Listening Comprehension Practice

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

- Do you think governments should spend money on space exploration when there are problems here on Earth? Why? / Why not?
- In what ways can computer games help us learn?

A Listen to the text. For statements (1-5) choose T if the statement is true according to the text, F if it is false. 36

	T	F
1. Humans walked on the moon on 16 July 1969.		
2. Before the astronauts left the moon, they took material from the ground.		
3. There are some people who think that the expedition to the Moon was a failure.		
4. There is no wind on the moon.		
5. Dr Watson says she will do more research.		

B Listen to the text. For questions (1-5) choose the correct answer (A, B or C). 37

1. What do most adults think about computer games?
   A. They are meaningful.
   B. They are a waste of time.
   C. They motivate students to do better at school.
2. How did James feel about computer games before coming across brain games?
   A. He was a great fan of computer games.
   B. He thought they helped improve memory.
   C. He wasn't very fond of them.
3. What is the goal of Nintendo's *Brain Age* game?
   A. to make your brain age independent of your body age
   B. to increase your brain age
   C. to lower your brain age
4. In what way are *Brain Age* and *BrainWare Safari* similar?
   A. You have to access the Internet to play them.
   B. Both help improve memory and understanding.
   C. Both are played on a console.
5. What conclusion has James reached about brain games?
   A. They are a fun way to improve your mental skills.
   B. They may be fun but they do not help improve mental skills.
   C. They are similar to doing exercises from a textbook.

VOCABULARY BOOSTER

The speakers you listened to used expressions such as 'familiar with', 'similar to' and 'independent of'. Complete the sentences below with the prepositions in the box to form a few more adjective + preposition combinations. Some of the prepositions are used more than once.

ADJECTIVES + PREPOSITIONS

of to at by about on in from

1. Dr Tanker is very **experienced** _____ the field of medical physics, and particularly radiotherapy.
2. Our work is totally **dependent** _____ computers.
3. This chemical has to be kept **separate** _____ the others as it is very flammable.
4. I'm not **certain** _____ these results. Although the experiment is **identical** _____ the one conducted in Geneva, we are not getting the same numbers.
5. Everyone was **amazed** _____ what the new machine was **capable** _____.
6. Have they checked if this new technology is **harmful** _____ one's health?
7. Bridget was **unaware** _____ the hazards of burning plastic.
8. I'm very **impressed** _____ the flexibility of this tablet.

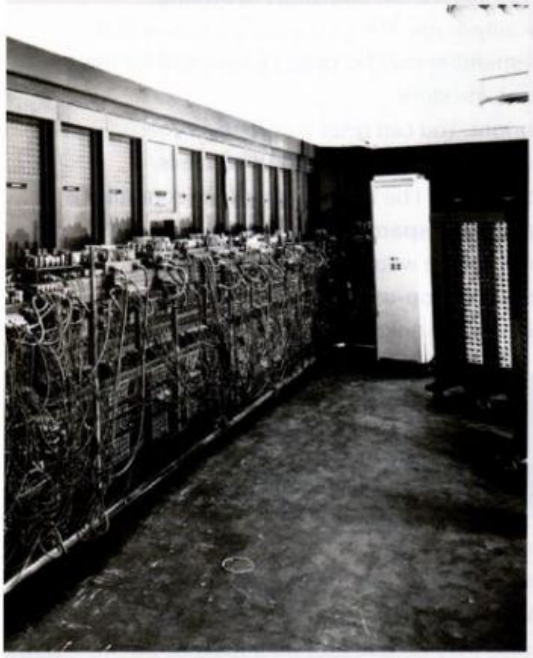
LIVEWORKSHEETS

Vocabulary Practice

E Use the correct form of the words in the box.

intelligence	progress	reality	email	robot	tower	field	development

Technological Breakthroughs



One of the (1) _____ of technology which has consistently captured people's imagination is artificial (2) _____. People have long been fascinated with the possibility of creating sophisticated thinking machines and their (3) _____ has come a long way. ENIAC, considered to be one of the first ever computers, built in 1943, took up 170 square metres, the size of a large flat. Programma 101, the first commercial desktop personal computer, whose (4) _____ could fit easily on a desk, was launched in 1964. Now, with the creation of tablets and smartphones, people can check their (5) _____ on devices that they can hold in their hand. Furthermore, with the incredible breakthroughs in (6) _____ creation, they are becoming more and more human. As well as this, technological (7) _____ has brought about the creation of artificial limbs and many technological aids. This leads to the question as to whether in the future it will be hard to tell if someone is human or not. Furthermore, we are seeing an increase in the use of virtual (8) _____. Welcome to the technological revolution!

F In pairs, discuss the following questions:

1. Do you find it easy/difficult to learn how to use new technology? Why do you think that is?
2. Would you like to live in a home which is full of the latest technology or would you prefer to live in one with as little as possible? Why?
3. Which technological devices do you use / would you like to own?
4. Do you have any fears related to the development of science and technology? What are they?

Suggested expressions

I find it easy/difficult... because...
I would prefer to live in a home...
One thing I fear about the development of science and technology is...

G In pairs, discuss the following questions:

1. What do you enjoy about science lessons at school?
2. Why do you think it's important for children to learn science at school?
3. What science experiment would you like to carry out?
4. What would you like to invent?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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