High-Tech Trash-Quiz: E-waste-National Geographic Magazine\*

<http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2008/01/high-tech-trash/trash-quiz-interactive>

1. What makes the circuit board one of the most sought after pieces of e-waste?

1. Contains metals with commercial value
2. Readily available
3. Easiest to work with
4. Contains no toxic components

2. In 1965, Gordon Moore, cofounder of Intel, made a prediction about the future of computer processing. What does his prediction, known as Moore’s Law, say?

1. As technology continues to advance, computer chips will become obsolete.
2. Computer-processing power will double every 18 months to 2 years.
3. There will eventually be no need for transistors in high tech electronics.
4. As the number of transistors increases, computer- processing power will be cut in half every 2 years.

3. CompuMentor, a nonprofit based in California, found that while you can recycle an old computer, it’s 20 times more energy efficient to

1. Refurbish it for reuse
2. Dismantle it
3. Place it in storage
4. Ship it to another country

4. What is a common reason people or companies give for not reusing or recycling their electronics?

1. Government restrictions
2. No usable value
3. Lack of recycling facilities
4. Data security

5. The Basel Action Network’s 2002 film Exporting Harm revealed the hazards of e-waste processing by residents of Guiyu in China’s Guandong Province. How have Guiyu residents’ practices affected others on a global scale?

1. Contributed to continuing toxic product manufacture
2. Eliminated the exporting of toxic e-waste
3. Allowed other countries to safely and legally dispose of e-waste
4. Opened up a profitable market

6. The Basel Convention of 1989 requires developed nations alert developing nations to incoming hazardous waste shipments. The 1995 Basel Ban Amendment forbids sending hazardous waste to poor countries. Which nations, or group of nations, currently serve as models for enforcing these policies?

1. United States
2. Australia
3. European Union
4. China

7. What happens to most of the electronic waste sent to recyclers in the United States?

1. It’s recycled efficiently
2. It’s reconditioned for reuse
3. It’s sent to illegitimate recycling firms
4. It’s exported

8. Which of the following should you consider when trying to purchase environmentally friendly products?

1. Use of minimal packaging
2. Products designed for easy upgrade or disassembly
3. Products that offer leasing or take-back options
4. All of the above

9. In the U.S., e-waste recycling facilities can also be found in:

1. State parks
2. NASA facilities
3. Prisons
4. Public schools

10. As high-definition television (HDTV) becomes increasingly popular, which hazardous component of some electronics is likely to become more common in high-tech trash?

1. Circuit boards
2. Cathode-ray tubes
3. Copper wires
4. Plastics

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