

VOCABULARY CHECK - WEEK 7

In recent years, inventors have used (1)_____ /əd'vɑ:nst tek'nɒlədʒi/ to develop products that solve everyday problems and protect the environment. One example is an (2)_____ /'eθɪkəl 'smɑ:tfəʊn/, designed to reduce environmental damage and ensure that workers who make its parts are treated fairly. Although such phones may cost more, they could find a (3)_____ /'væɪəbəl 'mɑ:kɪt/ if enough customers are willing to support responsible production. Many consumers feel (4)_____ /ɪg'zæspəreɪtɪd/ when their expensive devices break and cannot be fixed easily, so an (5)_____ /'i:zɪli rɪ'peərəbl/ phone could be a better choice. Meanwhile, scientists are developing inventions to reduce (6)_____ /'gri:nhaʊs gæs ɪ'mɪʃənz/, which contribute to global warming. Some experiments have produced (7)_____ /'stægərɪŋ/ results, meaning the results are so surprising or impressive that they are difficult to believe. In one ambitious project, engineers sent a (8)_____ /'replɪkə/ of a small spacecraft into the (9)_____ /'strætəsfɪə/, the layer of Earth's atmosphere above most weather events, before it (10)_____ /'seɪfli 'pærəʃu:tɪd/ back to the ground. Such experiments help researchers test equipment under (11)_____ /hɑ:f kən'dɪʃənz/, including very low temperatures and strong winds. Other scientists are studying (12)_____ /'lɪvɪŋ 'rəʊbɒts/, tiny structures made from living cells that can perform simple tasks. One possible future application is to (13)_____ /kli:n ʌp ɔɪl spɪltz/ by collecting or breaking down harmful substances in water. Although these ideas may sound like science fiction, some are already based on (14)_____ /'saɪəns fækt/—knowledge supported by experiments and reliable evidence. As research continues, inventions that once seemed impossible may become practical solutions to some of the world's biggest challenges.