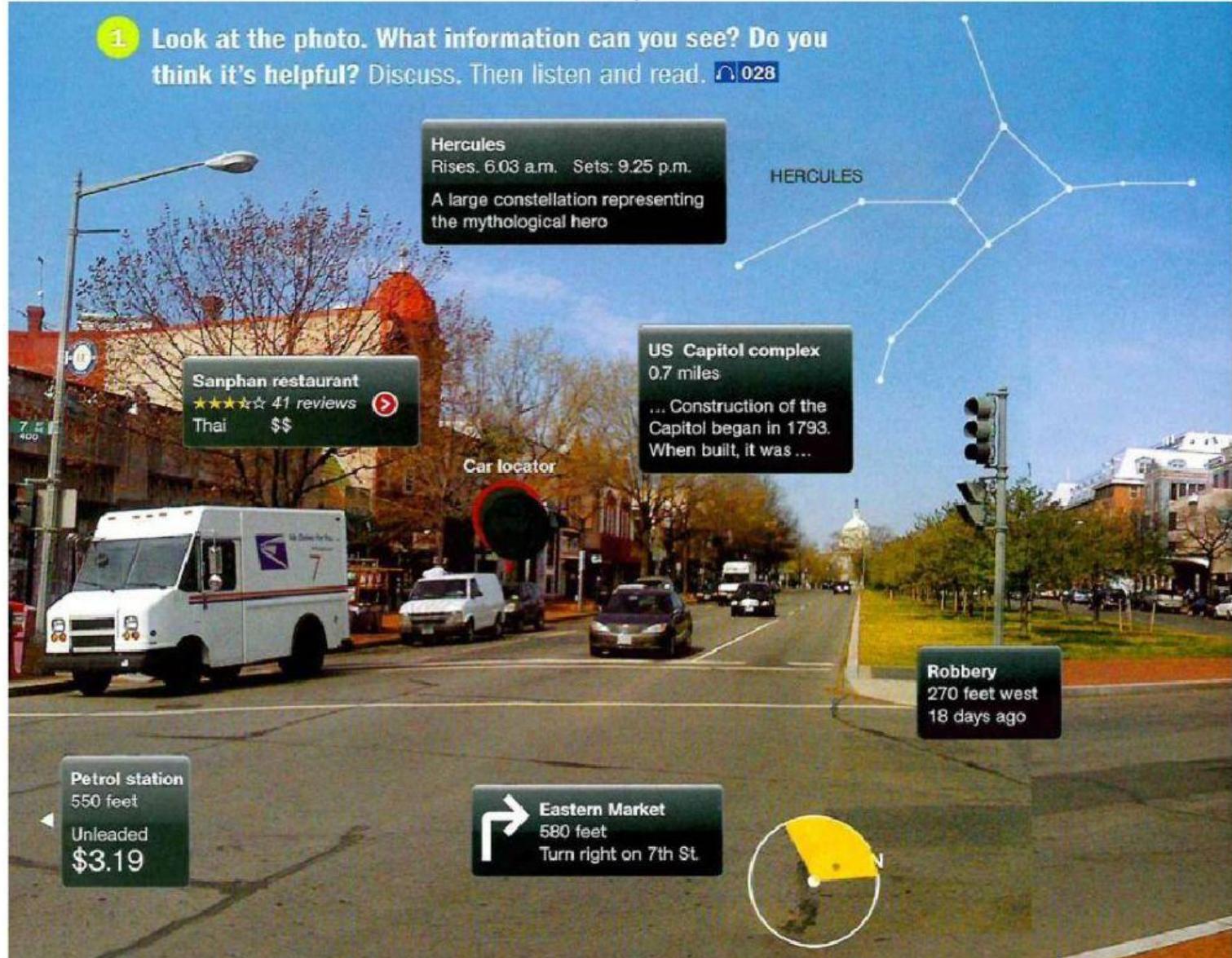


1 Look at the photo. What information can you see? Do you think it's helpful? Discuss. Then listen and read. ▶ 028



Anthropologists traditionally study human behaviour and culture. They look at the way humans live and work together. Amber Case is an anthropologist, but she studies a different type of anthropology. Amber is a cyborg anthropologist. Do you know what a cyborg is? Part human, part **machine**, a cyborg is usually associated with science fiction films or comic books.

Amber believes that in today's **digital** world, we're all cyborgs. We rely on **technology** all the time. Our mobile phones and tablet

computers are like extra body parts that we carry around with us. 'Our mobile phones have become like children,' explains Amber. 'If they cry, we pick them up. We plug them into the wall and feed them. When they're lost, we panic.'

In the past, we humans developed **tools** that extended our physical **abilities**. We used them to **improve** the environment, farm the land, move around faster or protect ourselves. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, our smart tools – our gadgets – extend our mental abilities. With



modern technology, we can **communicate** faster and find any **information** we want in an **instant**. **Social media** allows us to connect with people around the world. So friendships can form based on our shared interests, not just our **location**.

Although there are a lot of positive things about technology, Amber thinks there is also a negative side to our new cyborg selves. She worries that our **constant access** to other people interferes with our ability to just be alone. Wherever we are, there's someone we

know who's online and ready to interact with us. 'We aren't taking time to slow down and figure out who we really are,' says Amber.

Despite these concerns, Amber doesn't think that machines are taking over. 'We're sharing with each other - human to human - in a very real way.'

2

**LEARN NEW WORDS** Listen and repeat. 029

4 Read and write the words from the list.

access

communicate

constant

digital

information

location

social media

technology

According to Amber Case, in today's world of \_\_\_\_\_, people have two selves. There's the real self, and then there is a second self – the \_\_\_\_\_ self. This is the person that you become when you go online. There are some risks to having a virtual identity. Through your virtual self, you create huge amounts of \_\_\_\_\_ about yourself that anyone can \_\_\_\_\_. Another problem is that you're never really alone. People still \_\_\_\_\_ with your virtual self when you're not there. Even when you're sleeping, your friends are using their smartphones to connect with you on \_\_\_\_\_. This \_\_\_\_\_ online interaction means it's very difficult to disconnect!

5 LEARN NEW WORDS Listen to these words and match them to the definitions. Then listen and repeat. 030 031

extend

interfere

rely on

take over

1. take control of
2. make something larger
3. feel that you can't be without
4. get in the way of something

Amber Case



## SPEAKING STRATEGY 032

### Checking for understanding

Do you mean that cars will drive themselves in the future?

So, you're saying that mobile phones will replace computers?

Do you actually believe that we won't need to write by hand?

### Responding

That's right. There are already self-driving cars on the road!

Not quite, but we'll be able to do even more on our phones.

That's exactly what I mean. No one will need pencil and paper in the future.

1 Listen. How do the speakers check that they understand each other? Write the phrases you hear.  033

2 Read and complete the dialogue.

Carla: Twenty years from now, I doubt that anyone will have a mobile phone.

Santana: Seriously? Do \_\_\_\_\_ that we won't talk on the phone in the future?

Carla: No, \_\_\_\_\_. I just think that we'll have technology in our brains. So then we won't need to carry anything with us.

Santana: \_\_\_\_\_ that we'll all have tiny machines in our heads?

Carla: \_\_\_\_\_

Santana: No way! I don't agree. I think we'll have more wearable technology.

Carla: Wearable technology? \_\_\_\_\_ mean things like special glasses or watches?

Santana: Yes. That's \_\_\_\_\_. These gadgets are already out there. But in the future, they'll be much cheaper so that anybody can buy them.

Carla: Maybe you're right. And I like that better than the idea of a machine in my head!