

Word Power

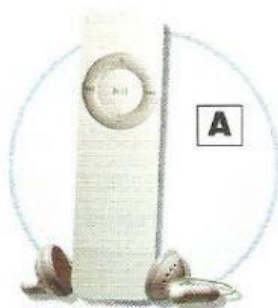
• Technology

1 a) Which of the following can you see in the pictures?

- printer
- laptop
- digital camera
- memory stick

- MP3 player
- DVD player
- games console
- mobile phone

- electronic phrase book
- video camera
- plasma TV



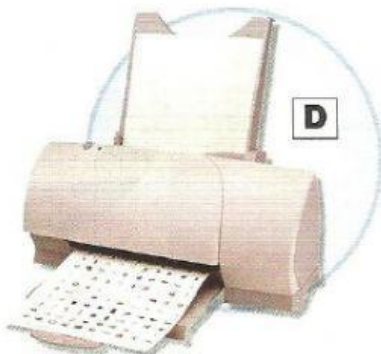
A



B



C



D



E



F

b) Which of the items in Ex. 1a do you need in order to

- surf the Internet?
- text your friends?
- play a video game?
- print out a document?
- transfer files from one PC to another?

- store your favourite songs to listen to?
- check the translation of a phrase?
- do your homework?
- store your photographs electronically?
- email your friends
- watch a documentary

► To surf the Internet you need a laptop or a PC.

2 Answer the questions.

- Do you own any of the items in Ex. 1a?
- How often do you use them? What for?
- Which one could you not live without? Give reasons.

► I have a **PC**, a **mobile phone** and an **MP3 player**. I use all three of them on a daily basis. I do my homework on my PC or email my friends. I use my mobile phone to send text messages and my MP3 player to **listen to my favourite songs**. I guess I couldn't live without my mobile phone as I can contact my friends any time, send text messages and even **store my favourite songs to listen to**.

Developing your speaking skills

• Expressing advantages — disadvantages

3 In pairs, use the table to talk about the pros and cons of using the Internet. You can add your own ideas.

| | PROS | CONS |
|----------------------|---|--|
| shopping online | convenient — do it any time in the comfort of your house/office | unsafe — hackers steal personal information |
| surfing the Internet | educational — get information instantly from various sources | addictive — spend hours in front of the screen |
| e-mailing | quick — send a message within seconds | impersonal — lose personal contact |
| chatting online | make friends easily | risky — you don't know person's identity |

A: I think **shopping online** is very **convenient** as you can **do it any time of the day in the comfort of your own house**.

B: Yes, I see your point, but it can be quite **unsafe** though, as **hackers can steal your personal information**.

Developing your speaking skills

• Expressing opinion/comparing

4 In pairs, use the ideas to tell your partner how computers have helped to make our lives easier.



| | |
|---------------|---|
| Communication | send emails — fast and easy |
| Entertainment | watch films/listen to music online — fast/cheap |
| Schoolwork | type essays — save and transfer homework on a memory stick, have access to libraries/information within seconds |
| Socialising | chat online — make new friends at your convenience |
| Shopping | buy online — fast, convenient |
| Business | save space, communicate faster |

Useful language

Opinion/Reasons

In my opinion ..., I believe ..., To me it seems that ... because ..., If you ask me ..., From my point of view ...

In my **opinion**, computers have helped to make our lives easier. Nowadays, we can communicate **faster** and more **easily** by sending an email. etc

Means of transport 8b

Word Power

• Means of transport

1 Look at the pictures. Which means of transport would you use if you wanted to

- go to the city centre?
- go on a business trip to another country?
- go on a touring holiday in your country?
- get to the airport as fast as possible?
- get to the seaside with a lot of beach gear?
- take a regular form of outdoor exercise?
- go sightseeing around the centre of a city?

Give reasons.



► If I wanted to go to the city centre, I would travel by metro/underground because it is cheap.

2 In pairs, use the adjectives below to talk about the pros and cons of different means of transport. You can use your own ideas.

POSITIVE ADJECTIVES

safe
fast
reliable

economical
comfortable
energy efficient

NEGATIVE ADJECTIVES

noisy
stressful
not environmentally friendly

slow
crowded
dangerous

- A: Buses aren't very **energy efficient** as they use petrol. They can **also** be very **crowded**, especially at peak times.
- B: They are not very **reliable** **either**, and you often have to wait a long time for one. **On the other hand**, they are quite an **economical** way of travelling.

