

Vocabulary: waste 词汇: 垃圾

One of the problems damaging our planet is the number of things we **throw away**. **Rubbish** of all kinds is piling up in **landfill** and **polluting** our rivers and oceans. A more recent addition to the list of things we chuck away is **e-waste** – electronic items that are broken and not **recycled**. Now solutions are being found to give this stuff a new life.

Many millions of tonnes of televisions, phones, and other electronic equipment are **discarded** each year, partly because it's cheaper to replace them than fix them, but also because we lack the skills to **repair** them. A UN report claims the 50 million tonnes of e-waste generated every year will more than double to 110 million tonnes by 2050, making it the fastest growing **waste stream** in the world.

However, there's a growing trend for repair events and clubs which could be part of a solution to the growing amount of electrical and electronic **junk**. The BBC visited a Restart Project in London, which is one of many found around the world. One of its volunteers, Francesco Calo, said that "this project allows you to reduce waste, **extend the life** of objects, and it helps people who cannot afford to **get rid** of items that have developed a **fault**."

As many electrical items contain valuable metals, another idea is e-waste mining. An experiment at the University of New South Wales involves **extracting** these materials from electronic gadgets. It's thought that doing this could be more profitable than traditional mining. With phones typically containing as many as 60 elements, this could be part of the solution to our appetite for new technology.

These projects make total sense - collections of e-waste for **recycling** are "**stagnating** or even decreasing" according to Ruediger Kuehr, of the United Nations University. And in countries where there is no **legislation**, much of it just gets **dumped**. However, the European Union, for example, is trying to tackle the problem by insisting manufacturers have to make appliances **longer-lasting** and will have to supply **spare parts** for machines for up to 10 years.

词汇表

throw away	丢弃，扔掉
rubbish	垃圾
landfill	垃圾填埋场
pollute	污染
e-waste	电子垃圾（废弃的电器和电子产品）
recycled	回收再利用的
discarded	被扔掉
repair	修理
waste stream	废物流
junk	破烂，废弃的东西
extend the life	延长（使用）寿命
get rid	丢弃
fault	故障
extract	提取
recycling	回收利用
stagnating	停滞不前的
legislation	立法
dumped	被乱扔掉
longer-lasting	更耐用的
spare parts	备用配件

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Give one reason why electronic items are simply thrown away.
2. According to official figures, how much e-waste will be generated by 2050?
3. Which part of electrical items can be 'mined' and used again?
4. True or false: *We are very hungry for new technology, which is leading to the rise in e-waste.*
5. Why, in some countries, does e-waste just get thrown away and not fixed?

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. I get so annoyed seeing _____ old crisp packets and burger boxes lying by the side of the road.

stagnating	discarded	extracting	recycling
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2. After the party, we spent hours clearing up all the _____.

landfill	spare parts	rubbish	waste stream
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3. I've got a real _____ for adrenaline sports, so I'm going to take up sky-diving!

appetites	appetite	apetite	appetiting
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4. Using some _____ batteries, I can now use my bike lights all winter without having to buy any new ones.

longer-lasting	extend the life	spare parts	recycling
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5. Nobody wanted to buy my old sofa, so now it's just going to get _____.

rubbished	stagnated	polluted	dumped
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Give one reason why electronic items are simply thrown away.

Because it's cheaper to replace them than fix them and also because we lack the skills to repair them.

2. According to official figures, how much e-waste will be generated by 2050?

A UN report claims 50 million tonnes of e-waste generated every year will more than double to 110 million tonnes by 2050.

3. Which part of electrical items can be 'mined' and used again?

Valuable metals that are found in some electrical items can be mined and used again.

4. True or false: *We are very hungry for new technology, which is leading to the rise in e-waste.*

True. We have an appetite for new technology.

5. Why, in some countries, does e-waste just get thrown away and not fixed?

In countries where there is no legislation, much of it just gets dumped.

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. I get so annoyed seeing **discarded** old crisp packets and burger boxes lying by the side of the road.

2. After the party, we spent hours clearing up all the **rubbish**.

3. I've got a real **appetite** for adrenaline sports, so I'm going to take up sky-diving!

4. Using some **longer-lasting** batteries, I can now use my bike lights all winter without having to buy any new ones.

5. Nobody wanted to buy my old sofa, so now it's just going to get **dumped**.