

# NEW YORK STATE COMPONENT RETEST

## ENGLISH COMPONENT A MODULE 3

MONDAY, MAY 10, 2010

### SCORING KEY AND RATING GUIDE

#### Multiple Choice Key

1	2
2	4
3	3
4	2
5	1

## Component A

(used for 2-point responses that refer only to the text)

### Score Point 2

- presents a well-developed paragraph
- provides an appropriate explanation
- supports the explanation with the information from the text
- uses language that is appropriate
- may exhibit errors in conventions that do not hinder comprehension

### Score Point 1

- provides an explanation  
or
- implies an explanation  
or
- has an unclear explanation

AND

- supports the explanation with partial or overly general information from the text
- uses language that may be imprecise or inappropriate
- exhibits errors in conventions that may hinder comprehension

### Score Point 0

- is off topic, incoherent, a copy of the task and/or text, or blank
- demonstrates no understanding of the task/text
- is a personal response

## Component A

(used for 2-point responses that refer to the text and the graphic)

### Score Point 2

- presents a well-developed paragraph addressing the task
- demonstrates a basic understanding of the text and graphic
- supports the explanation with the information from *both* the text and graphic
- uses language that is appropriate
- may exhibit errors in conventions that do not hinder comprehension

### Score Point 1

- provides an explanation  
or
- implies an explanation  
or
- has an unclear explanation

AND

- supports the explanation with partial or overly general information from the text and/or graphic
- uses language that may be imprecise or inappropriate
- exhibits errors in conventions that may hinder comprehension

### Score Point 0

- is off topic, incoherent, a copy of the task and/or text, or blank
- demonstrates no understanding of the task/text
- is a personal response

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

### **Component A Module 3**

**The passage, “Hi Tech Trash” by Patricia-Ann Tom from *Vegetarian Times*, Oct 2005 Issue 335, copyright of *Vegetarian Times*, property of Active Interest Media, Inc., can not be posted on the web site because of copyright restrictions. We apologize for this inconvenience.**

## Multiple-Choice Questions

**Directions** (1–5): Select the best suggested answer to each question and write its number in the space provided on the answer sheet. The questions may help you think about ideas and information you might want to use in your written responses. You may return to these questions any time you wish.

- 1 The main idea of the passage is that
  - (1) landfills remain the safest places for electronic waste
  - (2) discarded electronics pose environmental health hazards
  - (3) manufacturers should increase the lifespan of electronic devices
  - (4) environmental agencies can help Americans protect the environment
- 2 According to the passage, what has been most directly responsible for the large amount of e-trash?
  - (1) the tendency to purchase new cell phones each year
  - (2) the lack of legislation to limit electronic waste
  - (3) the dangerous materials in computer monitors
  - (4) the short lifespan of electronic devices
- 3 According to lines 29 through 33, which type of e-waste most concerns environmentalists and health experts?
  - (1) calculators
  - (2) cell phone batteries
  - (3) televisions and computer monitors
  - (4) coffeemakers and air conditioners
- 4 Based on the graphic, which product below is most likely to be disposed of in a landfill?
  - (1) desktop computers
  - (2) projection televisions
  - (3) keyboards
  - (4) computer mice
- 5 Based on the graphic, which electronic devices are most often recycled?
  - (1) laptop computers
  - (2) LCD monitors
  - (3) CRT televisions
  - (4) cell phones

### Short-Response Questions

**Directions (6–7):** Write your responses to questions 6 and 7 in the space provided on the answer sheet.

6 In a well-developed paragraph of three to five sentences, explain the threat e-waste poses to health. Support your answer with details from the text.

7 In a well-developed paragraph of three to five sentences, explain why it is important to reduce the number of electronic devices placed in landfills. Support your explanation with details from the text AND the graphic.

# **QUESTION #6**

Electronic waste is dumped daily, in abundant numbers ~~is~~ are brought to landfills. Only about 10 - 30% of EW is recycled. EW contains mercury (such as in flat paneled TV screens & computer monitors), brominated flame retardants ("used in many electronics to keep them from catching fire in the presence of sparks or intense heat"), and more than 1000 other substances. While these substances provide for our entertainment in the form of lighting systems for our electronics, once discarded, these substances have the potential to be released into the air, soil or ground water, and can cause brain damage, allergic reactions and/or cancer if inhaled or touched.

**Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that provides an appropriate explanation using information from the text to explain the threat e-waste poses to health (*EW contains mercury ... brominated flame retardants ... and more than 1000 other substances and these substances have the potential to be released into the air, Soil or ground water, and can cause brain damage, allergic reactions and/or cancer*). Language use is appropriate, although occasionally imprecise (& for “and” and *EW* for “e-waste”), and errors in conventions (*is dumped ... are brought, flat paneled, moniters, prescence, Soil*, a missing period) do not hinder comprehension.