Developing your speaking skills

• Making suggestions/Expressing opposing arguments

- 3 In pairs, use the table and the useful language below to discuss ways of solving the problem of traffic in city centres.

| Solutions to city centre traffic jams | | ▲ ADVANTAGES | ▼ DISADVANTAGES |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| ban cars from city centres |  | greatly reduce pollution, streets would be far less congested | not convenient for businesses and shops, public transport system would need to be adequate to cope with extra passengers |
| monorail |  | fast and eco-friendly, useful for commuters and shoppers | expensive to build and maintain, extensive network required |
| large car parks on the edge of town |  | good for commuters from outside of town, encourage greater use of public transport in city centre | prolong journey for commuters, may get overcrowded, costly |
| underground car parks |  | less congested streets, close to city centre | difficult to construct as space may not be available, fairly expensive to construct |

○ Useful language

| Suggestions | Opposing arguments |
|--|---|
| <p>(A monorail) would be a good idea/an answer/the best plan because</p> <p>(Underground car parks) would be a solution to</p> <p>(Banning cars from the city centre) needs to be done because</p> | <p>I couldn't agree more but ...</p> <p>That would be a great idea. However, ...</p> <p>That would help a lot. Still, ...</p> |

- A: *Banning cars from the city centre would be a good idea as it would greatly reduce pollution and the streets would be far less congested. What's your opinion?*
- B: *I couldn't agree more, but the public transport system would need to be adequate to cope with the extra passengers.*

Speaking Test

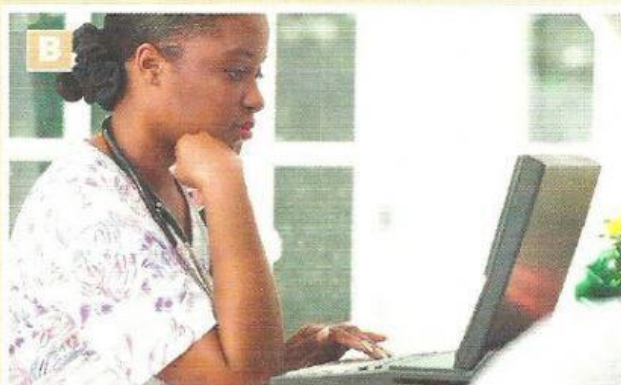
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Part 1 Talking about general topics (3 minutes)

- Do you enjoy eating out?
- Do you play any sports?
- What do you usually do during the Christmas holidays?
- Do you usually do something special on your birthday? What?

Part 2 Monologue (4 minutes)

How have these technological devices made our lives easier?



Candidate A: Look at the pictures and say **how these technological devices have made our lives easier**. (1 minute)

Candidate B: Which of these devices do you use most? (20 seconds)

Why do you think people enjoy doing extreme sports?



Candidate B: Compare the pictures and say **why you think people enjoy doing extreme sports**. (1 minute)

Candidate A: Which of these two sports would you like to try? (20 seconds)

Model Interview:

- Listen to two candidates doing the speaking task in Part 2. What reasons does each candidate give to support their answers?

Part 3 Decision making (pairwork) (3 minutes)

This summer, you and your friend are planning to go on a trip across Europe. Here are some means of transport that you are considering using. In pairs, discuss:

- which means of transport you find the most/least appealing to get from country to country
- which two forms of transport you will finally decide to use



Part 4 Discussing in pairs (4 minutes)

- What do you think transport will be like 100 years from now?
- Do you feel safer in some forms of transport than in others?
- In your opinion, what is the best way to encourage people to use their cars less and travel on public transport more?
- Are safety cameras on roads a good idea?
- How old should people be before they are allowed to drive?

Model Interview:

Listen to two candidates doing the speaking task in Parts 3 and 4 and answer the questions.

- Part 3** 1 Which forms of transport least appeal to the candidates? Which two do they finally choose?
- Part 4** 2 What do the candidates think transport will be like in 100 years? What examples do they give?
- 3 Do the candidates feel safer in some forms of transport than in others? What reasons do they give to justify their answers?