

Technology

Wordpower!

app • domestic appliance • download
gaming • mobile device • search engine

Starting point

In which areas of your life is technology important?

How long do you spend online each week?

Which computer programs or services do you use most?

- 1** Say which of the two statements below you agree with most, giving reasons. Consider the use of technology in some of these tasks:

shopping • solving mathematical problems
writing essays • doing housework
learning languages • making music
finding information • communication

- I'm totally in favour of technology. Computers and labour-saving devices can help us do things more quickly – leaving us free to do more important things. Intelligent devices and things like smartphones are the future.
- The more we let technology interfere in our lives, the more we move away from a natural existence. Technology and computers can help us do nearly everything but it is not always a good thing. We need to learn to do things, and to think, for ourselves.

- 2** Read the text quickly and answer the following questions.

- Which aspects of technology are talked about?
- In which area has technology been unsuccessful up to now?
- Is the writer for or against technology? How do we know?



Looking Forward 3000

The future is here already, they say, and in the field of technology it's certainly true that events are unfolding fast. Here at Looking Forward 3000, we take pride in our ability to bring you the best articles and the most up-to-date information about technological developments. In fact, next month, we will have been predicting the future with great accuracy for exactly a decade. Happy Birthday to us, then, and to celebrate, we're offering some fantastic prizes in our competition (click [here](#), or on the link below to enter). On this website, you'll be able to find the latest developments in technology, as well as our predictions for what is going to happen in the near (and not so near) future.

In our feature article you can find out [why computers cannot yet translate successfully from one language to another](#). We've grown used to being able to have what we want at the touch of a button or the click of a mouse. We have online dictionaries with huge databases, so why can't we use them to translate perfectly into other languages? As *Paul McIntyre* explains, English has many words with similar meanings. Consider *chair* and *seat* – how would a piece of software know which one is best suited to the context? And how would a machine know how to translate *Take a seat!* as *Sit down!* rather than *Pick up a seat!*, for instance, or, in American English, *He got the chair*, meaning *He was sentenced to death in the electric chair*? Of course, we can also use these two words as verbs (as in *to chair a meeting*, or *The restaurant seats 200 people*). For all the millions of pounds and many years spent on development, we still need people to translate for us if we don't want to end up with mistakes in the text because a machine does it literally, word for word. Yet we will have better machine translation in the future, and experts are making progress using a similar method to predictive text on mobile phones.

[Read more ...](#)

There's also a new article on technology in the home. *Jeremy Fletcher* looks into [intelligent labour-saving devices](#), including the Smart Manager fridge, made by LG. For around €2,000, you can take a step into the future with this home appliance. What

3 exam practice

Read the text and decide if each statement is true (T), false (F) or not stated (NS).

- The website is just over 10 years old.
- English is more difficult than other languages for computers to translate.
- Text message software is helping improve machine translation.
- One way to communicate with the Smart Manager fridge is to talk to it.

In the home

Eye in the sky

you do is scan the barcodes of your shopping (or your receipt) before you put the items in the fridge. There's a handy scanner on the door to help you to do this. Alternatively, you can describe the item using the fridge's built-in voice-recognition technology or scan the receipt with a smartphone and send the information to the fridge that way. The computer in the fridge will then monitor your food and add things to an online shopping list before you run out. If you prefer to do your shopping the old-fashioned way, you can communicate with your fridge using a smartphone app while you're in the supermarket, so you can find out exactly what you need. By the way, the Smart Manager will also notify you on your smartphone if you've accidentally left the fridge door open. It even suggests recipes for you, based on the ingredients inside and any other information you provide it with, such as if you are on a diet or you have food allergies. The LCD screen on the door tells you exactly what to do to follow the recipe. The fridge can also switch the oven on for you (as long as it's an LG Smart Oven). Think these modern devices might suit your lifestyle? **Want to get information** on your TV screen about what your washing machine is doing at this very moment? Like the idea of a vacuum cleaner that cleans the house ready for you when you come home? There's probably a smart device just for you.

