

**Question 13** (8 marks)

Many products are designed to have a limited 'lifespan' – that is, they are designed to be replaced rather than repaired.

- (a) Give reasons why designers develop new products with a limited 'lifespan'.

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Designers usually develop products like this because it is cheaper and easier for the user to replace the old broken product than fix it.

- (b) Explain the effects on society and the environment of designing products with a limited lifespan.

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Products with limited lifespans can create huge amounts of excess waste that could be reduced with simple solutions such as making it easier for buyers to fix their products then replace them. They can also become a pain when personal data is stored on the product and when it gets replaced all of that is lost.