

UNIT 1 BUILD-UP YOUR VOCABULARY on technology

1. New sciences : match these words with their definition and applications

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|------------------------|---|
| a) Genetic engineering | (1) The study of the structure and function of the molecules associated with living things. |
| b) Ergonomics | (2) Works with genetic material (DNA) of living things to alter GM foods (genetically modified foods) are grown in some parts of the world. |
| c) Molecular biology | (3) Studies the design of physical working spaces and how people interact with them. |
| d) Voice technology | (4) Technology which enables machines to interpret speech, e.g. voice-to-text software. |
| e) Stem cell research | (5) The study of the use of human cells to treat diseases and injury and to repair the body. |
| f) Cloning | (6) The science of growing plants without using soil, |
| g) Hydroponics | (7) The creation of exact copies of plants or animals with the same genes as the original plants or animals. |

2. What item do you think each person needs ?

Everyday technology



smartphone



tablet



3D TV



high-definition (HD) camcorder



satnav/GPS [satellite navigation / Global Positioning System]



digital photo frame



Kindle



Laptop



Router



desktop computer

- a) 'I keep losing my way and I'm not good at reading maps.' Needs:
- b) 'My phone is so old I can't take any videos with it.' Needs:
- c) 'I'd love to be able to look at my photos any time I want to.' Needs:
- d) 'My old camcorder doesn't produce really sharp movies.' Needs:
- e) 'It was a fantastic film. I didn't mind wearing the special glasses. It was so realistic.' I'd love to be able to do that at home.' Needs:
- f) 'I want something like a laptop with a touch screen that I can watch films on or read e-books.' Needs:

3. Which type of device is the speaker talking about in the following sentences?

- a) I prefer it to my mobile because it's much bigger, but it's still not too heavy to carry around. I can Skype on it and take photos with it. I can access my emails wherever I am. I just can't make ordinary phone calls. _____
- b) The picture is really high quality and it's fun being able to send in comments at the same time as you're watching a programme. _____
- c) It's pretty small and light, but the screen and keyboard are not very big and I find the trackpad more awkward to use than a mouse. _____
- d) I always use this rather than my laptop when I'm at home; I have it on a special table in my room next to my printer. _____
- e) I used to have to take so many books when I went on holiday but now I don't need to. I just have to remember my charger! _____
- f) I changed its position and now I can get online from any room in the house. _____

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4. Here are some other words and phrases connected with computers. Fill the gaps in the sentences. Use a dictionary if necessary. Computer – nerd - app - thumbnail - icon - screensaver – trackpad - techie - footprint

- a) There are some good pictures of the Olympic Games on that sports website. You can look at pictures and then click on them to see the full-size version. _____
- b) My younger brother's a real _____. He never goes out, and all he ever thinks about is computers, computers, computers. _____
- c) I'm a bit of a really; I love getting the latest mobile phone or digital camera. _____
- d) I've downloaded a great new gaming onto my phone. _____
- e) His on his laptop is a really cool picture of the night sky. _____
- f) Just click on that there to open the program. _____
- g) I don't really like this on my laptop; I'd prefer a proper mouse. _____

5. What types of technology would you associate with the following?

digital technology – satellite communications – artificial intelligence – Bluetooth – ergonomics – biotechnology

- a) a round-the-world yachtsman/woman trying to establish his/her exact position: _____
- b) a designer creating a new type of computer keyboard which would be more efficient and comfortable to use: _____
- c) a scientist producing a new type of wheat which does not need to be sprayed against insects: _____
- d) a camera that produces photos that you can store on a computer or your phone: _____
- e) a computer that can make decisions for itself: _____
- f) a music player in your car that you can connect your phone to with no wires: _____

6. Complete the word beginning with 'techn...' in each sentence.

- a) Karl got a good job as a lab techn_____ in the university.
- b) In this country, young people techn_____ become adults at the age of 18.
- c) Computer techn_____ makes huge advances every year.
- d) Andrea has a very interesting techn_____ for remembering vocabulary.
- e) Publicity photos of celebrities have usually been techn_____ enhanced.

7. Fill in with the appropriate word

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| (a) webcam | (e) keyboard | (i) mouse |
| (b) microphone | (f) escape key | (j) CD-ROM |
| (c) screen | (g) spacebar | (k) memory stick |
| (d) printer | (h) mouse mat | |



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8. Listen to these words and classify them in two categories

NOUNS	ADJECTIVES	VERBS

9. Then fill in the following sentences with the nouns.

- The pace of technological _____ over the past 20 years has been astonishing.
- _____ is advancing at such a rate that it's difficult to imagine what our lives will be like in 20 years time.
- Some people argue that the invention of the mobile phone is the most important technological _____ of all time.
- Last _____ in space travel may mean that our ancestors have lived on other planets.
- Further _____ is needed in the farming industry if we are to be able to feed ourselves in the future.

10. Use the most adapted adjectives from exercise 8 to translate these sentences into English:

- Cette société utilise des techniques **de pointe**.
- Jerry a été obligé de changer sa vieille imprimante devenue **obsolète** mais il n'a pas les moyens d'en acheter une autre.
- Pour beaucoup de personnes, le téléphone portable est devenu **indispensable**.
- Le développement de l'ordinateur personnel s'est révélée **être une révolution** pour le monde de l'entreprise.
- Dans les pays en voie de développement, les technologies simples offrent souvent une solution plus pratique aux problèmes quotidiens par opposition aux technologies **avancées** gérées par ordinateur du monde occidental.
- Certaines solutions **de haute technologies** sont moins fiables que les technologies de base qu'elles remplacent.
- Le nouveau design de l'avion était **dernier cri** et on s'attendait à ce qu'il révolutionne l'expérience de vol pour les passagers
- Guti était un membre de l'équipe hautement estimé étant donné qu'il trouvait souvent des solutions **innovantes** aux problèmes.

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11. Find out the most adapted verb for each sentence change -modify - revolutionise – transform – turn into – affect - develop – influence -

- a) There's no doubt that computers have _____ our lives.
- b) But mobile phones have _____ them radically.
- c) I can confidently predict that they will continue to _____ at a rapid rate.
- d) There can be no denying that social networks have _____ our lives _____ something weird.
- e) Artificial intelligence is _____ the way we understand our world.
- f) Social media has radically _____ both how we communicate and who we communicate with.
- g) It now _____ almost every aspect of our daily lives from how we shop to how we spend our leisure time.
- h) Being disabled, I need a car that can be _____ to meet my specific needs.

12. Match the verbs with the correct definition.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1..... to develop | |
| 2..... to supersede | a. to go beyond |
| 3..... to take off | b. to start doing something someone else was doing |
| 4..... to take over (from someone) | c. to replace something older or less advanced |
| 5..... to surpass | d. to suddenly start to be successful |
| 6..... to evolve | e. to develop gradually (especially for a biological species) |
| | f. to grow or improve, or to make something grow or improve |

13. Match the vocabulary with the correct definition

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1..... a robot | a. an enemy |
| 2..... an algorithm | b. a computer-controlled machine which can perform jobs without human input. It may have a human-like body |
| 3..... artificial intelligence (AI) | c. mathematical instructions which help a computer calculate an answer to a problem |
| 4..... a drone | d. the field of science concerned with producing machines with qualities of the human mind, e.g. the ability to understand language |
| 5..... a foe | e. independent, with the power to make your own decisions |
| 6..... autonomous | f. an aircraft without a pilot which is controlled by a human on the ground |

14. Find out the right verb corresponding to these icons

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| a) open a new document | f) save |
| b) open an existing document | g) print |
| c) copy | |
| d) paste | |
| e) cut | |