Component A - Module 3 - Question # 6

The hi-tech devices we use today have very short lifespans. Because of this lifespan, millions of electronic devices are thrown out in the trash which toxins can be exposed in the air after being incinerated. According to the text, "If any of these get into the air, soil or ground water, they can cause brain damage, allergic reactions and/or cancer." E-wastes are a bad thing to do because it can ruin our environment each year that passes by.

**Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that provides an appropriate explanation using information from the text to explain the threat e-waste poses to health (*devices ... have very short lifespans, millions of electronic devices are thrown out in the trash which toxins can be exposed in the air after being incinerated; "If any of these get into the air, soil or ground water, they can cause brain damage, allergic reactions and/or cancer;" it can ruin our environment*). Language use is appropriate, although occasionally imprecise (*which toxins can be exposed in*), and errors in conventions (inappropriate capitalization, *E-wastes are a, environment*) do not hinder comprehension.

Component A - Module 3 - Question # 6

E-waste poses a threat to health because it is filling up landfills very fast. Only about 2% of e-waste can be incinerated without doing damage to the earth. There is also many chemicals used in e-waste that make it unable to be incinerated.

**Score Point: 1**

The response provides an explanation that is supported by overly general information from the text (*E-waste ... is filling up landfills very fast* and *There is also many chemicals used in e-waste that make it unable to be incinerated*). The response contains some information from the graphic that is misinterpreted (*Only about 2% of e-waste can be incinerated without doing damage to the earth*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*landfills* and *There is ... many*) do not hinder comprehension.

Their are a few threats  
that the e-waste poses to  
health. One of the main  
reasons it poses to health  
is becaused most is not  
recycled.

**Score Point: 1**

The response implies an explanation that is supported by overly general information from the text (*Their are a few threats that the e-waste poses to health and most is not recycled*). Language use is appropriate, although occasionally imprecise (*Their* for “There”), and errors in conventions (*becaused*) do not hinder comprehension.

Component A - Module 3 - Question # 6

The threat e-waste poses to health it's  
making a damage to the EPA because they shipped  
more than 520 million consumer electronic devices since  
2001, so it's laughably small by now.

**Score Point: 0**

The response provides information that is irrelevant to the task, demonstrating no understanding of the task.

# **PRACTICE SET**

E-waste from electronic devices pose a threat to everyone's health. A lot of harmful chemicals and toxins go into the devices that are meant to protect the device but the toxins that go in can come out and pollute our air, water and soil even causing humans cancer and etc. These devices are every-day items from cell phones to washing machines that get disposed of and either end up in an landfill or incinerator and when they are burned the chemicals get released into the air. A few states such as Virginia, Maine, California and Minnesota already ban incinerating or landfilling e-waste just off the threat it poses to the environment

Component A - Module 3 - Question # 6

E-waste is a hazardous health risk, most people don't know it yet. People are becoming more and more electronically reliant, and most of these electronic items have short life spans. What does this mean? People will ask, simply this means if people throw them away, just like any other piece of garbage, the toxins in the items may become harmful to people's health.

Most people throughout the world will never even think of how much electronics waste (e-waste) there is in landfills each year. If you stop and think of how many people use cell phones, video games, computers, even televisions; all that eventually becomes e-waste, E-waste poses a threat to people's health. If we incinerate the waste, the pollution will release into the air. If we throw it in a landfill, it pollutes the soil and groundwater. E-waste is dangerous in that it poses threats of brain damage, cancer, and allergic reactions. The EPA can only hope people realize these threats are all around and start recycling more.

Discarded electronics contain harmful chemicals and materials that cannot be recycled and cannot be allowed to seep into the soil or poison the air. Because of the worries of pollution "some states already restrict e-waste." The threat is so severe that an outright ban on throwing away electronics has been made. Unfortunately that's not really a solution as it is merely stalling, which is part of the problem: There is no clear solution. In the meantime we have to worry about deadly mercury in computer monitors and unhealthy amounts of lead in CRTs and Flat-panel TVs, getting into the environment and possibly killing us all.

E-waste is a threat to our health. Electronics add to this a lot. We should cut down on making electronics. The more electronics the more e-waste, and that is bad.

**COMPONENT A, Module 3**  
**ITEM 6**  
**PRACTICE SET ANNOTATIONS**

**1. Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that provides an appropriate explanation using information from the text to explain the threat e-waste poses to health (*Alot of harmful chemicals and toxins go into the devices; the toxins that go in can come out and pollute our air, water and soil even causing humans cancer and etc.; These devices are everyday items ... and either end up in an landfill or incinerater and ... the chemicals get released into the air; A few states ... ban incinerating or landfilling e-waste just off the threat it posses*). Language use is appropriate, although occasionally imprecise (*and etc.*), and errors in conventions (*E-waste ... pose, Alot, missing commas, an landfill, incinerater, off the threat, posses, a missing period*) do not hinder comprehension.

