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Section 7.4 Literacy Connect

Before Reading

Carefully read the statements in the centre column of the table. Discuss each statement with a partner. Do you agree or disagree with the statement? Record your choice in the first column.

During Reading

Read the article Exponential Growth of Cellular Phones. Discuss the information with your partner.

After Reading

Decide if your original choice is supported by the text. Record your decision in the last column.

Before Reading Do you agree or disagree with the statement?		Statements	After Reading Does the article support your opinion? Record your evidence from the article under this chart.	
Agree	Disagree		Supported	Unsupported
о	0	1. Almost everyone in the world has access to cellular phones.	0	0
О	0	2. If there are about 6 billion people on Earth, there are probably about 1 billion with cellular phones.	0	0
о	0	3. Cellular phones have improved society a great deal.	0	0
0	0	4. Cellular phones are so small that they do not really cause an environmental problem.	0	0
0	0	5. Cellular phone companies probably do a good job of recycling their old phones.	0	0

Evidence from the article.

1.

- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Date:



Exponential Growth of Cellular Phones

The use of new technologies usually follows a pattern of exponential growth. A perfect example of this is the use of cellular phones. In 15 countries of the world, there are more than 90 cell phone subscribers per 100 residents. More than 40 countries still have fewer than 10 per 100 inhabitants.



Though the use of cellular phones has provided convenience and communication services for millions of people worldwide, there are issues that need to be resolved. When an industry grows this quickly, rules and regulations just can't keep up. So the exponential growth of this technology means an exponential growth of electronic waste, often called e-waste. E-waste is made of a combination of plastics and metals that are very hazardous when disposed of in a landfill site.



An environmental organization called Greenpeace is trying to raise awareness of this issue. It has published a scorecard of companies that produce cellular phones and other electronics products. The rating is based on two criteria. Companies should:

- 1. Clean up their products by eliminating hazardous substances.
- 2. Take back and recycle their products responsibly once they become obsolete.