

**Table S2.** Frequency distribution of respondents' responses on knowledge-related questions towards plastic pollution.

Variables	Frequency (N = 294)	Percentage (%)
Most plastics are made from fossil fuels (example: natural gas, petroleum, coal, etc.).		
Yes	183	62.2
No	38	12.9
Maybe	73	24.8
Plastic affects human health and the environment at every stage of its lifecycle.		
Yes	277	94.2
No	5	1.7
Maybe	11	3.7
Incineration/ Burning of plastic wastes can release toxic metals, organic substances, acidic gases, and other toxic substances to the air, water, and soils.		
Yes	281	95.6
No	2	0.7
Maybe	11	3.7
Discarded plastic, if digested, will not cause any harmful effect on organisms.		
Yes	97	33.0
No	155	52.7
Maybe	42	14.3
Some cosmetic products contain plastic in them.		
Yes	221	75.2
No	3	1.0
Maybe	70	23.8
Plastic will not degrade into plastic fragments.		
Yes	125	42.5
No	103	35.0
Maybe	66	22.4
A plastic bag will take about 10 years to degrade.		
Yes	168	57.1
No	59	20.1
Maybe	37	12.6
Degraded plastic fragments (e.g., microplastics, nano-plastics) can accumulate in the food chain and be consumed by humans.		
Yes	208	70.7
No	24	8.2
Maybe	62	21.1
Microplastics can be inhaled through air.		
Yes	137	46.6
No	25	8.5
Maybe	132	44.9
Among municipal solid wastes produced in Malaysia, plastic wastes are the second highest in composition.		
Yes	169	57.5
No	14	4.8
Maybe	111	37.8
Malaysia is one of the top ten countries with mismanaged plastic waste in the world.		
Yes	201	68.4
No	6	2.0
Maybe	87	29.6