

Reading

A You are going to read a magazine article about developments in electronics. For questions 1-10, choose from the items A-D. The items may be chosen more than once.

10

In which of the paragraphs does the writer say the following:

- We'll be able to carry all our songs, films and photographs with us. 1
- Some people might throw these away! 2
- These will be linked to other things in your home. 3
- They will take up a lot of space in our homes. 4
- They will have very small television screens. 5
- Public demand means the name of these is changing. 6
- You will be able to choose when to watch programmes. 7
- People will be using these to make copies of CDs and DVDs. 8
- Some of these will be extremely cheap. 9
- These will change the way we make phone calls. 10

ELECTRONICS AND THE ENTERTAINMENT OF THE FUTURE

Thanks to advances in electronics, some big changes are just around the corner. James White looks at four exciting developments that we can all look forward to.

A Mobile phones

It's true that one day we may have implants in our bodies, but that could be a long way off. In the near future, we will still be carrying phones with us, not in us! And these phones will be very desirable indeed. Mini TVs with tiny screens, MP3 players and even computers will all be more common in mobile phones (and that means they'll be cheaper and affordable to most). But what do you think about disposable phones? You buy them (for less than the price of a sandwich) and use them until you get bored with them. Then you just put them in the rubbish!

B Televisions

The key words for television in the future will be *on-demand* and *big!* TV on demand means that we will no longer have to wait until a programme comes on to watch it. We will be able to watch what we like when we like. And as for the size,

televisions are just going to get bigger and bigger – some of them will take up the whole wall of a room. Soon, the experience of watching TV at home will be much more like going to the cinema, complete with high-quality sound coming from all around the room. Along with the computer, the television will be the main source of entertainment in the home. And we'll also be using the television to see people that we're talking to through video links. So when you speak to your auntie to thank her for that 'lovely' pullover she made you, make sure you're wearing it (and smiling), because she'll be looking at you on her living room wall!

C Computers

Already, new computers are being designed more like entertainment centres. In the future, this will continue. It reflects what we want a computer to do these days. In the past, most PCs were for sending emails and surfing the Internet. Now people want more, so all computers will come with DVD players and copying facilities for music and video. Digital televisions and radios will be built in too, so we will be able to watch and listen to

programmes from all over the world. And for those of you who play computer games, technology is going to develop so fast that playing a game on a computer will soon feel like the real thing. The biggest change, though, is that wireless technology will allow your computer to download, say, a film or a song and then send it to your TV or stereo – all without wires and cables.

D Portable media players

MP3 players already allow us to carry around a huge number of songs in a tiny device. But this is all going to change. Researchers have found that people don't want to just carry around their music – they want video capabilities and photographs too. So we won't be calling them MP3 players for much longer, they will be known as *media players* and, like mobile phones, they will allow us to watch videos but on a bigger screen. MP4 technology will mean that it will be easy to store large files like films in the memory of small devices. Soon, you could have your entire music collection, all of your photograph albums, and your DVD library – stored in a player that fits neatly in your pocket.

Listening CD 1 Track 8

B You will hear five different people talking about technology in the home. For questions 1-5, choose from the list (A-F) how each person feels. Use the letters only once. There is one extra letter which you do not need to use.

10

- A Every home should have one. Speaker 1 1
- B It doesn't really save any time. Speaker 2 2
- C This is not really necessary. Speaker 3 3
- D It's always breaking down. Speaker 4 4
- E It might be a mistake to buy one now. Speaker 5 5
- F This was a good solution to a family problem.

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Section 2

Grammar and Vocabulary

C Choose the correct word to complete each sentence.

- 1 Most large planes have four jet
A gadgets B engines C machines D powers
- 2 My stereo is so we can take it to the beach with us.
A mobile B portable C movable D transferable
- 3 Susie reads a lot of science
A narrative B imagination C fantasy D fiction
- 4 We've got an cooker, so we couldn't use it during the power cut.
A electric B electronic C electrical D electrifying
- 5 Do you know who first that the Earth goes round the Sun?
A created B developed C invented D discovered
- 6 This car is so it can go hundreds of kilometres on one tank of petrol.
A resourceful B capable C efficient D effective
- 7 With '..... reality', you feel like you're experiencing real situations when in fact you're not.
A almost B virtual C near D close
- 8 I'll have to get my before I can repair your bike.
A devices B appliances C utensils D tools

D Write one word to complete each sentence.

- 1 Rudy forgot to pay his bill, so his phone was off.
- 2 I out of petrol on the way home last night and had to walk three kilometres to the nearest garage.
- 3 Helen's up with a very clever way to make her own fizzy drinks.
- 4 The car down again yesterday. Maybe it's time to get a new one.
- 5 I've been trying to call you for ages, but I couldn't through.
- 6 Scientists are into ways to do more operations using lasers and robots.
- 7 The electrician's coming to in the new cooker tomorrow.
- 8 Mobile phone technology has on enormously over the last five years.

E Write the word in brackets in the correct form to complete each sentence.

- 1 I think (FREEZE) vegetables are just as good as fresh ones.
- 2 The (DISCOVER) of antibiotics was a major medical advance.
- 3 Landing on the Moon was an incredible (ACHIEVE).
- 4 Travel changed forever with the (INVENT) of the aeroplane.
- 5 What kind of (EQUIP) do you need to go rock climbing?
- 6 You have to be (CREATE) if you want to be a computer programmer.
- 7 Scientists have announced a major (DEVELOP) in the fight against cancer.
- 8 The expansion of the internet has been highly (BENEFIT) for many companies.

F Write a word from the box to complete each sentence.

/6

in • to • on • for • with • of

- 1 Dan's really looking forward getting his new computer next week.
- 2 Future space travel depends us finding new ways to travel long distances very quickly.
- 3 I decided not to apply the position of Laboratory Assistant.
- 4 The boxes were full old medical equipment.
- 5 I'm interested anything to do with modern technology.
- 6 The thought of finding life on other planets fills me excitement.

G Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between two and five words, including the word given.

/20

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 I'll finish my physics project and then I'll phone Andy.
soon
I'll phone Andy
.....
my physics project.</p> <p>2 They're going to bring out a cheap solar-powered car before 2010.
will
They
..... a cheap solar-powered car by 2010.</p> <p>3 This time next week we'll be in the Science Museum.
round
This time next week
.....
the Science Museum.</p> <p>4 Emma's helping to produce the new software.
involved
Emma
..... the new software.</p> <p>5 Robots are never likely to take over the world.
probably
Robots
..... the world.</p> | <p>6 Do you still need this magazine?
finished
Have
..... this magazine?</p> <p>7 Scientists now know why the disease spreads so quickly.
figured
Scientists
..... why the disease spreads so quickly.</p> <p>8 Wash the dishes and then dry them.
after
Can you dry the dishes
..... them?</p> <p>9 They are delivering our new dishwasher next Tuesday.
going
Our new dishwasher
..... next
Tuesday.</p> <p>10 We haven't been able to solve the problem yet.
found
We haven't
..... the
problem yet.</p> |
|---|--|

H-You see this announcement in an international magazine. /30

What does the future hold?

What will life be like in thirty years?

Will technology replace men?

What do you think? Write us an article, giving your opinion. (140-190 words)

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