[Read more...](#)

And, of course, in the **gadgets** section, you can find out what we'll all be buying next year, as well as what's hot in the market right now. There's plenty to choose from, including the latest generation of tablets and readers, robust helmet-mounted cameras for extreme sports enthusiasts, internet radios and TVs, incredible mobile devices and other must-have items.

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i-learn

4 Find words and phrases in the text to replace the words in *italics* in these sentences.

- 1 We expect lots of interesting *changes* in the next few years.
- 2 If you *press the mouse button* on this word, it takes you to the main article.
- 3 This is the *program* that I use most.
- 4 When sending text messages, I use *the program that guesses the word you are writing*.
- 5 In the supermarket, they *pass a special machine over* items to find the price.
- 6 In the future, all computers might work with a *program that allows you to speak directly to them*.
- 7 The cameras outside help you *watch* what is happening in the garden.
- 8 I spend all my money on *small electronic devices*.



WORK IT OUT!

Find these words and phrases in the text and underline them. Can you work out what they mean from the context?

handy • notify • robust • take pride in • unfolding



Have your say!

- Do you think a machine will ever be able to translate languages as well as a person? Why? / Why not?
- Do you like the idea of an intelligent fridge? Why? / Why not?
- Are you interested in gadgets? Which ones do you own? What would you like to own?

EXAM EXPERT

How should you do the exam practice task?

- a Remember that 'false' means that contradictory information is given in the text, whereas 'not stated' means that we don't know from the text if it's true or not.
- b Remember that 'false' means that contradictory information is given in the text, whereas 'not stated' means that it's true, but not mentioned.

- 5 The Smart Manager can tell you when your fridge needs cleaning.
- 6 Recipes produced by the Smart Manager take into account what you can and can't eat.
- 7 The Smart Manager fridge is able to communicate with other kitchen appliances.
- 8 None of the gadgets mentioned are available to buy yet.

G Grammar 1

The future

Which different forms of the verb *open* can be used to fill this gap?

The Museum of Technology _____ *next week.*

There are a number of different ways of expressing the future in English.

will: *No-one will use cash in a hundred years' time.*

be going to: *We're all going to have implants in our teeth in the future.*

present continuous: *We're getting our new computer next week.*

present simple: *My physics exam is next Tuesday.*

modals: *Do you think humans might live on other planets in the future?*

shall: *Shall we download and watch a film tonight?*

Remember that *will* is often more formal than *be going to*.

Remember that there is often more than one way of expressing the same idea.

See *Grammar database 6* on pages 176–177 for more information.

3 Use the words in brackets and the verbs in the box in an appropriate tense to complete this text. You can use the verbs more than once.

be • do • drive • find • implant
get • introduce • leave • live

I wonder what (1) _____ (**the world**) like in ten years' time. (2) _____ (I) twenty-four years old. (3) _____ (I) school by then, of course, and (4) _____ (I / **probably**) my degree. (5) _____ (I / **still**) in the same town? I've no idea! Maybe. If I am, (6) _____ (I) here for twenty years. That's a long time! (7) _____ (I) a job? I hope so! I don't think (8) _____ (**robots**) everything. (9) _____ (**there / still**) jobs, won't there? A lot of new technology (10) _____ between now and then, of course. Perhaps (11) _____ (**we / all**) around in electric cars, and (12) _____ (**there / not**) so much pollution. I don't think (13) _____ (**doctors**) mobile phones in everyone's teeth by then. That sounds like a silly idea to me.

1 What difference do these phrases make to the meaning of the sentence?

What sources of energy _____ to power cars in the future?

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1 will we use | 4 could we use |
| 2 are we going to use | 5 might we use |
| 3 are we using | 6 shall we use |

2 Complete the sentences using *will, shall, be going to, present continuous or present simple*.

- Hurry up! _____ (**the bus / leave**) in a few minutes.
- One day, _____ (**everyone / have**) solar-powered cars which can fly.
- I know! _____ (I / **buy**) Tim some rechargeable batteries for his birthday.
- When I grow up, _____ (I / **be**) an inventor.
- _____ (**we / help**) you set up your new computer?
- I'm sorry but _____ (I / **lend**) you any more CDs.

