

Easing the e-waste woes



Question Types

Language usage / multiple choice

1. Why does WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus call the e-waste problem a “mounting tsunami”?
- A. Because it is devastating and growing in size
 - B. Because it pollutes the sea
 - C. Because such waste piles up like a mountain
 - D. Because the problem is impossible to stop

Higher level thinking / extended response

2. Why do businesses make goods with short lifespans and limited repair options?

Specific factual / short response

3. The reasons why Hong Kong cannot dispose of e-waste items by shipping them elsewhere include:

1. _____

2. _____

Vocabulary / underlining

4. The World Health Organisation said the illegal processing of old electrical or electronic devices is putting the health of children, adolescents and expectant mothers worldwide at risk.

In the above sentence, underline the word/words that mean(s) "pregnant women".

Mini Mock

Read the article and answer the questions:

1. Are the following statements True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG)?

- (i) After increasing for a few years, global e-waste volume is shrinking. _____
- (ii) The amount of e-waste produced is expected to grow to 74 million tons a year. _____
- (iii) The WHO Director General compared e-waste to a giant wave. _____
- (iv) One hazard of e-waste is the toxic substances they contain. _____
- (v) There will be a world e-waste conference in 2024. _____

2. How do toxic substances in e-waste harm people and the environment?

3. Are consumers responsible for the e-waste problem? Why?

4. What role do gadget makers play in creating the e-waste problem?

5. Complete the sentences by filling the gaps. Use ONE WORD only from the article, in the form that is grammatically correct in the context of the sentence.

- (i) Lead and mercury are among the harmful materials contained in the waste that is called _____ for short.
- (ii) Less than 18 percent of e-waste is recycled, so we say it has a low _____ rate.
- (iii) Many people keep old phones for their _____ value.
- (iv) A survey found over 20 million _____ but working electrical items that are put away and forgotten about in British households.