



Environmental Impact of Consumer Products

Comprehensive Questions

Complete the following questions to demonstrate your understanding of the lifecycle of consumer products and their environmental impact.

1. What major environmental threat to an Australian world heritage area does Kathleen Griffiths suggest is contributed to by manufacturing waste discharge?

2. Pollution is so bad in some of China's major cities that people are worried about their children's wellbeing. One way it is affecting people's health is:

- a) by making them wear masks
- b) by reducing their life expectancy
- c) by forcing them to stay indoors
- d) by causing blue-green algae outbreaks

3. Identify whether the following statements are true or false.

- | | | |
|---|------|-------|
| a) In some African countries, money from diamond sales is used to fund civil war. | True | False |
| b) Diamond mining has had a detrimental effect on the environment in several parts of Africa. | True | False |
| c) Palm oil is usually added to foods to improve their taste. | True | False |
| d) In tropical countries like Indonesia and Malaysia, palm oil forests grow naturally. | True | False |
| e) Most electronic waste generated around the world these days is biodegradable. | True | False |
| f) Many countries that accept electronic waste from other parts of the world have weak or non-existent environmental protection laws. | True | False |

4. VISY is a company that processes r_____ materials from more than 3.2 million

h_____ in Australia, New Zealand, T_____ and Vietnam.

Included in this are 1.6 million tonnes of paper and c_____, 265 000 tonnes of glass, 90 000 tonnes of p_____ and 30 000 tonnes of metals every year.





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5. A closed loop system is one that:

- a) involves recycling so fewer natural resources and raw materials are needed
- b) ensures packaging materials are suitable for their purpose
- c) is not used by VISY because of the expense involved
- d) only uses renewable energy and recycled materials

6. In a sentence, summarise how plastic bottles are sorted at the VISY plant.

7. Why is the sorting of plastic bottles necessary?

8. Landfill refers to waste that:

- a) is recycled and put to many different uses
- b) is produced on the land rather than in the air or waterways
- c) must be shipped to proper storage facilities overseas
- d) is "removed" by burying it