Future perfect simple and future continuous

Circle the correct form of the verb to complete this sentence.

By the end of today, I'll send / I'll have sent / I'll have been sending / I'll be sending over 25 emails.

We use the future perfect simple to show that something is completed at some time between now and a point in the future.

We'll have stopped using notes and coins by the year 2030.

We use the future perfect continuous to show that an action is in progress up to a point in the future.

By the year 2032, we'll have been doing our shopping with digital money for about two years.

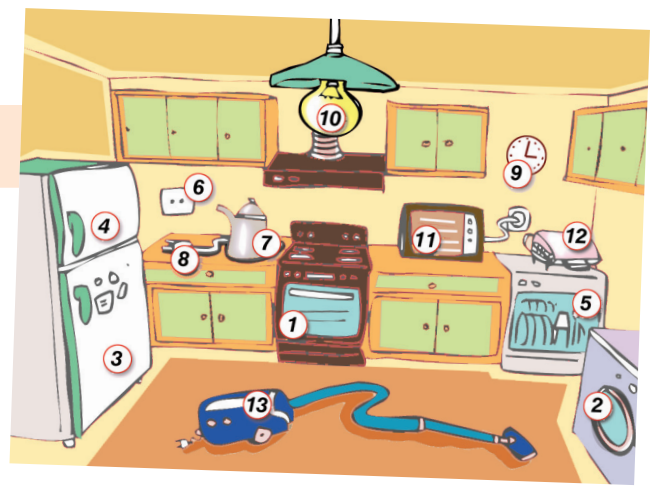
We use the future continuous to talk about an action in progress at a point in the future or habits or repeated actions at a point in the future.

This time next week, we'll be visiting Phil's laboratory again.

In a hundred years' time, we'll all be flying around in flying cars.

See *Grammar database 6* on page 177 for more information.

V Vocabulary



Technology

1 Match each of the words or phrases with an item in the picture.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| bulb ____ | microwave ____ |
| clock ____ | plug ____ |
| cooker ____ | socket ____ |
| dishwasher ____ | toasted sandwich maker ____ |
| freezer ____ | vacuum cleaner ____ |
| fridge ____ | washing machine ____ |
| kettle ____ | |

2 Phrasal verbs

Use the correct form of these phrasal verbs about technology to complete the sentences.

break down • come on • come up with
cut off • get through • look into • put in

- If you _____ an appliance like a washing machine, you install it.
- If you _____ a new idea for a product, you have an idea.
- If you _____ a new development, you investigate it.
- If a car _____, it stops working.
- If your electricity is _____, it is disconnected.
- If you can't _____ to someone on the phone, you can't connect to them.
- If something has _____, it has developed or improved.

5 Confusable words

Choose the correct word to complete each sentence.

- Do you know who **discovered** / **invented** the biro?
- The company is currently **developing** / **inventing** a more powerful microchip.
- Scientists do **investigation** / **research**.
- The car **engine** / **machine** caught fire and we had to call the fire brigade!
- We've bought a small **mobile** / **portable** TV to take on holiday with us.
- Kitchen **tools** / **appliances**, such as fridges and washing machines, have become much cheaper recently.
- Tents and rucksacks are examples of camping **equipment** / **tools**.

Be careful!

invent = create something that didn't exist before
discover = find or find out something for the first time

3 Word formation

Complete each phrase using a form of the word in bold.

