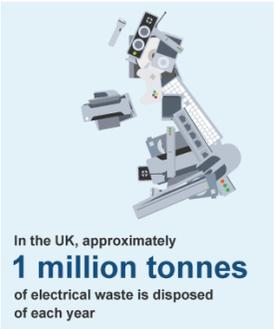


# 8.1 The Impact of Computers on Society

Impact of using computers		
<b>Environmental</b>  <p>In the UK, approximately <b>1 million tonnes</b> of electrical waste is disposed of each year</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using systems like Skype means less need to travel for meetings &amp; reduces CO2</li> <li>People can work from home means less commuters and less office space</li> <li>Using email and working electronically means less printing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased energy consumption because of use/charging</li> <li>E-waste sometimes contains poisonous chemicals and can be an environmental hazard.</li> <li>In the UK, the average lifespan of an electronic device is two years. It is often easier to buy a new device and discard the old one than to maintain or upgrade an old device. If the item isn't recycled or resold, it will end up in a landfill site.</li> </ul>
<b>Ethically</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The use of technology can improve personal safety of people and animals</li> <li>CCTV footage can be used to catch and charge people carrying out criminal activities.</li> <li>Tracking online activity can help prevent extreme activities.</li> <li>Autonomous cars prevent drink driving accidents and help less abled people become more independent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bullying and trolling has increased with the use of technology</li> <li>Your online activity can be tracked, who knows where you are?</li> <li>Mass use of digital surveillance. Are you watched where ever you go?</li> <li>Sharing personal data, how much of your info is available on the web?</li> <li>Copying and sharing of files/music/images is affecting businesses &amp; artists</li> <li>Autonomous cars should not decide who lives and dies</li> </ul>
<b>Digital Divide</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less e-waste is produced</li> <li>People do not have to rely on technology to get on with their lives or do their jobs.</li> <li>No information overload or risk of cybercrime.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can affect the success of a business in the UK and its ability to trade globally</li> <li>On line learning can not be completed</li> <li>Globally some countries have little to none internet connection which impacts the ability of individuals and business to develop.</li> </ul>

Keywords you need to learn the meaning of	
Copyright	The legal right given to a person to print, publish, perform, film, or record literary, artistic, or musical material
Illegal	Against the law
Patent(s)	A patent given to a person who invents anything, so they can stop others, from making, using or selling the invention without their permission.
License	Authorised to use
E-waste	Electronic Waste e.g. old mobiles, laptops, computers.
<a href="#">Autonomous car</a>	A car that can guide itself without human input
Semi-autonomous	Cars that need a small amount of human input
Landfill	Getting rid of waste by burying it
Ethic(s)	Moral principles that influence the way a person acts, and the decisions made
Ethical or ethically	Relating to the beliefs about being right or wrong
	Actions that do no harm to people of the environment
Inequality	Imbalance in people's circumstances
Surveillance	To observe closely