

Name:.....

Book: American Full Blast B 2 - Units 3-4

## READING

1. Everybody knows that technology is important in our lives. Read the text and check (✓) the best title. (1p)

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| How has technology changed people's lives? <input type="radio"/> | The six main ways technology impacts your daily life. <input type="radio"/> | How will technology change our lives in 20 years? <input type="radio"/> |
|--|---|---|

The development of technology has led to so many **mind-blowing** discoveries, better facilities, and better luxuries, but at the same has dramatically changed our daily lives. Here are some examples.



### Improved Communication

The continuous advances in technology have led to the appearance of numerous new methods of electronic communication, such as social networking websites, emails, voicemails, and video conferences. These advanced tools have helped us to eliminate time and distance as obstacles to effective communication. Even though technology allows people to stay in touch in times of pandemic, after we get through the problem, we would need to find a balance between the cyber world and real world. You must be careful to not **lose sight** of the people who are physically around you. Now we realize that, spending quality time with your friends and family to create memorable experiences, is especially important for happiness.



### Improved Home Entertainment

One of the biggest changes was the switch from videotapes to CDs/DVDs. This **enabled** manufacturer to put more data onto the medium. Another huge technological advance was the introduction of LCD TV. Compared to today's TVs, the previous television screens were inefficient, with lower definition and poor quality. Today we can not only enjoy improved home entertainment, but different types of home entertainment too: from smart TVs to Xbox units.

### Improved Housing

Housing and lifestyle have also been impacted by technology. The majority of the items that you have in your home today are automated, which makes your life much easier, organized and safer. Advanced technological solutions such as **automated** door locks, security cameras and lighting control make our homes more secure than ever.



### Changed Health Industry

The majority of the hospitals today have implemented modern technology in hospitals and surgical rooms, which has significantly reduced the mistakes made by doctors. The increased accessibility of treatment is also one of the most amazing ways that technology has changed health care. Needless to say, the Internet is our main source of medical information. An increasing number of people are now using the Internet to diagnose themselves by looking up their symptoms online.



### Changed Education

There are huge amounts of information (books, images, videos, audio) that are available through the Internet and that will enable you to empower yourself with **knowledge**. In addition, online courses are on the rise and most of them are free. Modern technology has made it simple for students to learn from any place in the world through online education. Moreover, as the COVID-19 Coronavirus global pandemic has created a global learning crisis in addition to a global health crisis, 82% of the world's learners are no longer in traditional **schooling** or education programs, so online learning and education technology are recommended to reach learners remotely. Students used to use technology in classrooms to learn better. They had been using iPads to share visual lessons, presentations, and homework with their peers, before the pandemic started. This has made learning more convenient more fun and more effective.

**2. Now read the text again and answer the questions (7/2=14)**

a. How has technology changed the way we communicate?

.....

b. According to the article, what is more important than technology in communication?

.....

c. What is considered a huge technological advance in entertainment?

.....

d. Are houses more secure nowadays due to technology?

.....

e. What are the benefits of introducing technology to the health industry?

.....

f. Has technology improved Education? Why?

.....

g. Is the use of technology negative in classrooms? Why /Why not?

.....

**3. Look at the underlined words in the text and match them to their meanings, there is ONE YOU DON'T NEED. (5/1=5)**

|              |   |            |   |           |   |           |   |         |   |           |
|--------------|---|------------|---|-----------|---|-----------|---|---------|---|-----------|
| Mind blowing | - | lose sight | - | automated | - | knowledge | - | enabled | - | schooling |
|--------------|---|------------|---|-----------|---|-----------|---|---------|---|-----------|

- made to operate by machines or computers: \_\_\_\_\_
- extremely exciting or surprising: \_\_\_\_\_
- information and understanding that you have in your mind: \_\_\_\_\_
- forget: \_\_\_\_\_
- training: \_\_\_\_\_

**VOCABULARY**

**4. Mary's sister is about to start working from home, so she was asked to follow some rules. Match the verbs with their dependent prepositions and complete the sentences with the phrases. (4/2=8)**

FAMILIAR

OF

CAPABLE

WITH

LOYAL

AT

EFFICIENT

TO



- First, you will have to prove.....working in teams.



- You are expected to be ..... your job.
- You should become.....the company's rules.
- Last, but not least, you have to be.....the company.

5. Mary is reading an article about Robotics. Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentences below. (8/1.5=12)

firsthand - controversy - rejected - shortage - case- employers - management - alike

In a recent article from American Express Open Forum, Michael Araten, who gained a top (1)..... position last year, spoke about what it's like to hire a robot.