- a great _____ **achieve**
- highly _____ **benefit**
- a _____ person **create**
- a recent _____ **develop**
- an important _____ **discover**
- a major _____ in something **improve**
- a useful _____ **invent**
- bring out a new _____ **produce**
- a _____ fact **science**
- a _____ to a problem **solve**

4 Find other forms of the words in exercise 3. Put them into four categories: Verb, Person, Other nouns and Adjectives.

6 Word patterns

Use these words to complete the sentences. You will use one of the words twice.

with • in • to • on • for • of

- Dana's not very interested ____ computer games.
- I'm really looking forward ____ starting our science project next week.
- Al's involved ____ making sure our equipment is safe to use.
- Our whole way of life depends ____ us having electricity and oil.
- Are you going to apply ____ a job in a factory?
- Let me know when you've finished ____ the newspaper.
- The article was full ____ useful advice on how to take good photos.



Listening

Wordpower!

digital camera • electric typewriter • wheel
obsolete • old-fashioned • groundbreaking

Starting point

Do the things in the pictures have anything in common? In what ways are they different?



1 Match each word or phrase with its definition.

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 1 agriculture | a not wasting time, money or energy |
| 2 catalogue | b completely changing the way something is done |
| 3 efficient | c the work or study of farming |
| 4 handy | d situations, images and sounds that seem real but are in fact produced by computers |
| 5 revolutionary | e a book or magazine which advertises products you can buy |
| 6 virtual reality | f a small tool or piece of equipment |
| 7 gadget | g useful |

2 Read the opinions in exercise 3 and choose one. Try to express that opinion in your own words. Ask your partner to guess which it is. Now guess which opinion your partner is expressing. Which words helped you and your partner guess correctly?

3 1.14 exam practice

You will hear five people talking about technology. For questions 1–5, choose which of the opinions (A–F) each speaker expresses. Use the letters only once. There is one extra letter which you do not need to use.

- A Some modern technology is unnecessary.
- B It is impossible to survive without technology.
- C Technology is nothing new.
- D Expect major technological advances in the near future.
- E Don't expect major technological advances in the near future.
- F It's amazing what you can buy these days.

Speaker 1 _____

Speaker 2 _____

Speaker 3 _____

Speaker 4 _____

Speaker 5 _____

EXAM EXPERT

How should you do the exam practice task?

- a Note down key words and phrases you hear as you listen the first time.
- b Do not make any notes because this is listening and not writing.

4 Did you note down any key words and phrases? What were they? Compare your notes with the rest of the class.



Have your say!

- Look back at the different opinions in exercise 3.
- Which do you agree/disagree with?

Speaking

Wordpower!

air conditioner • drinks machine
MP3 player • laptop

Starting point

Choose one of the items in the pictures in exercise 4. Do not say what it is, but describe what it looks like and what we use it for. Ask your partner to guess which item you are describing.

1 Look at the pictures again. Make notes about how each item could be used by a youth club.

2 Tick (✓) the phrases that are correct. Use the correct phrases to suggest an item. Say how it could be used by the youth club.



Talk to each other about how useful these things would be for the youth club. Then, decide on the two items that you should definitely buy. You have about three minutes for this.

- How useful would these things be for the youth club?
- Which two should you definitely buy?

5 exam practice

Does technology make our lives easier?

Do we rely too much on technology?

What technological advances can you see happening in your lifetime?

Would you like to be an inventor? What kind of things would you invent?

How do you think the world will change over the next 50 years?

EXAM EXPERT

How should you do the exam practice task?

- a Always wait for the other candidate to speak first, and always agree with him/her.
- b Try to have a natural conversation with the other candidate.

EXAM EXPERT

How should you do the exam practice task?

- a Remember that it's fine to say you're not sure about something.
- b Never say you're not sure about something because it makes you sound stupid.

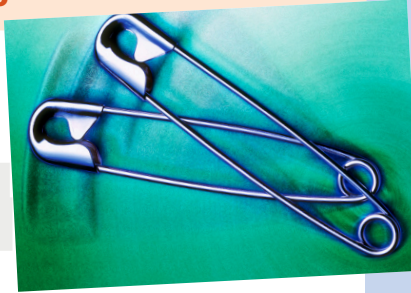
See *Speaking database* on page 193.