**2. Score Point: 1**

The response provides an explanation that is supported by overly general information from the text (*People are becoming more ... electronically reliant, and most of these electronic Items have short life spans and If people throw them away ... the toxins in the Items may become harmful to peoples health*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*hasedous, a comma splice, reliant, inappropriate capitalization, missing quotation marks, missing commas, peice, peoples health*) may hinder comprehension.

**3. Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that provides an appropriate explanation using information from the text to explain the threat e-waste poses to health (*think of how many people use cell phones, video games, computers, even televisions ... that ... becomes e-waste; If we incinerate the waste, the pollution will release into the air. If we throw it in a landfill, it pollutes the soil and groundwater; it poses threats of brain damage, cancer, and allergic reactions*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*a misused semicolon, eventually, peoples*) do not hinder comprehension.

#### **4. Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that provides an appropriate explanation using information from the text to explain the threat e-waste poses to health (*Discarded electronics contain harmful chemicals and materials that cannot be recycled and cannot be allowed to seep into the soil or poison the air. Because of the worries of pollution “some states already restrict e-waste” and we have to worry about deadly mercury in computer monitors and unhealthy amounts of lead in CRTs and Flat-panel TVs, getting into the environment*). The response contains some information from the text that has been misinterpreted (*The threat is so severe that an outright ban on throwing away electronics has been made*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (missing commas; *problem: There; Flat-panel; TVs, getting*) do not hinder comprehension.

#### **5. Score Point: 1**

The response provides an unclear explanation that is supported by overly general information from the text (*we should cut down on making electronics and The more electronics the more e-waste, and that is bad*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions do not hinder comprehension.

# **QUESTION #7**

It is import to reduce the number of electronic devices placed in landfills because it can save a lot of people lives. Approximately 75% of the electronic devices end up in the landfilled area. Landfills contain toxic liquids from polluting soil and ground water. Underwood of a research organization stated that the more toxins that go in, the more it will come out. If the number is reduced, then the air will be less polluted and more clean. Furthermore, it will decrease the chances of people getting brain damage, allergic reactions and cancer.

**Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that demonstrates a basic understanding of the text and graphic. The response explains why it is important to reduce the number of electronic devices placed in landfills, using information from the text (*it can save a lot of people lives; the more toxins that go in, the more it will come out; If the number is reduced, then the air will be less polluted; it will decrease the chances of people getting brain damage, allergic reactions and cancer*) as well as information from the graphic (*Approximately 75% of the electronic devices end up in the landfilled area*). Language use is appropriate, although occasionally imprecise (*landfilled area, more it will, more clean*), and errors in conventions (*import and people lives*) do not hinder comprehension.

It is important to reduce the number of electronic devices placed in landfills because the toxins inside them can seep into the soil or groundwater. Toxins such as lead, mercury, arsenic, cadmium, beryllium, hexavalent chromium, and BFRs are all harmful to the environment and humans. More than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of e-waste is being placed in landfills and more e-waste should be recycled or incinerated to reduce the effects of toxins on the environment.

**Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that demonstrates a basic understanding of the text and graphic. The response explains why it is important to reduce the number of electronic devices placed in landfills, using information from the text (*the toxins inside them can seep into the soil or groundwater; lead, mercury, arsenic, cadmium, beryllium, hexavalent chromium, and BFRs are all harmful to the environment and humans; more e-waste should be recycled or incinerated*) as well as information from the graphic (*More than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of e-waste is being placed in landfills*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*hexavelent*) do not hinder comprehension.

Its important to reduce the number of electronic devices from being placed in landfills, because landfills dont prevent heavy metals from escaping through the stacks into the air. The graph shows that most electronic products are usually ending up in landfills and only a low percentage are being incinerated or recycled.

**Score Point: 1**

The response provides an explanation that is supported by partial information from the text and graphic (*landfills dont prevent heavy metals from escaping through the Stacks into the air and most Electronic products are usually ending up in landfills and only a low percentage are being incinerated or recycled*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*Its, from being placed, dont, Stacks, Electronic, a low percentage are*) may hinder comprehension.

Component A - Module 3 - Question # 7

When electronic devices are placed in landfills the toxins of the earth increase. And currently there are more electronic devices going into the landfills than being recycled.

**Score Point: 1**

The response implies an explanation that is supported by overly general information from the text and graphic (*When electronic devices are placed in landfills the toxins of the earth increase and there are more electronic devices going into the landfills than being recycled*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*landfills the*) do not hinder comprehension.

Component A - Module 3 - Question # 7

They will always be there they will  
never go away they are made out  
of acids and plastic that both  
compounds to not rot.

