



Read

Get Ready!

1. Match the words with the correct pictures.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| a. tablet | d. laptop |
| b. website | e. smartphone |
| c. interactive whiteboard | f. computer |



2. Discuss these questions in groups.

- Which of these devices do you use?
- What do you use them for?
- Which of them do you use in the classroom?

3. Read the article and choose the best title.

- Teenagers and technology
- Bringing technology into the classroom
- The future of education

Technology has become very important in our everyday life, not least in the classroom. With the help of technology, teachers can produce more motivating lessons, and they can also assess and track students' progress more easily. Here are some of the ways technology can help students and teachers in the classroom:

Interactive whiteboards

These make lessons more interesting. Teachers can demonstrate pictures or photos on the board. They can point to parts of a diagram or picture using their finger or a pen, and they can save information from the board and share it with students.

Laptops

Students can use laptops to take notes and do written work. They can help students to be more organised and produce neater work and, of course, they can make sure they spell everything correctly by using the spell-check function!

Online classrooms

There are many online courses nowadays, both school and university courses. Students don't have to go to school any more! This can be a good option for students who are disabled or who have learning difficulties. Online courses allow them to study in their own home at their own speed. They are also useful for elite athletes who spend a lot of time training and don't have time to go to school.

The challenge for schools is keeping up to date with all the new technology. Schools which do well will be those that are not afraid to innovate and integrate the new technology into the classroom.

Tablets

Tablets are very useful because they are small and easy to carry around. They allow students to find information quickly, and also collaborate with their classmates on projects.

Smartphones

Smartphones are not allowed in many classrooms, but actually they can be very useful. For example, students can use them to take photos to illustrate their school work. They can check facts or the meaning of words. Some phones have a calculator app, so students don't have to carry a calculator around with them. Students can even get their phone to remind them to do their homework!

4. Read. Choose the correct answer, A, B or C.

1. Technology is becoming _____ in the classroom.
A. less important
B. more important
C. unimportant
2. Are students allowed to take smartphones into the classroom?
A. No, not usually
B. No, never
C. Yes
3. What are the advantages of Interactive whiteboards?
A. You can see them better.
B. Students can draw on them.
C. Teachers can show pictures on them.
4. Tablets allow students to
A. work at their own speed.
B. work together with other students.
C. check each other's answers.
5. Why are online courses a good idea for elite athletes?
A. Because they can choose which subjects they study.
B. Because they aren't very clever.
C. Because it gives them more time to train.

5. Discuss these questions in groups.

- a. What are the advantages of using technology in the classroom?
- b. What are the disadvantages?
- c. Do you think technology helps you learn more?



Focus on Vocabulary

6. Complete the questions using the verbs in the box.

- | | | |
|------------|--------|------------|
| ▪ download | ▪ go | ▪ log onto |
| ▪ send | ▪ post | ▪ share |

- a. Do you _____ music from the Internet?
- b. Do you ever _____ emails to your friends?
- c. Do you _____ photos on social media sites?
- d. Do you _____ online every day?
- e. Do you ever _____ videos with your friends on the Internet?
- f. How many times a day do you _____ your computer?



Focus on Language

8. Study the sentences and choose the correct words to complete the rules.
- Nowadays students can use their smartphones to check facts.
 - In the past students couldn't use smartphones in the classroom.
 - In the future robots will be able to teach in schools.

We sometimes use *can* to express possibility / probability.
The past form of *can* is *could* / *will be able*.
There is no future / past form of *can*.
We use *will be able* / *can* to talk about the future.



9. Complete the sentences with *can*, *could* or *will be able to*. Then listen and check.

- When my mother was young children _____ leave school at the age of sixteen.
- These days you _____ play games online with people from different countries.
- You _____ post as many photos as you want to on social networking sites.
- In the future we _____ download videos of our teachers' lessons.
- You _____ use your smartphone for so many different things.
- In the future I think we _____ do all our exams online.

Say it!



10. Listen carefully to the pronunciation of *can* in these sentences. What do you notice?
Listen again and repeat.
- Students can check facts on their smartphones.
 - Students can use laptops to make notes.
 - Teachers can demonstrate pictures.

Write

11. Write sentences.

What can you do now that your parents couldn't do when they were young?

Example: *Now we can phone our parents when we are out with friends.*

Listen

12. Look at the different types of communication. In pairs, try and put them in order from the earliest to the most recent.

			
▪ letter	▪ Internet	▪ drums	▪ telegraph
			
▪ smoke signals	▪ telephone	▪ smartphone	



13. Listen to some students preparing a presentation for their English class about communication methods. Were you right?



14. Listen again and choose T (true) or F (false). Correct the false sentences.

- The problem with the first letter service was that many letters got lost. _____
- Pony Express was a letter service first used in Great Britain. _____
- A lot of people didn't use the telegraph and telephone at first because it was too expensive. _____
- People started developing the Internet in the 90s. _____
- Modern communication has helped people improve their face-to-face communication skills. _____

15. Discuss in groups.

- Which of the types of communication mentioned in exercise 12 do you use?
- Which is the easiest / quickest?
- What are the advantages / disadvantages of modern communication?