Reading 2 1.16

Wordpower!

ice-cream cone • safety pin
tin opener • correction fluid



Starting point

What do we use each of the items in the Wordpower! box for?
When do you think they were invented?

1 Read the article quickly and find information to complete the table. If the information is not given in the article, put a cross in the box.

	Inventor(s)	Date(s) invented	Place(s) invented
Safety pin			
Ice-cream cone			
Correction fluid			
Tin opener			

2 exam practice

You are going to read a magazine article about some inventions. For questions 1–15, choose from the inventions (A–D). The inventions may be chosen more than once.

In which of the paragraphs does the writer state the following?

- 1 The inventor had a famous son. _____
- 2 The inventor had not been in the country long. _____
- 3 Someone else became rich because of the invention. _____
- 4 Not everyone was interested in the invention at first. _____
- 5 The inventor made and sold this product in his/her spare time. _____
- 6 This was not the inventor's first invention. _____
- 7 Members of the public never used the first version. _____
- 8 The inventor was not very skilled at his/her job. _____
- 9 Two people came up with the idea separately. _____
- 10 A change in production resulted in the creation of a new product. _____
- 11 He/She quickly adapted an existing product. _____
- 12 It's surprising that this wasn't invented earlier. _____
- 13 The inventor had borrowed some money. _____
- 14 The invention eventually led to great wealth for the inventor. _____
- 15 The inventor got an idea from another culture. _____

A The Safety Pin

Walter Hunt had come up with numerous other inventions before he created the safety pin in 1849. None of them, however, had made him any money! Owing fifteen dollars to a friend, he decided to invent something new to make enough to pay back the debt. He took a piece of wire, coiled it in the centre, shielded one end and – hey presto – he'd created the world's first safety pin. He took out a patent on his invention, sold the rights to it for four hundred dollars, paid his friend back and had 385 dollars to spare. Then he watched his latest brainwave go on to become a million dollar earner for someone else!

B The Ice-Cream Cone

The first ice-cream cone was produced in New York in 1896 by Italo Marchiony, who had emigrated from Italy only a few years before. He was granted a patent in December 1903. As with many great inventions, a similar creation was independently introduced – in 1904 by Charles Menches. He was selling ice cream – in dishes, like all ice-cream sellers at the time – at the St Louis World Fair. So many people were ordering ice cream that he ran out of dishes. He looked around, and saw a Syrian man selling a Middle



EXAM EXPERT

How should you do the exam practice task?

- a Read the text very slowly and carefully from start to finish before you look at the questions.
- b Skim read the text first. Then, for each question, scan the text from the beginning until you find the answer.

Where did they come from?

Angela Stewart looks at four everyday items we take for granted and asks 'Where did they come from?'

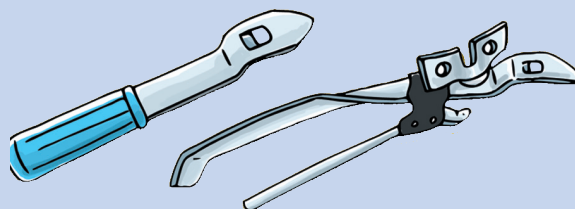
Eastern dessert called 'Zalabia', a wafer-like pastry sold with syrup. 'Give me Zalabia,' cried Menches. He rolled up the Zalabia into a cone, scooped his ice cream onto the top and the second ice-cream cone was born!

C Correction Fluid

You know that white stuff you paint on paper to cover mistakes? It was originally called 'Mistake Out' and was the invention of Bette Nesmith Graham. After her divorce, she realised she would have to find a job to support herself and her son, so in 1951 she became a typist. Unfortunately, she was not particularly good one, and soon recognised the need for a white paint which could be used to cover all her mistakes. Using her kitchen and garage as a laboratory and factory, she gradually developed a product that other secretaries and office workers began to buy. While continuing to work as a secretary, she educated herself in business methods and promotion. Bette offered 'Mistake Out' to IBM, who turned it down. Undeterred, she changed the name to 'Liquid Paper' and continued to sell it from home for the next seventeen years. In 1979, 'Liquid Paper' was bought by Gillette for \$47.5 million plus royalties! Incidentally, Bette was also the mother of Mike Nesmith, a member of the well-known sixties pop group 'The Monkees'.



