



Epreuve du 1^{er} groupe

ANGLAIS

E-waste: A hazardous pollutant

The world is producing ever more electrical and electronic waste. The quantity of dumped computers, telephones, televisions and appliances doubled between 2009 and 2014, to 42 million tonnes per year globally. The most e-waste is produced by developed countries, especially in North America and Europe. And much of these wasted **devices** end up in the developing world, where regulation is lax.

Non-toxic components – such as iron, steel, copper and gold – are valuable, so are more frequently recycled than toxic ones. Disposal plants release toxic materials, volatile organic chemicals and heavy metals, which can harm the environment and human health.

Half the components in any personal computer contain mercury, and other substances which all are toxic. The movement of this waste in and out of countries is not being tracked. The Basel Convention of the United Nations, which concerns the movement of hazardous waste across borders, is meant to prevent developed countries from illegally dumping hazardous waste in developing countries. But only 87 parties – and not the United States – have ratified it. Few developing countries control imports of toxic e-waste: for example, India's law fails to ban it.

A global approach to managing the volume and flow of e-waste is urgently needed. **This** requires: an international protocol on e-waste; funding for technology transfer; firmer national legislation on imports and exports; and greater consciousness of the problem among consumers. Researchers and regulators should build a global e-waste flow system that covers the whole life cycle of electrical goods, including production, usage, disposal, recovery and remanufacturing. Furthermore, beyond better recycling, the ultimate aim should be a circular economy of cleaner production and less wasteful consumption. As the world's largest producer of electronic goods and recipient of the most e-waste, China should take the lead.

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Adopted from Take Responsibility for Electronic-waste Disposal

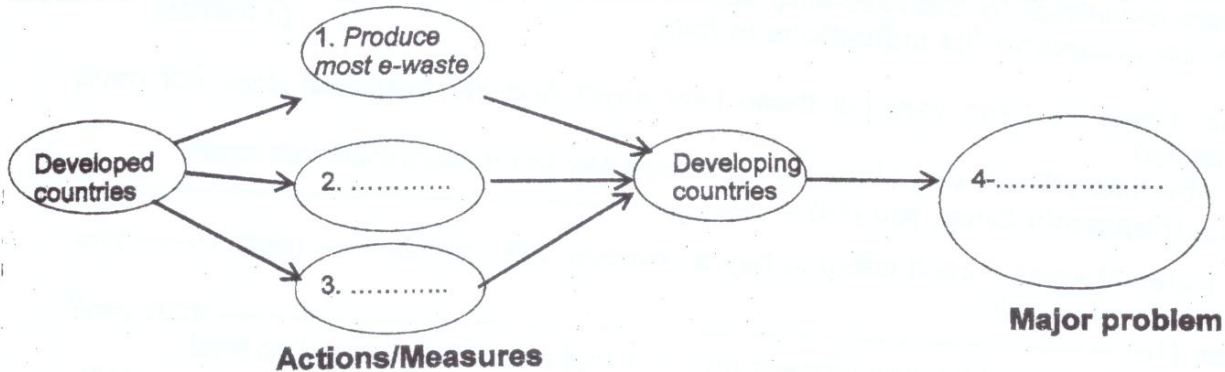
Published on NATURE/ vOL 536 / NUMBER 761 / PAGE 23-25

URL: <http://www.nature.com/news/take-responsibility-for-electronic-waste-disposal-1.20345>

03 August 2016

I. **READING COMPREHENSION** (8 marks)

A. The following diagram is about the negative actions or measures of developed countries in relation to e-waste, and the major problem faced by developing countries to manage the e-waste from these developed countries. Read the text and complete the diagram. (1.5 marks)



B. Refer to the text and complete the following sentences meaningfully. (1.5 marks)

5. Toxic materials and heavy metals are said to

6. The paradox with China is that

7. For an efficient management of e-waste throughout the world, people using technologies are expected to show

C. What do the following words refer to in the text? (1 mark)

8. devices (L 4) :

9. This (L 15):

D. Find in the text sentences which have the same meaning as the following ones. (2 marks)

10. The circulation of e-waste across countries is out of control

11. It is necessary to implement a worldwide strategy so as to control the quantity and circulation of e-waste.

E. Decide whether the statements are true or false. Justify your answers by quoting a relevant passage from the text. (2 marks)

12. Within half a decade, the world produced a considerable amount of e-waste.

13. Nothing has been done to protect developing countries from receiving the e-waste produced in the rest of the world.

II. LINGUISTIC AND COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE

(7 marks)

F. Complete meaningfully the following conversation between Moussa and Omar. You will take into consideration the indications in *italic*. (2 marks)

Moussa: Wow! It's been very hot these past days! And the Ramadan does not make things easier!

Omar: Absolutely! That's why I took my old refrigerator to the technician last week.

Moussa: [*Reproach*] Omar, you (14) _____ !

Omar: Listen Moussa. I can't afford to buy a new one. I'm not (15) _____ (rich) _____ you. [*Comparative of equality*]

Moussa: (16) _____ toxic gas?

Omar: Are you serious? It never crossed my mind that an old fridge could do that!

Moussa: [*Advice*]. _____.(17)

G. Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the words in brackets (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)

One of the causes of the important production of e-waste is rapid population (18) _____ (grow). We absolutely should reconsider the way we consume electrical and electronic products; otherwise we will (19) _____ (danger) our lives. It is vital that public authorities develop (20) _____ (aware) raising campaigns in order to stop the (21) _____ (alter) of the chemical composition of the atmosphere caused by e-waste.

H. Fill in the gaps with the appropriate prepositions from the box below. (2 marks)

on – by – in – from – at

In developing countries, environmentalists are very much concerned about the heavy pollution which derives (22) _____ the effects of the old electronic materials rejected (23) _____ Western countries. So ecologists should look (24) _____ the same direction and focus their struggle (25) _____ the limitation of the imports of such harmful materials.

I. Reorder the words below meaningfully so as to reconstitute the statement of an environmental activist interviewed by a journalist. (1 mark)

to – submits – global – international – be – warming – regularly – organized – fight – should.

Journalist: After the important message you have just delivered, what is your last word?

Environmental activist: *International* _____ (26)

III. WRITING : Choose one topic only . (About 200 words) (5 marks)

1. The import of second-hand electronic materials from Western countries is a widespread phenomenon in Senegal. Some Senegalese people have turned to this business. What can be the advantages and disadvantages of such a business?
2. A journalist is interviewing Fallou whose job consists in collecting old electronic and electrical materials from the dump site of Mbeubeus and selling them. Imagine their conversation.