"We've had Baxter, which was quite (2) ..... to any of our employees, at our facility for almost 3 years, so I can give a (3)

..... account of how to work with it was. Hiring a mix of human and robotic employees, could become a department's staffing

(4) ..... in the near future, but on the other hand, robots can

also help (5) ..... save money and increase productivity. A robot such as Baxter can work 24/7, has no need for benefits or breaks and can be taught a task within minutes, that is why other employees (6) ..... him"

This last issue has been a source of (7) ..... in the company during the past few years, and much uncertainty still exists about it. However, the company's recent history in working with artificial intelligence, is now a (8) ..... study.



#### GRAMMAR

6. Mary is excited with her experience on distance learning. Choose between the past perfect simple or past perfect continuous to complete the sentences. (5/2=10)

- By the time I came back from my daily thirty-minute walk, a lot of things (changed) .....  
had changed                                      had been changing
- One of my teachers(call)..... me insistently, to tell me that we would represent our school in a discussion forum.  
had called                                      had been calling
- We (work/already) .....on this project for a month before we were chosen.  
had already worked                                      had already been working
- It was not the first time we'd participate. We (do) .....many times before in other online conferences.  
had done                                      had been doing
- It was a relief to find that our remote learning (begin).....to pay off.  
had begun                                      had been beginning

7. Before the quarantine, Mary and her classmates had some plans that couldn't be fulfilled. Complete the sentences with FUTURE FORMS IN THE PAST. (4/1.5=6)

1. The day the government declared the quarantine, she forgot she.....(gather) with her classmates.
2. She and her classmates ..... (present) two exams that week.
3. At the beginning, they thought the situation .....(get) better, but in fact it got worse as it went on.
4. She was a sensible girl, and she knew it.....(take) a while to get used to remote learning.

**8. Mary will meet her friends! Read the sentences and choose the best FUTURE FORM to complete them. (6/1= 6)**

- 1) Mary has been doing all her homework because she .....(gather) with friends next weekend.  
a) is going to gather      b) will gather      c) will be gathering      d) will have gathered
- 2) Together, they.....(cook) some food at Mary's place.  
a) are going to cook      b) will cook      c) will be cooking      d) will have cooked
- 3) Susan 'promised she.....(bring) some old movies DVDs.  
a) is going to bring      b) will bring      c) will be bringing      d) will have brought
- 4) Caroline works till 8pm, so by the time she arrives, they.....(start) eating dinner.  
a) are going to start      b) will start      c) will be starting      d) will have started
- 5) They haven't seen each other for so long, that they..... (talk) all night long about their lives.  
a) are going to talk      b) will talk      c) will be talking      d) will have talked
- 6) They are hopeful that the bans for small parties or meetings....(finish) by December.  
a) are going to finish      b) will finish      c) will be finishing      d) will have finished

**LISTENING**

**9. Mary is watching a video about emerging technologies: "Will robots take our jobs?". Listen to the information and mention if the statements are TRUE or FALSE. (12/1.5=18)**

|   |             |              |
|---|-------------|--------------|
| Humanoid robots can't act like human beings   | <i>TRUE</i> | <i>FALSE</i> |
| The rise of robots worries people about the future of work.                         | <i>TRUE</i> | <i>FALSE</i> |
| More than half million jobs were created between 1990 and 2007.                     | <i>TRUE</i> | <i>FALSE</i> |
| Half of all job in the US will probably be automated over the next 20 years.        | <i>TRUE</i> | <i>FALSE</i> |
| Occupations that require repetitive and predictable tasks are especially high risk. | <i>TRUE</i> | <i>FALSE</i> |
| The benefits of hiring robots is they do not need vacations.                        | <i>TRUE</i> | <i>FALSE</i> |
| Economists claim automation won't create new jobs.                                  | <i>TRUE</i> | <i>FALSE</i> |
| Some companies compare robots 'arrival to the market place, to that one of cars.    | <i>TRUE</i> | <i>FALSE</i> |
| Over the next two years, I.T. customer service won't need more workers.             | <i>TRUE</i> | <i>FALSE</i> |
| Robots can replicate human characteristics required in jobs like nursing.           | <i>TRUE</i> | <i>FALSE</i> |
| With robots' arrival, lower-skilled workers won't be able to retrain for new jobs.  | <i>TRUE</i> | <i>FALSE</i> |
| No training will be necessary to get along with robots in the marketplace.          | <i>TRUE</i> | <i>FALSE</i> |

#### WRITING

10. Read the prompt posted on a discussion forum. Write a four-paragraph argumentative essay about the situation. (20 points)



*Technology has impacted almost every aspect of life today, especially during this pandemic, and education is no exception. Online learning has become the main way to access knowledge and keep up with classes for students, but is it being beneficial for every one?*