D The Tin Opener



Strangely enough, the first practical tin opener was developed more than forty years after the metal tin was introduced. Tinned food was developed for the British Navy in 1813. Made of solid iron, the tins usually weighed more than the food they held! Although the inventor, Peter Durand, successfully figured out how to seal food into tins, he gave little thought as to how to get it out again. The instructions read: 'Cut round the top with a chisel and hammer.' It was only when steel tins were brought out that the tin opener was invented. The first was devised by Ezra Warner in 1858. This type never left the shop, as a shop assistant opened all tins before they were taken away! The more modern tin opener, with a cutting wheel, was invented by William Lyman in 1870. Pull-open tins, which do not need a tin opener at all, were introduced in 1966.

3 Find words or phrases in the article which are similar in meaning to these words and phrases.

- 1 don't think about (subtitle)
- 2 lots of (paragraph A)
- 3 suddenly (paragraph A)
- 4 given, allowed to have (paragraph B)
- 5 slowly, step by step (paragraph C)
- 6 unrelated to the subject (paragraph C)
- 7 solved the problem (paragraph D)
- 8 close (so the air can't get in or out) (paragraph D)



WORK IT OUT!

Find these words and phrases in the text and underline them. Can you work out what they mean from the context?

debt • brainwave • emigrated
undeterred • chisel • ran out of



Have your say!

- How important were each of these inventions?
- How different would the modern world be if they hadn't been invented?

G Grammar 2

Articles

Which box in the table below should each of these sentences be put into?

The digital camera I bought is great!

I'm going to get a digital camera.

The digital camera has changed the nature of photography.

Digital cameras are still quite expensive.

	singular countable nouns	plural countable nouns	uncountable nouns
a/an	one non-specific thing: <i>I haven't got a computer.</i> If the next word begins with a vowel sound, use an : <i>I haven't got an umbrella.</i>	X	X
the	one specific thing: <i>This is the computer which I told you about.</i> general group or category: <i>The tin opener is a great invention.</i>	several specific things: <i>These are the CDs I told you about.</i>	specific: <i>The technology in this equipment is very advanced.</i>
no article		generally: <i>Cars cause pollution.</i>	generally: <i>Technology is nothing new.</i>

See Grammar database 7 on pages 177–178 for more information.

1 Look at these phrases from the article on pages 38 and 39 and answer the questions.

... more than forty years after the metal tin was introduced.

- Is this one specific tin or metal tins generally?
- ... a member of the ... pop group ...*
- Is this one specific pop group or pop groups generally?

2 There are ten mistakes with articles in this paragraph. Find them and correct them.



The Jason Tarbuck, a inventor from UK, has come up with an unique way to prevent the people from locking themselves out of their houses. Invention, called the LockSafe, uses the small electronic sensor on a door lock to check that key is outside the door before it locks. A sensor detects an infra-red light beam from the key or key chain.

! Be careful!

She's at school. (as a student or teacher)

She's at the school. (as a visitor)

Time clauses

Choose the correct form of the verb to complete this sentence.

I want to be an astronaut when I will grow / grow up.

After certain time words and phrases, we use a present tense (present simple, present continuous, present perfect) even though we are referring to the future.

when: *I'll buy a computer when I have enough money.*

as soon as: *Send me a text message as soon as you arrive.*

before: *I'll turn off the lights before I leave.*

after: *Can you lend me that DVD after you've watched it?*

until/till: *I'll wait until you get online.*

while: *I'll think of you while you're doing your science exam.*

See Grammar database 8 on page 178 for more information.

