without plants and this essay explains why this is possible. Plants have the capability to build up organic substances they need from inorganic substances. They only need carbon dioxide, water and salts to make their essential substances. Glucose for example is produced from these substances during the process of photosynthesis in the presence of sunlight energy trapped by the chlorophyll.

Humans depend on the already made food by plants since they can not make their own. Maize, rice, potatoes and vegetables are some of the plants eaten by human beings. Secondly, Plants remove carbon dioxide in the atmosphere which is a waste product of respiration in humans. They use this carbon dioxide in their photosynthesis process and produce oxygen which is a raw material for the same respiration process in humans. Therefore plants recycle waste products of humans and produce raw materials for them. Following this is that Condiments and luxuries such as spices and perfumes respectively are produced by plants.

Plants are also used to make dyes, beverages like orange squash, adhesives e. g. glue and emulsifiers to stabilize processed foods. All these are useful in a person's life. Not only that, but also are used to furnish different materials we use in our households and schools. We use timber for roofing our houses. The chairs we sit on while eating on the table and writing on the desks are all made from plant products. The other point is that plants are a source of

energy. Most Malawian households depend on fuelwood as their main source of heat energy used for cooking.

Coal used for heating is also a fossilized plant material. Furthermore, medicines used for curing some diseases are made from plant products. The drugs we get in hospitals and the medicines we prepare traditionally are all made from plants. Digestible surgical stitching fibres used for treating wounds in hospitals are also made from plants. Some are even to make soaps like butex herbal. Next to this is that plant products are used to make the clothes we wear. For instance, all cotton clothes are made from cotton itself which is a product of cotton plants. The papers we write on are also made from plant materials.

Rubbers used for making tyres, tubes, heels of shoes and even the simple rubber used for rubbing written material are all made from plant products. Lastly, the cooking oils we use in our households for cooking and frying foods are made from plants. For instance, Kazinga is made from green vegetables; sunflower oil is made from sunflower. Some of these oils are prepared in industries to produce margarine like Blue band. Humans depend solely on plant than plants do on them. Food, shelter and cloths are some of the things humans rely most on plants. This makes them unable to survive for long without plants.