Homework 1

Plastics in a Circular Economy

Read the indicated parts of The Waste Free World by Ron Gonen

1. Explain how we have reached a single-use economy from the perspective of Ron Gonen.
2. List the benefits of single use plastics over a circular economy in several fields such as the medical, food, consumer products (shampoo for example), travel, sports (tennis balls), tires, cars
3. Suggest alternatives to the single use examples of question “b”.
4. What are some economic advantages from a manufacturer’s perspective for planned obsolescence and single use products. Is there a possible mechanism to incentivize circular products for manufacturers?
5. What role does regulation and personnel integrity play in circular versus single use society?