

UNIT 1

Technology in use

- Describing technical functions and applications
- Explaining how technology works
- Emphasising technical advantages
- Simplifying and illustrating technical explanations



Describing technical functions and applications



- 1 a In pairs, think about two or three products you use regularly and discuss the following questions.
 - What are the main functions of the products? (What do they do?)
 - What are their different applications? (What are they used for?)
- b What do you know about Global Positioning System (GPS) devices? In pairs, describe their main function, and give some examples of different applications of GPS devices.
- 2 a ▶ 1.1 Paula, a design engineer for a GPS manufacturer, is discussing product development with José, a senior manager new to the company. Listen to the conversation and complete the following notes.
 - the primary application of GPS (1) _____
 - associated applications Tracking systems for (2) _____
Tracking systems for (3) _____
 - more creative features (4) _____ alarms
 - (5) _____ buttons
 - not technical innovations (6) _____ the technology
- b Complete the following extracts from the discussion with words that come from *use*.
 - 1 *Then you've got associated applications, _____ that are related to navigating ...*
 - 2 *... tracking systems you can _____ for monitoring delivery vehicles ...*
 - 3 *... from the end-_____ point of view, accuracy is no longer the main selling point. Most devices are accurate enough. The key is to make them more _____ .*