

Examine the negative impact of computers and computer use on the environment



Learning Objectives

1. Observe people who use and work with computers in the community.
2. Visit sites or watch videos/pictures of how computers including other electronic components are disposed of.
3. Discuss the impact of computers and computer use on the environment.



Class Discussion

- Are there any negatives related to computer and computer devices?



Negative impact of computers and computer use on the environment

- A computer is made up of over 30 different minerals which are mined from the earth.
- Some of these minerals are silica, iron, aluminum, copper, lead, zinc, nickel, tin, manganese, europium, terbium, and yttrium, etc.
- Mining of these natural minerals possess lots of effect on human and our environments.
- Some of these effect include; health issues, waste production, waste of electricity, etc.



Health Effect

1. Harmful chemicals released in the atmosphere during mining can cause lung cancer, kidney diseases, etc.
2. Climate change from greenhouse gas cause excess rain fall leading to flood or extreme drought.



E-Waste

- ➡ E-waste (electronic waste) is the disposal-of electrical device that is no longer functional or wanted.
- ➡ E-waste contains various toxic chemicals such as lead, mercury, and cadmium.
- ➡ When disposed off improperly, these toxins can leach into the soil and waterways, leading to severe environmental damage and posing significant risks to human health.

3. The harm these toxins can cause

E-Waste



Waste of Natural resources

- ➡ Wasted paper from office, old news papers, print industries, etc. gets burnt which releases carbon mono oxides into the air.
- ➡ Paper is made out of wood which means more the more papers are produces the more trees are cut done.
- ➡ The more trees are cut, the more forest reserves are destroyed.
- ➡ Homes on animals are destroyed when

Propose environmentally responsible practices that can be used to reduce the negative impact of computer and computer use on the environment

Brainstorm how the negative effects identified can be reduced.

- 
2. Evaluate environmentally responsible practices.
 3. Propose how e-waste in a particular environment (e.g. Agbogbloshie) can be managed.

Practices to reduce the negative impact of computers and computer – use on the environment.

1. Turn off electrical gadget when not in use to save electricity
2. Use a laptop or tablet which consumes less electricity instead of desktop computer.
3. Bury paper waste instead of burning them.
4. Dispose off properly toxic gadget to avoid environmental contamination.