

Informace o písemných přijímacích zkouškách

(úplné zadání zkušebních otázek či příkladů, které jsou součástí přijímací zkoušky nebo její části,
a u otázek s výběrem odpovědi správné řešení)

Bakalářský studijní program

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Anglický jazyk

The EU's 'right to repair' rule is truly radical *Phineas Harper*

My first phone was a Nokia 3210, a cute grey brick with just enough computing power to run Snake. Compared with today's sleek 5G touchscreen devices it was pretty pants, except in one way: I could repair it. The case, keyboard and battery could, without any special tools, be disassembled and replaced when they cracked or wore out. Unlike iPhones, which arrived on the market as impressive but inscrutable hermetic black boxes – impossible for customers to fix at home – my old Nokia was designed for repair.

Today, however, many manufacturers deliberately discourage mending by making their products hard or confusing to tinker with. This inevitably means more rubbish, with the UN estimating that the volume of electronic waste is rising five times faster than recycling rates. Though on paper, the UK government has set ambitious targets to halve the amount of waste Britons produce by 2042, in practice less mending means more demand for more new products, stimulating consumption and fuelling economic growth. For politicians more anxious about growing GDP than wellbeing, repair has simply not been a priority.

But that could be about to change – at least in the EU. Earlier this month the European parliament adopted new rules that will force manufacturers to make it easier for consumers to repair their products. The directive will initially only cover household goods like phones, washing machines and vacuum cleaners, but it is estimated that it will save customers €176.5bn over 15 years and prevent the emission of 18.4m tonnes of CO₂. Advocates hope that, over time, the “right to repair”

will expand to cover more products, gradually re-writing the conventions of throwaway consumerism.

In a country where a cardigan can be thrown out due to a single hole or a toaster sent to landfill with just a loose wire, it is easy to see how a society saturated with cheap products has fallen out of love with maintenance and become dependent on disposal and replacement instead. Which is why the EU's new right to repair directive is a critical step forward for European economies, and a template that should be taken up by the governments across the globe.

True or false?

- 1) The author's first phone was grey as a snake. F
- 2) A Nokia 3210 could be repaired by its owner. T
- 3) Broken iPhones cannot be repaired because they cannot be disassembled. T
- 4) Manufacturers do not want customers to repair their products. T
- 5) All electronic waste is recycled. F
- 6) Politicians favour repairing broken products because it saves money and so increases GDP. F
- 7) The "right to repair" was passed by the European parliament. T
- 8) New EU rules mean that consumers should be more able to repair their broken goods. T
- 9) In the UK, sweaters are thrown away into holes. F
- 10) Toasters are disposed off even when they still work, because their electric connection is not firmly attached. T

Find these words:

- 1) *n* a site for the disposal of waste materials by burying them. LANDFILL
- 2) *adj* British, informal very poor in quality. PANTS
- 3) *n* a form, mold or pattern used as a guide to make something. TEMPLATE
- 4) *v* to make small changes to something, especially in an attempt to repair or improve it. TINKER
- WITH
- 5) *adj* impossible to understand or interpret. INSCRUTABLE

6) *v* cause (someone) to lose confidence or enthusiasm. DISCOURAGE

7) *n* a social and economic order in which the aspirations of many individuals include the acquisition of goods and services beyond those that are necessary. CONSUMERISM

8) *adj* needing a great amount of skill and effort to be successful or be achieved. AMBITIOUS

9) *adv* as is certain to happen; unavoidably. INEVITABLY

10) *n* the total monetary or market value of all the finished goods and services produced within a country's borders in a specific time period. GDP