

**1** Complete the summary with suitable words and phrases from the box.

• sounds • widespread • communication technology • alphabet • popular  
• laptop computers • communicating • characters • messaging

Arabish is a modern way of \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> online when the regular Arabic \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> is not available. Instead of Arabic letters, it uses \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> from English to represent the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> of Arabic. Since modern \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> first appeared in the 1990s, emails and text messaging have become very \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> in the Arab world, particularly with young people.

**2** English text messaging has its own style too. Match the abbreviations with the phrases.

- |           |                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 CU L8er | a see you later                       |
| 2 GR8     | b tomorrow                            |
| 3 2EZ     | c thanks                              |
| 4 2moro   | d laughing out loud (or lots of love) |
| 5 2nite   | e tonight                             |
| 6 1CE     | f great                               |
| 7 LOL     | g too easy                            |
| 8 THX     | h once                                |

**3** Write the following messages in good English.

- |                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 CU 2nite – don't B L8      | See you tonight – don't be late! |
| 2 can U pick me up at 6?     | _____                            |
| 3 where R U?                 | _____                            |
| 4 im w8ing for U at bus stop | _____                            |
| 5 wot R U doing 2day?        | _____                            |
| 6 Gr8 joke! LOL!             | _____                            |