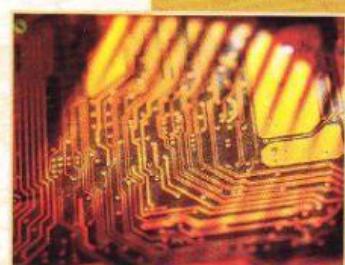
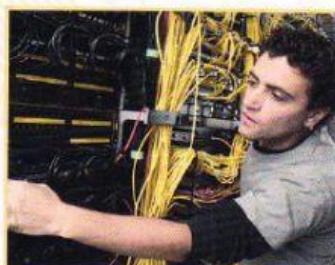


English for Information Technology

2

Vocational English
Course Book



David Hill

Series editor David Bonamy



CD-ROM

PEARSON

ALWAYS LEARNING

Operating systems

Reading



1 Work in pairs. Put these steps in reinstalling an operating system in the correct order.

- During the process, the computer will restart by itself several times.
- Near the end of the process, you can partition the hard drives.
- In the BIOS, set the first boot drive to DVD. Then reboot again.
- At the end of the process, the operating system will ask for the product key, time, date, network type and details for user accounts.
- First, put the installation DVD into the optical drive. Then reboot the computer while you press the 'F2' key. The BIOS will now start.
- This time, the computer will boot from the DVD and installation will begin.
- Before you start, back up everything.
- Near the start of the process, it will ask you to agree to the licence terms.

Vocabulary

2 Find words in 1 that match these definitions.

- 1 start again _____
- 2 split a hard drive into parts that act like separate drives _____
- 3 software built into a computer that controls how it starts up _____
- 4 the drive that the computer reads first when starting up _____
- 5 software comes with this to show you are the owner _____
- 6 settings for a user _____
- 7 switch a computer off and on again _____
- 8 a series of actions to do something _____
- 9 copy data to another place so that you don't lose it _____
- 10 rules about how you can use software _____

Language

Expressing reason and purpose

We can use these forms to express reason and purpose:

- *for* + noun phrase
- *so that* + clause
- *to-infinitive*
- *because* + clause

Why should I update my OS?

For the new features.

So that you can use the new features.

To use the new features.

Because it has new features.

3 Work in pairs or small groups. Match 1–6 to a–f. Then complete the gaps with *because*, *so*, *to* or *for* to make sentences.

1 Back up everything	a) _____ enter the BIOS.
2 Put the DVD in the drive	b) _____ that the computer restarts from the operating system DVD.
3 Press 'F2' while rebooting the computer	c) _____ use the different partitions for different purposes.
4 During the installation process, the computer will ask you some questions	d) _____ safety.
5 You might want to partition the hard drive	e) _____ that the process can start.
6 Change the boot drive to the optical drive	f) _____ it needs to know some information, such as where you are.

Speaking

4 Work in pairs. Student A, you are an IT technician. Student B, you are an IT user. Ask and answer questions using 1–6 in 3 as prompts. Give different reasons from those in 3. Then swap roles and repeat the activity.

Business matters

1 Work in small groups. What do you know about open source software? How is it different from proprietary software? Think about cost, who writes it and how much people use it.

Reading 2 Read this web article and check your answers in 1.



Open source: the way forward?

With open source software, what do people think about first? Money, usually, because open source software is free. But this isn't the only important thing. First, there is freedom from the software vendors. Organisations say that freedom is the number one reason to choose open source software. With open source software, an organisation doesn't have to follow the software vendor's decisions. With proprietary software the vendor controls software updates. For example, users can't add features to proprietary software themselves but they can add features to open source software.

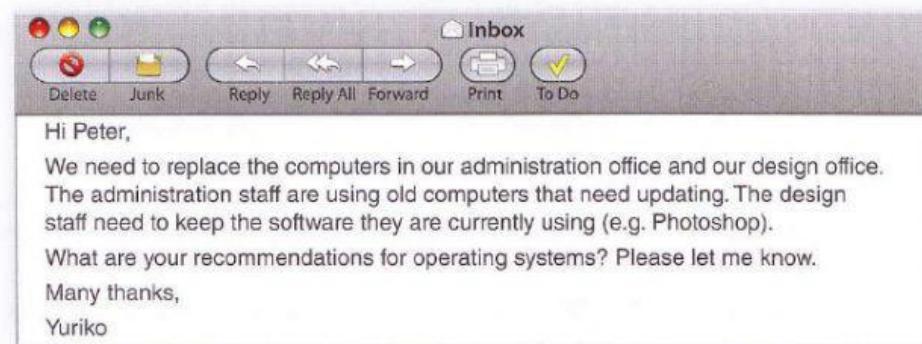
Also, with open source software companies have more control of their data. Proprietary software often stores data in special ways that only the vendor understands. So, when a company wants to change to another vendor's software, moving the data to the new software can be very difficult. Open source software is different; open source software vendors explain their data clearly and openly so that they are not a secret. Because of this, moving data isn't a problem.

Sometimes people worry about open source operating systems. They think that their favourite software won't run on open source operating systems. However, this isn't true because there is a lot of office software, such as word processors and spreadsheets, for open source operating systems. In fact, there are many kinds of this software and they work well. It is only special areas, such as graphics design, where proprietary software is clearly better.

Listening 3  Listen to a spokesperson for a major operating system company giving a speech: 'Why open source is a bad idea'. What reasons does the speaker give to use proprietary software? Make a list.

Speaking 4 Use the article in 2 to make a list of reasons to use open source software. Then work in pairs. Give reasons for your answers and discuss any differences.

5 Work in small groups. You are technicians in an advertising company. You look after operating systems and software. Look at this email from your manager and decide whether to use an open source OS, a proprietary OS or some of each. Then explain your decision to the class.



Hi Peter,

We need to replace the computers in our administration office and our design office. The administration staff are using old computers that need updating. The design staff need to keep the software they are currently using (e.g. Photoshop).

What are your recommendations for operating systems? Please let me know.

Many thanks,

Yuriko

Writing 6 Write an email to your manager giving your recommendations. Use the Language box on page 18 and the information about writing emails on page 17.