BBC LEARNING ENGLISH **Take Away English**随身英语 **Making your gadgets last longer** 延长电子产品的使用寿命



词汇: repair and recycle 维修和回收再利用

Have you got any gadgets hanging around your home that you no longer want or use? Between us, we have millions of bits of tech **stockpiled** in drawers that could be given **a new lease of life**.

Part of the problem for our unloved gadgets is that many become **obsolete** quickly because their software doesn't get updated. Other items are left **unused** because they're broken or they've become **superseded** by a fancy new version. Many of these items are **electronics**, but despite them appearing to be **past their sell-by date**, they don't need to end up in **landfill**.

There are several ways to make the most of our unwanted gadgets. **Recycling** is the obvious solution. Materials used to make them can be **extracted** and reused in other things. As an example, Elisabeth Ratcliffe from the Royal Society of Chemistry told the BBC: "There are about thirty different **elements** just in a smartphone, and many of them are very rare." These can be used in touch screens and solar panels.

Probably the best **antidote** to our **throwaway culture** is to **repair** our broken tech. This takes patience and skill, which can be learnt at repair clubs and repair cafés – free meeting places where you'll find **tools** and materials to help you make any **repairs** you need. In the UK, the interest in **mending** our stuff and giving it a new life is reflected by the popularity of a TV series called The Repair Shop, where **craftspeople** rescue and **resurrect** items their owners thought were beyond saving.

A final option for your **discarded** gadgets is to **upcycle** them. You can **breathe new life into** unwanted stuff by **transforming** it into valuable pieces or collectable retro items. These could be sold on, meaning you can make some cash from your **junk** and create much needed space in your home!

词汇表

stockpile	囤积
a new lease of life	使用寿命延长
obsolete	废弃的,淘汰的
unused	闲置的
superseded	被取代
electronics	电子产品
past (their) sell-by date	不再为人所用(原意:过了保质期)
landfill	垃圾填埋场
recycling	回收利用
extracted	被提取
element	部件
antidote	缓解办法,对抗手段
throwaway culture	一次性文化
repair	维修,修复
tool	工具,器具
repair(名词)	修理,修补
mend	修理,修补
craftspeople	手艺人,工匠
resurrect	恢复,重新使用
discarded	废弃的,丢弃的
upcycle	升级再造,改造
breathe new life into something	赋予生机,注入活力
transform	使大变样
junk	破烂,垃圾

Take Away English bbclearningenglish.com/chinese ©British Broadcasting Corporation 2021 Page 2 of 4 测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What often happens to gadgets when their software is not updated?

2. Where can you get help with repairing your old gadgets?

3. True or false? Upcycling involves fixing your gadgets so you can use them again.

4. Which TV programme has proved popular in the UK?

5. What is one benefit of selling your unwanted stuff?

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. A hot cup of tea is the perfect _____ to sleepiness in the morning.

breathe new life fancy antidote resurrect

2. I was so angry when my _____ new smartphone was stolen.

fancy obsolete tech discarded

3. I gave my bike a ______ by just oiling the chain and pumping up the tyres!

new life lease new lease of life new leasing of life life lease

4. After the rock concert, the field was filled with _____ bottles and bags – it was a real mess!

junk	landfill	discarded	extracted

5. Setting up a website and selling its products online has ______ the business.

transforming transform transforms transformed	ransforming	transform	transforms	transformed
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1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What often happens to gadgets when their software is not updated?

They become obsolete.

2. Where can you get help with repairing your old gadgets?

You can join a repair club or visit a repair café.

3. True or false? Upcycling involves fixing your gadgets so you can use them again.

False. Upcycling involves turning items into something different.

4. Which TV programme has proved popular in the UK?

The Repair Shop has been a popular TV programme in the UK.

5. What is one benefit of selling your unwanted stuff?

Selling your unwanted stuff makes you money and creates space in your home.

- 2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。
- 1. A hot cup of tea is the perfect **antidote** to sleepiness in the morning.
- 2. I was so angry when my **fancy** new smartphone was stolen.

3. I gave my bike a **new lease of life** by just oiling the chain and pumping up the tyres!

4. After the rock concert, the field was filled with **discarded** bottles and bags – it was a real mess!

5. Setting up a website and selling its products online has **transformed** the business.