Score Point: 0

The response provides information that is not text based, demonstrating no understanding of the text.

# **PRACTICE SET**

In order to decrease the risk of many sicknesses and health issues it is important to reduce the number of electronic devices placed in landfills. As said in the passage "only a percent of the waste that will be recovered in 2010, 200 million TVs and 1 billion pieces of computer equipment, will be recycled or reused." So 91% will be put in landfills which will therefore cause a greater risk of leakage + problems occurring from the landfills to cause harm to the people + environment surrounding it. As shown in the graphic every product is <sup>put in a</sup> landfill at least 2/3 times more than it is recycled which shows how much the people rely on them and how dangerous they could soon become. Even though the EPA states that landfills are safe and won't leak, like Joanna Underwood said "The more toxins go into them, the more that are likely to come out."

It is important to reduce the number of electronic devices placed in landfills. For there are more pollutants being exposed when they are just dumped and combined with more garbage. Landfills take up more room when they are dumped. If others recycled more electronics, it would help the decreasing of natural goods. Since, if you recycle you are able to save space and decrease the rising pollution that's plaguing our world.

An issue that faces the environment today is the amount of e-waste that goes to landfills. Most of the e-waste that is trashed gets put into landfills and not enough of it is recycled. The chemicals that are toxic within e-waste are somewhat kept from being released into the atmosphere by a special lining within landfills. However the more e-waste that is within a landfill the more harmful toxins will be released and the protective lining will be less effective. The percentage of e-waste that goes to landfills in comparison to the amount of e-waste that is recycled is much too great.

You should <sup>not</sup> dispose of  
electronic devices in landfills  
because of pollution. Also  
most of the devices are able  
to be recycled so that would  
be better for the environment

Component A - Module 3 - Question # 7

The reason why it is important to reduce the number of electronic devices placed in landfills is because if there are less electronics in landfill then there would be less toxins and there would be a less percentage of people getting brain damage, or even cancer. We should try to figure a better way to break these electronics down without having a chance of getting brain damage or cancer.

**COMPONENT A, Module 3**  
**ITEM 7**  
**PRACTICE SET ANNOTATIONS**

**1. Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that demonstrates a basic understanding of the text and graphic. The response explains why it is important to reduce the number of electronic devices placed in landfills, using information from the text (*to decrease the risk of many sicknesses and health issues; only 9 percent of the waste ... will be recycled ... 91% will be put in landfills which will therefore cause a greater risk of leakage & problems ocuring ... to cause harm to the people & enviroment; though the EDA states that landfills are safe ... “The more toxins go into them, the more that are likely to come out”*) as well as information from the graphic (*every product is put in a landfill at least 2/3 times more than it is recycled which shows how ... dangerous they coud soon become*). Language use is appropriate, although occasionally imprecise (& for “and” and EDA for “EPA”), and errors in conventions (missing commas, *TV’s, ocuring, the landfills ... it, enviroment, coud*) do not hinder comprehension.

**2. Score Point: 1**

The response provides an explanation that is supported by overly general information from the text and graphic (*there are more pollutants being expose when the are just dumped; Land fills take up more room when they are dumped; If others recycled more electronics, it would help ... you are able to save space and decrease the rising pollution*). Language use is appropriate, although occasionally imprecise (*the* for “they”), and errors in conventions (*landfills. For; being expose; goods. Since; thats; plausing*) may hinder comprehension.

**3. Score Point: 2**

The response presents a well-developed paragraph that demonstrates a basic understanding of the text and graphic. The response explains why it is important to reduce the number of electronic devices placed in landfills, using information from the text (*Most of the e-waste ... gets put into landfills and not enough of it is recycled, Chemicals that are toxic within e-waste are somewhat kept ... by a special lining, the more e-waste that is within a landfill the more harmful toxins will be released and the protective lining will be less effective*) as well as information from the graphic (*The percentage of e-waste that goes to landfills in comparison to the amount ... that is recycled is much too great*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*Chemicals* and missing commas) do not hinder comprehension.

#### **4. Score Point: 1**

The response provides an explanation that is supported by overly general information from the text and graphic (*You should not dispose of electronic devices in landfills because of pollution and most ... are able to be recycled so that would be better for the environment*). Language use is appropriate and errors in conventions (*landfills* and a missing period) do not hinder comprehension.

#### **5. Score Point: 1**

The response provides an explanation that is supported by partial information from the text (*if there are less electronics in landfill then their would be less toxins and there would be a less percentage of people getting brain damage, or even cancer*). There is no reference to information from the graphic. Language use is appropriate, although occasionally imprecise (*their* for “there” and *less* for “lower”), and errors in conventions (*in landfill* and *cancer. we*) do not hinder comprehension.