3 Join these sentences using the word or phrase in **bold**.

- The price of smartphones will come down soon. Then my brother will buy one. **when**
- I'll finish the science report. Then I'll hand it in immediately. **as soon as**
- You'll fall asleep. After that, the doctors will start the operation. **before**
- You can't use your bank card at the moment. The bank will send you a PIN, and then you can use it. **until**
- I'm going to watch that movie tonight on TV. I'll record it for you at the same time. **while**

4 Complete these sentences about you.

- As soon as I ... later today, ...
- Before I ... tonight, ...
- I won't ... until I ...
- When I ... tomorrow, ...
- While I ... this evening, ...



Use of English

1 Read the text in exercise 2 quickly and decide if these statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 The text mentions how we use power today. T/F
- 2 The text describes a new way of getting power. T/F
- 3 The text says some people already have wireless electricity. T/F

2 exam practice

Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS.

Wireless electricity

All of us in the developed world use electricity every day in many different ways. As (1) _____ as we walk into a room we turn on lights without even thinking about it. We expect that when we flick a switch, the power (2) _____ be there any time of the night or day and if for any reason our power is cut (3) _____, it creates major problems. Today's homes are full (4) _____ electrical sockets and every day millions of us plug our mobile phones, laptops and PDAs in to charge (5) _____ batteries. This could become a thing of the past, though, if scientists succeed (6) _____ developing wireless electricity. Think of Wifi. Until quite recently, all computers connected to (7) _____ internet had to be connected to a phone line. Today, many computers are capable of using (8) _____ wireless connection, giving the computer user much (9) _____ freedom. Researchers want to do the same with electricity. In the future, instead of plugging your mobile into the wall, you'll be able to charge it simply (10) _____ leaving it near the power supply in your home. We can all (11) _____ forward to a day when the idea of connecting a TV to a hole in the wall will seem very old-fashioned. (12) _____ then, we'll all just have to keep plugging things in.

EXAM EXPERT

How should you do the exam practice task?

- a Only look at two words on each side of each gap because they always tell you what the missing word is.
- b Look carefully at all the words in a sentence because clues to the missing word could appear anywhere.

3 Look at the gaps in exercise 4 and decide what kind of word (noun, adjective, etc) is required for each gap.

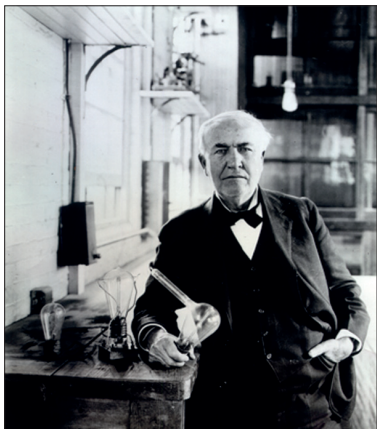
4 exam practice

Read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS.

EXAM EXPERT

How should you do the exam practice task?

- a Don't worry too much about spelling because you get a mark if it's nearly right.
- b Be very careful with your spelling because if you make one spelling mistake, it's wrong.



The Modern Kitchen

Thomas Edison knew his new (1) _____, the light bulb, would be (2) _____, but it's unlikely that he realised quite how much we would come to rely on this new source of power. For example, the (3) _____ of electricity has completely changed the kitchen. The modern kitchen is overflowing with electrical (4) _____. We boil our water with electric kettles, cook on electric cookers and put our dirty dishes in the (5) _____. It's hard to imagine how we would survive without all this (6) _____. Before electricity, people spent much longer preparing food. These days, for a busy parent whose kids are hungry, the simplest (7) _____ is to take some (8) _____ food out of the freezer and pop it in the microwave. It might not always be the healthiest option, but at least it's quick. That's rather an (9) _____ on having to cook a meal from scratch. It's been particularly (10) _____ for women – no longer do they have to stay all day chained to the cooker.

- INVENT
- REVOLUTION
- INTRODUCE
- APPLY
- DISH
- EQUIP
- SOLVE
- FREEZE
- IMPROVE
- BENEFIT



Writing: article

Starting point

Look at the pictures. How much do we depend on the technology shown?

What are some of the drawbacks of relying on technology?

