Technology

As technology evolves, older electronic devices are quickly discarded and replaced. This has led to a dramatic increase in electronic waste, which often ends up in landfills. E-waste contains hazardous materials that can harm the environment and human health. The situation has only worsened with the rise of planned obsolescence, where manufacturers design products to have shorter lifespans, encouraging more frequent replacements.

To address the e-waste problem, many countries and communities have introduced recycling programs. These programs encourage people to recycle their old electronic devices, diverting them from landfills. Recycling centers safely extract valuable materials and dispose of hazardous components in an environmentally friendly way. Furthermore, laws and international agreements are being established to regulate the disposal and recycling of e-waste, holding manufacturers responsible for their products.

With the spread of electronic devices, another issue has emerged, digital device addiction. Many people, especially children and teenagers, are spending excessive amounts of time on screens, leading to health concerns, social issues, and decreased productivity.

To combat digital device addiction, digital wellness programs have been developed. These include features in devices that allow users to set screen time limits, apps that track and manage screen time, and educational programs about healthy device usage. Schools and parents are also encouraging outdoor activities and social interaction to balance screen time, promoting healthier lifestyles.

1. What is the text structure of this passage? (circle all that apply)

      description   cause and effect   compare and contrast

                 problem and solution   sequence

2. What is planned obsolescence? _____

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3. What are communities doing to address the e-waste problem? _____

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