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Digital society
Higher level
Paper 3 – source booklet

19 May 2026

Zone A morning | **Zone B** morning | **Zone C** morning

1 hour 15 minutes

Instructions to students

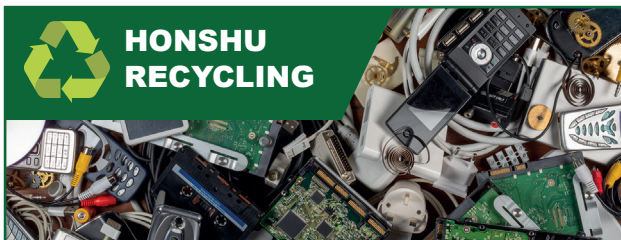
- Do not open this booklet until instructed to do so.
- This booklet contains the sources required for digital society higher level paper 3.

Source A Information about Seikan Finance

Seikan Finance is a company based in Japan that provides financial services to small businesses throughout Japan.

- Each of the 600 employees is provided with a laptop computer (laptop) with an expected lifetime of three years.
- At the end of the three-year period, employees return the laptop to the IT department and are issued with a new one.
- As staff are hired at different times, approximately 33 % of the laptops are replaced each year.
- Each employee has sensitive information, stored locally on their laptop, about Seikan Finance's clients.

Source B(a) Recycling company advertisement



Leave the recycling of your digital devices to the professionals at Honshu Recycling.

We:

- collect and destroy digital devices
- ensure any stored information is inaccessible
- provide secure transport vehicles, complete with GPS tracking, to transport the digital devices from your offices to the recycling facility
- are R2 and RIOS™ certified
- issue a certificate of destruction after completion of service
- extract materials such as gold, rare-earth metals, and glass to be used again
- ensure the environmentally friendly disposal of any remaining unrecyclable e-waste.

Source B(b) Reuse company advertisement



Give your old digital device a second life at Tsugaru Social Enterprises.

We:

-  refurbish old digital devices
-  donate them or sell them at a reduced price to those who are digitally excluded
-  reinvest any profits into our digital inclusion strategies and programmes for young people.

We prefer you to use the drop-off facility at our office. However, if you have a large number of digital devices, we can collect them.

Source C

Interview with Aoi Nakamura (Finance and Resources Manager at Seikan Finance)



We should sell our old digital devices to a recycler. It is cost-effective and efficient because:

- selling our old digital devices to a recycler will help to reduce their overall cost to the company
- the reuse options available to us require some involvement of our IT department staff to get the digital devices ready considering the sensitive information stored on them
- the reuse companies prefer that the old digital devices be delivered to their office by us to save them costs.

Source D

Interview with Hina Ito (Community Contact Manager at Seikan Finance)



We should donate our old digital devices to be reused because:

- there are benefits to being seen as a leader in the socially responsible disposal of old digital devices
 - the additional costs are insignificant compared to the profits the company makes
 - doing the right thing is important even if there are some costs
 - we can build a relationship with the companies in line with our other corporate social responsibility activities.
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References:

Source B(a) SteveAllenPhoto, 2024. *Electrical Waste - Old Technology for Recycling - stock photo*. [image online] Available at: <https://www.gettyimages.co.uk/detail/photo/electrical-waste-old-technology-for-recycling-royalty-free-image/2147725500> [Accessed 10 March 2025]. Source adapted.

Source B(b) simonkr, 2023. *Repairman repairing laptop keyboard - stock photo*. [image online] Available at: <https://www.gettyimages.co.uk/detail/photo/repairman-repairing-laptop-keyboard-royalty-free-image/1650609178> [Accessed 10 March 2025]. Source adapted.