- 1 Read this article and underline any of the drawbacks you mentioned.



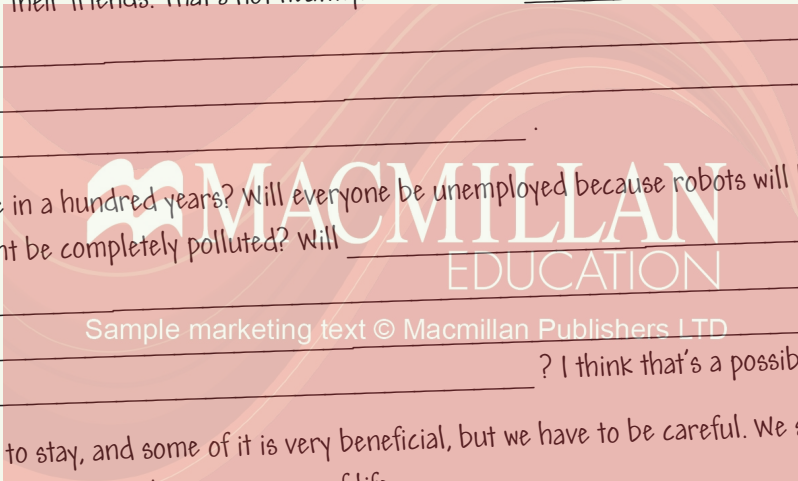
Why I'm not a fan of modern technology

Are you worried about how much we rely on technology? I am, and the situation's getting worse every year.

Technology makes us lazy. I've got friends in my class who can't do simple maths – they have to use a calculator just to work out six times seven! And many teenagers I know would rather spend their free time in front of their computer than meet their friends. That's not healthy! What's more,

What will life be like in a hundred years? Will everyone be unemployed because robots will be doing all the jobs? Will the environment be completely polluted? Will

Technology is here to stay, and some of it is very beneficial, but we have to be careful. We should use technology to make our lives easier, not let it destroy our way of life.



2 Read the article again and answer these questions.

- 1 Does the writer use
 - contractions (*I've, I'll*, etc)?
 - formal expressions like *Moreover, Furthermore*, etc?
 - very formal, semi-formal, or very informal language?
- 2 Find two examples that the writer gives to illustrate a point.
- 3 Find an expression that means the same as *Moreover*.
- 4 Why does the writer ask questions in the article?
- 5 Where do you think you would find an article like this?
 - a) in a scientific journal
 - b) in a magazine for teenagers
 - c) in a physics textbook
- 6 If the article appeared in either of the other two options, how would it be different?

3 Complete the unfinished sentences in paragraphs 2 and 3 using your own words and ideas. Make sure you use the right style.



Have your say!

- Do you agree with the opinions of the writer in the article?



Plan ahead



1 exam practice: article

Your school magazine is running a series of articles under the title 'Why I'm a fan of modern technology'. Write an article to appear in the series expressing your opinion.

EXAM EXPERT

Sample marketing text © Macmillan Publishers Ltd

How should you write an article?

- a Look at who the readers of your article will be, and choose the appropriate level of formality.
- b Be as formal as you can to impress the person marking your paper.

See *Writing database* on page 194 for further information.

2 Answer these questions.

- 1 Who is going to read your article?
- 2 Should it be very formal?
- 3 Should you have an introductory paragraph?
- 4 Should you give some examples to support your opinion?
- 5 Should you come to a conclusion at the end?

- 3 Make a list in note form of general benefits of modern technology. Next to each point in your list, note down an example. Discuss these with the class.

General benefit	Example
helps us communicate	if stuck in traffic – can call on your mobile

- 4 Complete *Writing Planner 3* on page 207.

- 5 Write your article in 120–180 words in an appropriate style.

- 6 When you have written your article, make sure that you have:

- written the title of the article at the top
- used semi-formal language
- followed your paragraph plan
- given some examples
- tried to interest the reader
- checked your spelling and grammar.